

PTO Meeting 10/4/07 – Minutes

Opening prayer by Father Aubespain

Miriam Titus moved that minutes from last meeting be accepted. A parent moved to second that decision and the minutes were accepted.

Principal's Report:

Mrs. McCoy urged the parents to take their purses out of their cars when entering the building. Individuals are targeting day-cares and schools, watching to see who gets out of their cars without their purses.

Thank you to all that participated in Fee Dress Day. The money collected will go toward a fund for the staff. Thanks.

The Montessori Journey will take place on Saturday, from 8:00-12:00pm. All parents are invited to experience Pre-K through 3rd grade lessons and be exposed to terms that are used in the classroom.

Bazaar T-Shirts – Kinder through 5th grade competed with their artwork for the t-shirts. Kevin Forte' and Alanis Simon won. Their designs will be on the shirts that are sold for the bazaar. Next Friday, 10/12 and Friday, 10/26 the students may wear their t-shirts with jeans. T-shirts order forms will be in the Tuesday folders.

***Bazaar is a big thing here at St. Mary's. Get here early for the program which begins at 1:00, it will be crowded. Teachers will send notices about their class costumes and how to purchase them. Kiddie Land is the school's responsibility. We NEED parental support; each parent should sign up for a 2 hour time slot. The sign-up sheets are outside each classroom door. Room mothers will call to get parents to sign up. There will also be a notice sent in the Tuesday folders to order wristbands. A Pappadeaux gift card will be given to the teacher and teacher's aide of the class that sells the most wristbands.

The school children will participate in the 11:00am mass on 11/18/07. Our children will lecture, bring up the gifts, etc. Sister Felicia will prepare the students. Please make plans to attend that mass.

Tardies – At 8:01, your children are considered tardy. Please get them to school on time so they do not miss instruction time.

The office needs your email address. Mrs. Bradford sends email statements, and it is a good way to communicate information; messages, emergency information and weather related issues.

Mrs. Gadson presented Treasurer Information – no total accounting of PTO dues yet, but the current balance is \$595.00 from the calendar sales and Fee Dress Day. The money is allotted for shelving in the Pre-k classes.

Mrs. Herbert presented information on the upcoming fundraisers; Chuck E. Cheese night is the 2nd fundraiser that will hopefully accrue enough money to purchase tables for the Pre-K rooms. The 3rd fundraiser is the Mardi gras Ball in February. As soon as the Bazaar is over we will begin soliciting donations. There is a short period after bazaar with the holiday season approaching, so we must start coordinating the Mardi gras ball soon.

Mrs. Mayer discussed the Scholastic Book Fair. Make sure you are saving money for books rather than giving it to Target and Wal-mart. Our school goal is \$4500. If that is reached the school will receive a 25% cash profit. Mrs. Herbert will perform as The Book Worm and read books to the children on Friday. The costume was specifically designed for St. Mary's and the children can take pictures with Book Worm for \$1.00. All money raised will benefit the school.

Tami Collins presented information on the Fall Festival – 10/31/07 1-3pm. in the gym. Volunteers are needed for set-up, coordinating activities and clean-up. Be there at 12:00pm to get started. No scary costumes. Each family is asked to donate a bag of candy, fruit snacks, or healthier snacks. Get creative! – Instead of candy, send enough pencils with pumpkin erasers, paper, art supplies, etc. for the class. Mrs. McCoy will send a notice of when the candy, snacks, etc. are needed by.

Mrs. Titus discussed Chuck E. Cheese night 11/15 from 3-9pm – come and have fun, bring neighbors and friends. 15% of sales come back to St. Mary's. Reminder notes will go out in Tuesday folders.

Breakfast with Santa is scheduled for December 15, 2007 8:00-12:00pm. Volunteers are needed to set-up, serve and decorate. The dads will cook. Notices will go out in Tuesday folders.

Mrs. McCoy spoke about the fact that there is a lot of talk about money. Parents may be feeling or thinking... I pay tuition, why are they asking for more money? It costs \$6500 to educate each child each year. No one is actually paying the full amount, so there is a gap. Some might say, "Raise the tuition", but that is easier said than done. Fundraising must happen to close that financial gap.

September and October birthdays and anniversaries were acknowledged. Raffle ticket numbers, 51158 and 51156 were picked and each won \$15.00 book fair certificates.

Your students will receive Scholar Dollars for you having attended this meeting.

Tomorrow, 10/5/07 is Early Dismissal at 2:00pm. No Extended Day services. Students wear their St. Mary's t-shirts with jeans. The children should also bring a canned good to be presented in church. The food goes to the St. Vincent De Paul food pantry.

Meeting was adjourned after a closing prayer.