

# HOLY CROSS PTA Meeting

## November 7, 2018

**Attendees-** Claudia Kosty, Kelly Shetsky, Marianne Fricke, Sharon DiFusco, Brigid Purtell, Joe Hens, Maggie Juliano, Jolie Johnston, Beth Schafer, Father John Kurgan, Heather Cleary, Jennifer Wilber, Amy Renna, Mary Rodman, Mac Cadaret, Lisa Carello, Jennifer Collins, Maria Mannara, Tansy Schoonmaker, Maria Reed, Tina Krupa, Mary Radford, Catherine Boule

Opening Prayer – Father Kurgan

Motion to approve October minutes- (C. Boule 1<sup>st</sup> Heather Cleary 2<sup>nd</sup>)

**Father Kurgan's Report-** Nothing new to report, feels that everything this year is going well, and Father Rawson is enjoying being with the kids a few times a week at school.

**Principal's Report (M. O'Leary)-** Teachers and I had professional development during election day due to public schools being closed – discussed test numbers and scores, looked at curriculum to see how we could improve things. I was very impressed with the Halloween Howl, it was very organized, kids had a great time, the gym was cleaned up and out by 8:00 pm which is very helpful to Jaime. He was able to get the floors cleaned that night. Everything was super, thank you.

**Treasurer's Report (M. O'Leary)-** There were a number of changes in overall budget, Leigh has not completed all the switches as of yet. She will have a report next month. It was nothing remarkable, mostly just line changes – Leigh did not know how this was done in the past, so there are just a few adjustments to be made.

### Old Business

**-Special Person Day (M. Radford)** We had a good group of volunteers, check in in the gym made a big difference to allow things to run smoothly, everything went well. Comments made that it was very organized, and well done.

**-Halloween Howl (B. Purtell)** : Same notion that we had a good group of volunteers. She was able to get a lot of help from kids who need to fulfill volunteer hours. She reached out to Bishop Grimes, SU, CBA, and the church, had a surplus of volunteers. She would recommend utilizing these groups in the future as volunteers are needed. She felt the night went well and the kids had fun.

**-Auction Update: (M. Reed)** Next Auction meeting will be November 28<sup>th</sup>, 7 pm in library. This year we have some changes – we have a new social media and marketing chair Brigid Purtell, also have 2 interns focusing on social media and marketing; There will be no theme this year, just looking for a fun night out. It will be called Holy Cross School Annual Dinner Auction. We are looking at idea to increase socializing, less looking at phones, and have more fun during the night. We are checking out popular events in the area, taking it off campus this year, and looking for it to be more of a night out. We have looked at 3 places Justins – which seems too small; Embassy Suites Destiny, and the Double Tree. Embassy and the Doubletree are the same budget, but Embassy seems more accommodating. Contract will be due soon. We are looking for people to join our committee, have fun with us, plan with us. It is our school's only fundraiser, and we have a great committee. K Shetsky added that she recently attended an event at the Embassy – said it was amazing, there was a lot of food, and the food was great. M. Reed feels the Embassy event planner is very accommodating and wants the group to be happy, and the facility is beautiful. B Purtell feels that having it at Destiny is a way to coordinate with potential donations as well. M. O'Leary – asked Maria Reed to please give the 3 options with pricing, and submit to Father Kurgan. M. Radford asked where the interns were from – Maria reports one from Lemoyne, their volunteer option is something to continue to pursue for future needs.

**-Story time with Mrs. Rys:** Kids all had fun, B. Purtell asked if this was a semiannual thing – Martha responded that it was originally done in combination with the book fair. She felt it was nicer in the library, than in the gym. We will look to have her come again in the future.

### New Business:

**-Volunteer Opportunities:** (M. Mannara) Book Fair December 10-13, we will be looking for volunteers. Requests will be put out on Heard App. During the 3 days, the younger kids need help to make their wish list, older kids more independent and able to do so themselves. Next day is purchasing, on the last day will also be open for an hour before the Christmas concert.

- Poinsettia Sale – (L. Carello) – The flyer has gone home regarding the poinsettia sale. The flowers will be delivered on December 11. She plans to contact the church, to get kids involved selling at church before and after masses. She is also looking for corporate help to make big orders. S Difusco shared how the unloading occurs at the School, doing labels, and organizing, pickups/delivery. Reports that last year in only took a couple hours and it went smoothly. M. Adornato has it well organized to pass on. The plants will go home with the child who ordered them that day, parishioners can pick them up in the school or have them delivered. There is the potential to have a dress down day for top selling class.

- Still looking for volunteers for pizza day. They had many volunteers towards the beginning of the year, but currently have not been getting as many. We need 3 volunteers each Monday to help pass out pizza to the kids. Please look to the Heard App to sign up for this, and feel free to give feedback on the sign up process.

#### **-Spring After School Clubs:**

**Deadline November 16<sup>th</sup>**, B. Purtell wondering if we need more. C. Kosty and M. O'Leary both report that there are fewer in the spring due to conflict with play/basketball as well as other independent activities. S. DiFusco – Trisha that runs Yoga is interested in doing another session, M. Mannara reports that the younger groups especially are interested in the YMCA doing another program like Sports of all sorts – survey showing interest but will depend on gym space. Track in the Spring is afterschool – it needs to be clear that a parent needs to run with k/prek child involved. J. Johnston reports that there are many cars that cut through the cemetery where the kids run, and it is a safety issue; M Radford wonders if it is a safe activity for the smaller kids, or would they benefit more from a running program right at the school.

**-Assistant Treasurer Position: M. O'Leary** Nominated Rick DiFusco, he will meet with Leigh to discuss needs. Mac Cadaret said he would be happy to help as needed. A. Renna 2<sup>nd</sup> the nomination.

#### **Upcoming Events:**

**-Bottle and Can Drive (M. Fricke):** Caring Crusaders are holding their second bottle and can drive on November 10 from 12-3 at the school. Please contact M. Fricke if you are unable to come but have bottles to donate. Also can drop off bottles/cans at any time to Minoa Bottle and Can Center, just say you are leaving them for Holy Cross. Thanks in advance for your support!

#### **Open Floor/Q and A**

-M. Mannara discussed possible interest in having Red Grammar coming to the school: His show is based on "Bucket filling", encouraging kindness and joy, concerts are well received by children. M O'Leary wonders what grades he appeals to if it would translate to the entire school. Possibility for Catholic School Week – may need to split children to gear towards the younger children. She asked if Maria could look into pricing.

-B. Schafer – At church we having a collection for our refugee families in need of coats and boots for children. We will be collecting in basement of church. J. Johnston is going to reach out to Dan Rys who has run clothes drives in the past. We could reach out to the classrooms, does not have to be new. All donation appreciated.

**-Moms Night Out (A. Renna):** Thursday 11/29 at Loft in Fayetteville: Invitations went out, no cost to PTA. Based on money spent a donation will be made towards auction.

Next Meeting Weds, December 5 at 7 pm.

Meeting adjourned- 7: 41 pm

Minutes Respectfully Submitted, M. Fricke