

Home & School Meeting December 4, 2014

8 parents/ 5 staff/ Lori Shepard/ H&S board

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT:

St Francis is continuing to work with the Tracy family and the ACE Consulting firm on the 5 year long term plan. Ms. Shepard also applied for a grant through the Tracy family again this year. The school is asking for \$35,000. Sam's Club gave teachers \$50 gift certificates. WCU gave \$250 for classroom supplies. 2 sessions of safety training with Robert Bentley from Legacy Martial Arts. He taught the teachers self defense lessons. Charity events are coming up. 1st/8th grade will be shopping for needy families. \$500 from an anonymous donor was given to start the buying for the change for cancer auction items. Change for Cancer coming up...tree in the hallway to memorialize/honor people in the kids' lives who have been affected by cancer. Elf on the shelf "Francis" came to the school. The kids love it!!!!

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Lori Vranjes went over the income and the expenses. Jennifer Arens motioned to approve and Kristy Henrichs 2nd.

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

The Home & School minutes are going to begin to be accessible online on the St. Francis website. Amanda Garnett approved/Jennie McDermott 2nd

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Fundraising committee met twice. They talked about what works/ what doesn't. Event fundraiser in the spring is a possibility. They will talk to everyone about the ideas & see what other input is there. Sorting out the best ideas & seeing who wants to participate.

Picnic committee is trying to get a date set for the end of the year picnic so that parents have time to take off work. They are also working on the budget for it. Possible Jeans Day to earn money for bounce house. They are trying to do something to incorporate a contest among classrooms.

Student Activities Committee have met once and 2nd meeting next week. They would like to do things every other month. They are planning a winter carnival and already did trunk or treat. The Winter Carnival would be instead of the Winter Olympics this year. It will possibly be on the Friday of Catholic Schools week to close out the events of the week. They would like to plan a Family event for the evening. Tailgate night/family picnic night/barbeque/bingo night/pumpkin carving & crafts are other ideas that have been discussed. The Committee would continue on next year and then add more people the following year. That way activities are available right away in the fall. Meet and Greet night at the beginning of the school year. Talent show might be something that this committee takes on.

Diana recommended that the committee chairs keep binders to be able to pass on from year to year to help the future chairs.

Teacher Wish Tree Committee and Parent Prom are chaired by Diana Real. Those committees haven't met but Diana was able to get the trees done for the teachers to have a Wish Tree to put outside their classroom or inside the classroom. Heather Bryan asked if a wish tree could be made for the school itself in case there are extra things that could be used in the school.

Sensory Committee chair has not met yet but the co-chairs have talked...Alice Arnold/Deb Derhake. We will be getting things started in January with a note to the teachers to see what they need in their classrooms.

Welcoming Committee was co-chaired by Kristy Henrichs and Misty Cramsey. There were 3 new parents that came to the event. It was a great way to learn about things that are available at the school.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mrs. Mak talked about the 5th year for Change for Cancer. Advent project for the students. Kids bring change in and there is a raffle. Last year they raised over \$1400. Illinois Cancer Care, Siteman in St. Louis, and Blessing Cancer Center. Blessing is sending us a plaque to have up in the school and a brick is also at Blessing thanking St. Francis. Wonderful feedback from the places that have benefited. Notre dame has donated Season tickets and a bag of ND goodies, an American Girl doll, Cubs bobblehead and Cardinals bobblehead have been donated. Amanda Garnett motioned and Terri Liesen 2nd the motion to give \$200 to the Change for Cancer. There was an anonymous donor who gave money in the past to be able to buy some raffle prizes and that is why we were looking for a little extra help this year. Next Thursday will be a free Jeans Day to promote cancer awareness. The kids can wear a color shirt that signifies the cancer they are bringing awareness to or honoring someone in their lives.

Heather Bryan is checking into getting the school new basketballs for PE. Jennie McDermott also has a possible donor for some new playground equipment.

Amanda Garnett brought up about sending out a 3 question questionnaire to talk about fundraising. There will also be a section that is blank to have open feedback about the fundraisers. An email will go out with the survey.

Amanda Garnett also brought up that Home & School should have by-laws (terms/agenda/dates/voting, etc). It was discussed that there use to be by-laws for this group. We will look into the other parochial schools by-laws to have something to work off. Another office may be made to be the Parliamentarian.

Misty Cramsey is stepping down as Vice President and Diana Real may be stepping down as

President as of May 2015. Voting will be opened up in May 2015 for any open positions.

Trunk or Treat question was raised as to whether we should include the PSR children for this event in the future. Pros and cons were brought up. The fact that it is a school event and not a parish event is why it hasn't been opened up.

December 18th - Gym - Christmas concert

Bring a friend to the next meeting

Closing with an Our Father.