

**St. Michael the Archangel Catholic School**  
**PTO Board Meeting Minutes**  
**March 19, 2007**

The St. Michael School PTO board met on Monday, March 19<sup>th</sup>, at 9:00 a.m. in the school conference room. School Principal Dr. Sarah Wannemuehler, PTO President Marylynn Fitzgerald, Treasurer Louis Prosser, VP of Education Luann Wiggenhorn, VP of Social Betsy Nalesnik, and VP of Fundraising Colleen Ueland were present. In the absence of Secretary Jennifer Butler, the meeting was recorded. An opening prayer was led by Mrs. Wiggenhorn.

Fundraising

Mrs. Ueland detailed the success of the auction, which Dr. Wannemuehler said was all that she had expected and more. The board was pleased with the Preston facilities, the food, and the band. Looking forward to next year, board members made the following suggestions: a larger wall of wine, better timing of the silent auction in relation to the dinner, coupling appetizers with a sit-down dessert in place of a full dinner, and hiring a professional auctioneer to be accompanied by a celebrity guest. Our auction appears to have generated just over \$100,000 in profit—impressive as a first effort, and notable when compared with similar benefits at other local private schools. The event's earnings, when combined with proceeds from the Angel Bucks program, will push first year PTO fundraising totals to approximately \$150,000.

Planning is underway for the May 18<sup>th</sup> Camp-out, co-chaired by Karen Allen and Colleen Ueland. The committee has generated rules for the camp-out, such as children being accompanied by an adult for the entire event, no alcohol, etc. The dinner portion of the evening will either be catered or a parent-led hamburger/hot dog cook-out. In addition to dinner, there will be crafts for the kids on the black-top, and games of kickball and dodge ball on the fields. A parachute will be available for younger children, and possibly a fire truck. Culminating events include a family movie behind the school and a bonfire, during which families will make s'mores and tell ghost stories. As participants will be moving through the school to access the black-top/fields and the camp/sleep area, classrooms and hallways will be made inaccessible. Arrangements will be made for overnight security, and it was suggested that St. Michael alumni could be asked to help run and referee the games and activities, as time spent volunteering would be considered service hours for confirmation. The camp-out will conclude the morning of the 19<sup>th</sup> with bagels, juice, etc.

Social

Mrs. Nalesnik has been working on Teacher Appreciation week, scheduled for April 23<sup>rd</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup>. The theme will be the same as the school year's theme of "We are Called..."

On Monday, teachers will receive a vase “to help our children grow”. Each student will be asked to bring a flower to school to help create their teacher’s bouquet. On Tuesday the teachers’ commitment “to spread the word of God” will be recognized. Teachers will be given a cross to be decorated, and then displayed within their classroom.

Wednesday’s activity will be to provide teachers with a door hanger and a wooden hanger adorned with student fingerprint art. As a special place for teachers to hang their coats, the hanger will serve as a visual reminder of students’ appreciation for their teachers’ willingness “to offer support”. On Thursday, teachers will be honored for their ability “to make learning fun”. Students and teachers will play games together in the parish center on this day. The culminating event of the week will be Friday’s catered lunch, “to celebrate our teachers”. The lunch will be funded by PTO monies, and Mrs. Nalesnik is currently obtaining quotes from several restaurants. Teachers will receive a gift bag at the lunch, and Mrs. Nalesnik is investigating items to include in the bag. Throughout the week teachers will be given soft drinks, water, healthy snacks, and so on, to demonstrate our gratitude.

Mrs. Nalesnik reported that the last middle school bowling night and school dance will occur on April 27<sup>th</sup>.

#### Education

Mary Ronan is scheduled to provide an insightful presentation for parents at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, April 17<sup>th</sup>. Mrs. Ronan will meet with our 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade students during the school hours of April 17<sup>th</sup>, and will return on the 18<sup>th</sup> to speak with our 8<sup>th</sup> graders.

The next general PTO meeting, to take place in May, will include a presentation from St. Michael School parent and Cardinal Gibbons High School principal Jason Curtis. Additionally, Mrs. Wiggernhorn will query St. Michael teachers about their ideas and suggestions for summer learning activities, and this information may be provided to parents at the final 2006-07 PTO meeting.

#### Financial

Mr. Prosser did not have the most up to date figures and will e-mail everyone a current report by mid week.

#### President

The nominating process for 2007-08 PTO board positions began this week, and the nominating committee has received a handful of nominations. The board discussed a few additional ways to help encourage people to serve the school in this capacity.

The Sports Banquet has been scheduled for May 23<sup>rd</sup> and a candidate to chair this event has been identified. While elements of past Sports Banquets will be continued this year, Coach Milmoie will be consulted about the overall structure of this event.

Several companies that “package” school supplies have contacted Mrs. Fitzgerald, to inquire about providing this service for St. Michael’s parents. Dr. Wannemuehler believes that it is most cost effective for parents to independently purchase supplies at their retailer of choice, and will leave the current system in place.

Ms. Fitzgerald also relayed suggestions that classroom supplies, such as paper towels, hand sanitizer, etc., could be purchased in bulk with school funds. Dr. Wannemuehler prefers to leave these items on the school supply list, indicating that the yearly book/seat fee might need to be increased for the school to cover the cost of such supplies. Further, the school does not have adequate storage space for a full year’s supplies, so it is much more convenient to ask parents for donations as needed.

### Volunteers

In updating the volunteer forms, it was suggested that parents might be offered an opportunity to photograph various school activities. While photographs could be submitted for publication in the school yearbook, Dr. Wannemuehler also noted that her previous school compiled an annual photo album to help document school history. As such, an additional volunteer opportunity could be added to the revised forms, as parents will be needed to create our school’s scrapbook.

Ms. Nalesnik suggested that the New Parent Wine and Cheese be removed from the volunteer form, as last year it was successfully staffed by PTO board members.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:05 a.m., with the next board meeting scheduled for Monday, April 30<sup>th</sup>, at 9:30 a.m.