

St. Francis Home & School Association Meeting

January 9, 2018

Present: Deb Beard, Lesley Failor, Jane Gregory, Jennifer Arens, Sarah Venvertloh, Heather Bryan, Lori Shepard, Karla Fesler, & Sandy Cann

Meeting was called to order at 7:06 p.m.

Jen Arens led the opening prayer at the meeting with the Hail Mary.

Secretary Report - Minutes have been posted online since the last meeting.

Treasurer Report – See attached sheet. Current Balance \$21,399.58. Jane Gregory moved to approve the report and Jen Arens followed. The motion was approved.

Principal Report – Lori Shepard reported that we had been using subs for the Crossing Guard on 18th St. QPS will hire a permanent sub.

Empower IL is up and running. Donations for tax-deductions and recipient applications are available. Over 36 million have been donated already. To apply, visit empowerillinois.org and you must meet the requirements.

7th & 8th graders are ready for their visit to QU with Ray Heilmann. Ray will speak to these students on the St. Francis Spirit and an anti-bullying message. 5th & 6th graders have already visited.

Frank Cann filmed on site today for a marketing video.

Catholic Schools Week is right around the corner from January 29 through February 2. Activities have been planned for the week. In lieu of enrichment classes, there will be a movie outing to a local movie theater. Grandparents Day will wrap up this fun week.

Open House is scheduled for March 1, 2018. This will possibly change to include only Pre-K families.

Lori has been selected to serve on the ISBE & Diocesan Review Boards. She will participate in the upcoming review in Mt. Sterling.

Safety issues have arisen regarding our school elevator. There is a 12-14 week lead time for full repairs so a temporary repair will have to be made in the interim. There is a large cost to the repair. Lori will reach out to Hollister Whitney as we have students of family members from that company to see if they can offer quicker or less expensive remediation.

The lead inspection report is to come in on Thursday.

There was no School Board Representative present to report.

Old Business –

The School Store had 32 orders before Christmas bringing in a profit of \$162. We are considering opening it again for spring orders.

When following up on the Mega Raffle Funds donation idea, we learned that the school is attempting to repair the intercom in house. These funds are still available.

Winter Carnival is set to kick off Catholic Schools Week. It is scheduled for January 28, 2018 from 4-6 p.m. The 8th graders will run the concessions and keep the funds for their class trip. There will also be a Scotties Night the Friday before Catholic Schools Week on January 26, 2018.

New Business –

There was one fund request submitted prior to this meeting for help funding the movie outing for Catholic Schools Week. It was suggested that HSA cover the entire cost of the event – busing and tickets – a total of \$1578. This was above and beyond the requested amount. The Mega Raffle fund will be used to cover this as a gift to all the students. Karla Fesler moved to approve this motion followed by Jane Gregory. This motion was approved.

Jen Arens reported that the Kickball Derby will be a Spring Fundraiser again this year. She needs to look at the calendar and pick an open date on a Friday in the spring. Jen wants to do a fun kickoff to this fundraiser. She will let Lori know what she comes up with.

There was a suggestion in the Suggestion Box prior to this meeting. Someone suggested that we seek out an intern from JWCC, QND, QHS, or QU to serve as an assistant to Gary Clayton to alleviate some of the iPad backlog. Lori will ask Gary his thoughts.

President/Secretary Nominations were not made. Nominations remain open through the next meeting.

Next year we could be more flexible and consider incorporating some morning HSA meetings for parents who cannot make it to evening meetings. Possibly an 8:30 am meeting time when parents are at school to drop off kids already. Possibly switching off to incorporate day and night meeting availability, for example, January meeting is an evening meeting but February meeting will be a morning meeting. Also, considering working in requests for room parents to attend meetings.

Next meeting is set for March 13, 2018 at 7 p.m.

Jen Arens led the closing prayer with the Glory Be. The meeting closed at 7:51 p.m.