

**St. Michael the Archangel Catholic School
Parent and Teacher Organization General Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, November 13, 2007**

The third general meeting of the St. Michael School Parent and Teacher Organization was held in the Parish Center on Tuesday, November 13, 2007, at 7p.m. PTO board President Marylynn Fitzgerald, President-elect Peggy Thompson, Treasurer Louis Prosser, VP of Fundraising Colleen Ueland, VP- elect of Fundraising Marybeth Brejnik, VP of Volunteers Maureen Beeler, VP- elect of Volunteers Robin Evans, VP of Education Cheryl Reid, VP of Social Sheila Schlageter, Secretary Laura Usher, School Principal Dr. Sarah Wannemuehler, Assistant Principal Mrs. Molly Carlin, several teachers, and twenty-seven parents attended the meeting.

Opening Prayer:

The opening prayer entitled “Falling in Love” was read by Dr. Wannemuehler.

PTO Funds Update by Marylynn Fitzgerald:

Mrs. Fitzgerald presented a power point presentation that represented the current allocations of funds, the estimated funds for 2007-2008, and the estimated amount of funds that have been spent thus far. The fundraising events of our first year as an organization profited **\$141,000**. The Budget Area allocation percentages have been shifted in several areas in order to cover estimated expenses and two new areas have been added. Fine and Performing Arts & Music has changed from 20% to 15%, Teacher and Administration Support has changed from 10% to 15%, Spiritual & Educational Enrichment has changed from 5% to 3%, and Student Activities and PTO Administration have been added, both at 1% of the total budget. Of the **\$141,000**, **\$42,500** has been spent to date and an additional **\$26,500** in expenses has been committed for this school year. The **\$21,000** for Capital Building Improvement will remain in that fund and **\$7100** will stay in the fund for Reserves and Endowments.

PTO Funds Proposal by Peggy Thompson:

Mrs. Fitzgerald summarized the Phase II Building Project for all those in attendance, which would include a gym, a stage, classrooms for the middle school, conference rooms, and girls and boys locker rooms. Before the organization voted on whether or not to allocate 100% of the 2008 Auction proceeds, Mrs. Thompson presented three different proposals for consideration:

Proposal A: Allocate 100% of Auction proceeds, which could result in an estimate \$105,000 or 75% of the total PTO Funds.

Pros: School is fully supporting Phase II Building Plan and provides a single-minded focus on the Auction fundraising.

Cons: Significantly limits PTO funding options for 2008-2009, ongoing expenses may not be covered. Uncertainty still exists on project viability.

Proposal B: Double current 15% Allocation to 30%, which would result in an estimated \$42,000 to go towards Phase II Building Fund.

Pros: School is still supporting the project, but would not limit as significantly the PTO's ability to support other school activities.

Cons: Somewhat limits PTO funding options for '08-'09, and the uncertainty still exists on project viability.

Proposal C: Keep Capital Building Allocation at 15%, which would result in an estimated \$21,000 going toward Phase II Building Plan. This money could be earmarked to purchase a significant item to go into the new building, for example a scoreboard for the gymnasium.

Pros: School is still supporting Phase II, but ability to support other school activities is not limited.

Cons: May limit Auction's ability to show single minded focus.

Following a five minute question and answer session, a vote by showing hands was taken and the results are as follows:

Proposal A: 4 votes (10%)

Proposal B: 22 votes (52%)

Proposal C: 16 votes (38%)

Therefore, for the 2008-2009 year only, the PTO will allocate 30% of its total budget to go towards Capital Building Improvement.

Fundraising Update by Colleen Ueland:

Mrs. Ueland began by recognizing the co-chairs of this year's Fall Book Fair, Marybeth Brejnik and Kelly Garnett. This event was a huge success with a total of \$14,700 in total sales. With the profits, Mrs. Siekkinen was able to receive \$2500 in books and \$2700 in cash to purchase library materials not available through Scholastic Book Company. The StMS Christmas Tree Sale is approaching and pre-order forms are due Friday, November 16th. There will be two weekends for pick-up of pre-ordered trees and wreaths and a third for the sale of any remaining trees. Volunteers are needed to staff the tree lot in two hour increments and those interested can sign up on line. There will be a contest for the class who has the most pre-order forms submitted and the winning class will have a drawing for a free tree for a family who pre-ordered.

The Second Annual Jingle Bell Run is Saturday, December 1st. This is a wonderful family event with music and activities for everyone. 4500 race brochures have been distributed throughout the community in hopes of significantly increasing our number of racers from last year. The Public Relations Coordinator for this event is Heidi Cooke who has done a phenomenal job with getting the word out about this race. On-line registration is available through the PTO website.

The School Auction Committee is hard at work preparing for the 2008 Gala and Auction. This year's event will again feature the band **Crush**, and the play by play announcer of

the Carolina Hurricanes, Chuck Heaton, will be the Master of Ceremonies. Sponsorship information will be sent home in tomorrow's Wednesday folder. Auction co-chairs, Maria Young and Mary Manley will need lots of support and many volunteers to make this year's auction another tremendous success.

Mrs. Ueland closed by reminding everyone to use Angel Bucks when doing their Christmas shopping and she thanked everyone for their continued support of all the StMS fundraiser activities.

Education by Cheryl Reid:

Mrs. Reid introduced our guest speaker, Detective Matt Pierson of the Cary Police Department, who spoke on the topic of Gangs in Cary. Detective Pierson's objectives for his talk were: Define the meaning of gang

- Discuss different types of gangs

- Identify characteristics of gangs

- Discuss problem-solving methods to dynamically impact the gang problem

He encouraged parents to ask questions at any time and highlighted areas such as media influences, gang colors, clothing, and hand signals so that we can be more aware of what is going on around us. Detective Pierson closed by stating "Denial is Dangerous!" and handed out pamphlets from the Wake County Gang Prevention Partnership.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05pm.