

St. Michael the Archangel Catholic School
PTO General Meeting Minutes
November 19, 2009

The St. Michael School PTO General Meeting was held on Thursday, November 19, 2009, at 8:00 am in the Archangel Centre. Dr. Wannemuehler and Board members Laura Grelck, Kelly Garnett, Jenipher Free, Jennifer Clark, Liz Riegel, Christine Danuck, Kermit Dowdy, Doris Tobin, and Ron Ewing led our first-ever morning PTO meeting with 75 St. Michael School parents in attendance.

Laura Grelck welcomed everyone to the meeting and began by praying the Morning Offering:

**As Morning breaks I think of you, O Lord,
and my desire is to serve You joyfully.
With gladness, I consecrate this day to Your Sacred Heart,
and offer whatever joys and sacrifices may come my way.
Thank You for the graces You will send,
all the love, all the beauty,
and the ways You will answer my prayers.**

**Today, may I love my enemies,
and treat others as I would ask to be treated;
may I forgive seventy times seven and show mercy;
may I welcome the prodigal,
have compassion for the Samaritan;
be a peace-maker
and love my neighbor unconditionally.
Take all my heart,
and mind and strength, O Lord,
that this day may be truly lived
for Your greater honor and glory
and for the salvation of souls.**

Amen.

Laura encouraged everyone to view the beautiful first- and fourth-grade artwork on display. She gave a special thanks to art teacher Mrs. Amos and Mrs. Giroliman for setting up the displays. Laura mentioned that this was our first morning meeting and that childcare was also provided. She thanked Liz Riegel for setting up the childcare. Laura mentioned that both of these items were from the results of the PTO survey completed last spring.

Financial Report, Kermit Dowdy

INCOME ACCOUNTS

FUNDRAISING

ACCOUNT	BUDGETED	YTD	VARIANCE
ANGEL BUCKS	\$20,000	\$16,063	(\$3,936)
JOLLY ELF TRAIL RUN	\$10,000	\$12,090	\$2,090
CASINO NIGHT	\$17,500	(\$2,061)	(\$19,561)
ORIGINAL ARTWORKS	\$2,000	\$1,950	(\$50)
POINSETTA SALES	\$1,000	\$1,148	\$148
TOTALS	\$50,500	\$29,190	(\$21,310)

INCOME ACCOUNTS

SOCIAL EVENTS

ACCOUNT	BUDGETED	YTD	VARIANCE
BOOK SALES	\$172	\$172	\$0
FAMILY BINGO	\$1,500	(\$4,657)	(\$6,157)
GENERAL PTO/MISC	\$0	\$0	\$0
SCHOOL DANCES	\$750	\$464	(\$286)
ST. NICK SHOP	\$0	\$844	\$844
TOTALS	\$2,422	(\$3,177)	(\$5,599)

EXPENSE ACCOUNTS

ACCOUNTS	BUDGETED	YTD	VARIANCE
ATHLETICS	\$19,093	\$5475	(\$13,618)
CAPITAL BUILDING	\$47,020	\$47,020	\$0
FINE/PERFORMING	\$7,722	\$380	(\$7,342)
LIBRARY	\$3,819	\$30	(\$3,789)
PTO ADMIN	\$1,273	\$134	(\$1,139)
RESERVES	\$7,837	\$0	(\$7,837)
SPIRITUAL/EDU	\$5,092	\$438	(\$4,654)
STUDENT ACTIVITIES	\$4,582	\$911	(\$3,671)
TEACHER/ADMIN	\$16,547	\$3,092	(\$13,455)
TECHNOLOGY	\$24,609	\$18,550	(\$6,059)
TOTALS	\$137,594	\$76,030	(\$61,564)

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

ACCOUNT	BUDGET	YTD	VARIANCE
INCOME- FUNDRAISING	\$50,500	\$29,190	(\$21,310)
INCOME-SOCIAL	\$2,422	(\$3,177)	(\$5,599)
INCOME TOTALS	\$52,922	\$26,013	(\$26,909)
EXPENSES	\$137,594	\$76,030	(\$61,564)

Kermit stated that all accounts are on track as of date. We are hopeful that the March 6th Auction will be a successful fundraiser for our school as it is the event that carries our PTO for two years.

Laura Grelek stated the PTO Board is working very hard to keep all PTO members informed about the spending of PTO dollars. Every PTO Express Newsletter mentions recent items or activities that we have been able to purchase for our school. Our PTO dollars are at work every day at St. Michael School in athletics, student clubs, teacher workshops, new technology, etc. Our teachers are so grateful for all of the parents' efforts. Laura then shared with the audience a letter to the PTO from Mrs. Farrell.

Dear StMS PTO:

Just want to express my gratitude for your generous donation this past July so that I could continue my professional development at the Hill Center in Durham. I took my first course in July towards a Reading Strategy certificate and am now continuing my instruction with the assistance of grant endowments. I'm implementing these new strategies with my students to help them be more successful readers. Sincere thanks for all you do and the financial assistance you provide to our staff.

*Sincerely,
Mrs. Rozanne Farrell*

Fundraising Report, Jenipher Free

MUMS SALE: There were 165 orders sold with a \$769 profit.

POINSETTIA SALE: There were 436 plants sold with a \$ 2,980 profit.

BOOK FAIR: The gross funds collected were \$14,107.65. The net profit will be determined later in December.

Jolly Elf Trail Run, Jennifer Clark

The Jolly Elf Trail Run is Saturday, December 12, at Bond Park. Remember to register by December 5 to be guaranteed a race t-shirt.

Jennifer thanked our sponsors: Hendrick Cary Auto Park; Ockham; InsideOut Sports; Atlantic Tire and Service; Preston Dental Care; Pulte Homes; Accident Research Specialists, PLLC; McCuiston Law Offices; Explore; DuLac Wealth Services; Bassett & Associates; Timothy Grinder, DDS, PA; Kilwin's; Meridian Financial; Raleigh Hand Center; Great Harvest Bread Company, and Biscuitville.

There is still time to be a Snowflake Family Sponsor. Sponsorship deadline is Thursday, December 4. She told the audience that if they are interested in volunteering on race day, they should contact her.

Social Report, Doris Tobin

The St. Nicholas Shop will be December 14 to 16 in the Archangel Center. The students will be able to shop for pre-wrapped presents for their families. Gifts range from \$1 to \$20, with most gifts costing under \$10.

PTO Board/Angel Bucks 2010-2011, Kelly Garnett

Kelly thanked the parents for their large turnout for our PTO meeting this day. She said that our PTO and many activities in our school are dependent on volunteers and that it is not too early to start thinking of running for next year's PTO Board. She listed the PTO Board positions, responsibilities and term commitments for parents to consider, as our February nominations are just around the corner:

1. **President-Elect**, who will serve six months as elect next fall and then one year as president.
2. **Vice-President of Fundraising Elect**, who will also serve six months as elect next fall and then one year as vice-president. We rely on the VP of Fundraising to recommend and

oversee our fundraising activities, which really are the bread and butter of furthering our PTO and of supporting our school sports, clubs, field trips, arts, teacher enrichment, and so many other things.

3. **Treasurer**, where you will serve one school calendar year. Our treasurer, with control of at least \$100k at a time of PTO funds, will be background- and credit-checked, and bonded to insure the integrity of our school funds.
4. **Vice President of Volunteers**, who will serve one school calendar year. The VP of Volunteers tends to be Fall- and Spring-heavy in its responsibilities. You'll solicit volunteers for the upcoming school year and then prepare a spreadsheet of all committee and chair volunteers for all Board and Chairs to tap into. You'll also have to maintain the Volunteer Handbook on our school website.
5. **Vice President of Educational Programs**, who will also serve one school calendar year. You will identify and schedule speakers during the year who will help our school parents examine that role that we, as Catholic Christian parents, play in the educational, emotional and spiritual development of our children.
6. **Vice-President of Social**, who again serves one school calendar year. The VP of Social will schedule, organize and coordinate social events such as our very sweet St. Nick Shop.
7. **Secretary and Community Support member** – again, one calendar year. Your responsibilities include taking minutes at all PTO Board and General meetings and distributing a list of action items for the other Board members.

Kelly also indicated that several of our Angel Bucks volunteer positions, including co-chair positions, will be vacated in the upcoming school year. She asked that parents please consider offering their time to this worthy endeavor in our school and to submit their names for consideration.

Volunteer Recognition, Christine Danuck

Christine recognized Erin Nelson as our PTO Volunteer of the Month. Erin is a busy parent of three children attending St. Michael School and has generously shared her time and talents with our school community during her family's five years here. Erin serves as Hot Lunch Chairperson, Seventh-Grade Room Parent, Sports Appreciation Night Co-Chair, and has been involved in various other committees including Book Fair, Mums/Poinsettia Sale, Auction Committee, Sports Concessions, Bowling, 7th & 8th Grade Dances, New Family Contact and PTO Nominating Committee. Christine recognized Erin Nelson with a \$25 TJ Maxx gift card. She then thanked Erin for her ongoing support and dedication to St. Michael School.

Principal Update, Dr. Wannemuehler

Dr. Wannemuehler thanked everyone who supported the previous night's Chick-Fil-A and Kilwin's PTO fundraising event, as we had a great turnout of parents and students. She said the H1N1 virus has not yet posed a threat to our school community. Attendance has been better than expected.

The first StMS Open House was Monday, November 6, with 35 new families attending. There are two more Open Houses to follow.

The 2010-2011 school calendar is being developed now. Dr. Wannemuehler will post it online as soon as it is ready.

Dr. Wannemuehler expressed her gratitude for our school community during the holidays and asked us all to be thankful and to pray for loved ones who were lost this year.

Students will be permitted to wear Christmas sweaters, sweatshirts, jewelry, or socks starting December 1 through December 18. Students may also wear red and green nail polish.

The Blue Ribbon process is underway and we are awaiting the ITBS scores for inclusion with our application.

Dr. Wannemuehler then drew Cyrena Tuerffs' name as the winning ticket good for one free admission to the March 6th Auction.

Educational Programs and Speaker Introduction, Liz Riegel

Liz introduced our PTO guest speaker, Father Michael Spurr. Father Mike, a priest from St. Michael parish, was ordained just under two years ago and was previously a corporate manager. Liz said that he will share his story about his journey to the priesthood.

My Story, Father Michael Spurr

Father Mike shared his emotional journey from a lost young man looking for something to fill an emptiness within him to his obvious calling from God to become a Catholic priest. His journey included moving to Wake Forest, NC, and climbing the corporate ladder with a telecom company, only to be continually drawn to his roots in the Catholic faith. His two-year acquaintance with a man he never knew was a priest turned into a life-turning event for Father Mike. His priest acquaintance invited Father Mike to visit his parish. From that point, Father Mike was called more deeply into his calling to serve in many church ministries and eventually into the priesthood.

Fr. Mike has been at St. Michael the Archangel parish for about sixteen months. His impactful and emotional story was punctuated with the message to our StMS parents to stay with your children in their Catholic faith, to make things of God more important, to pray every day, to say

yes to the Lord every day, serve the Lord first, and to live in Lord every day. He emphasized that we put God first, followed by supporting and bolstering our spouses and children each day in our Catholic Christian lives.

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 am.