

## St. Martha Catholic School Parent Teacher Organization

### General Meeting Minutes

September 24, 2018

The meeting was called to order by Sarah Wakefield at 7:10pm

#### 1. President's Report

The PTO Board has restructured the PTO to simplify the committees and streamline communication. We now have four main committees: Hospitality, Athletic Booster & Spirit Clubs, Homeroom Parents, and Community Life.

#### 2. Committee Reports

- a. Athletic Boosters: We need donations of concession items to be sold at home games. Items needed include bags of chips, candy bars, boxed candy, etc. Please leave donations in the school office, labeled "Athletic Boosters."
- b. Community Life:
  - i. *Family Fun Night*: We are having a Trunk or Treat on Oct. 19, from 6:00-8:00pm. We need lots of volunteers to make this evening a success.  
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b0e4eaeae2baaf94-smcs>
  - ii. *Vocations*: The Vocations committee will be assembling spiritual bouquets for our priests. We will need SMCS families to sign up to present those items to the priests at all Masses on October 28. Fr. T.J.'s birthday is October 23, and we are looking for ideas on how our school can celebrate with him. If you have any ideas please email [vocations@stmarthacs.org](mailto:vocations@stmarthacs.org). Mrs. Bloodworth will be starting the Vocations Club for grades 3-8. More information is on the school website.
- c. Homeroom Parents: If you signed up to be a room parent, there is an informational meeting on Sept. 26, at 9:30am, in the school library.
- d. Hospitality: We need lots of help this year to support our teachers with lunches and tasty treats.  
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0b4eada62ca2f49-2018>
- e. Spirit Shop/Rebates: We made \$935 selling spirit shop items on Grandparents day! There will be a big push in October for Box Tops, Community Coffee labels, and Tyson Project A+.

#### 3. Principal's Report

- a. It is time for our school's accreditation visit. This will take place Oct. 16-19. Our school receives its accreditation through the TCCBED (Texas Catholic Conference Bishops Education Department); team members will visit our school and observe our teachers and staff, they may also visit with parents during drop off and dismissal.
- b. There will be some changes to our Christmas program this year. The preschool students will have their own program on Dec. 20 at 1:30pm. Ms. Spartz will organize the Christmas program for our K-8 students, which will be the evening of Dec. 19. Christmas parties this year will be celebrated with a "Christmas Around the World" theme.
- c. Communications:

Alignment: Our goal is to have our students be successful in high school. To that end, we are working on how assignment and test information is shared with both students and parents.

Websites: This year, Mrs. Hutchinson will be supporting our teachers with utilizing more technology in their classrooms. All of our teachers are working towards completing their Google Teacher Certification. Teachers are also transferring their websites to Google Suites.

Subsidiarity: In keeping with the Church's principle of subsidiarity, problems should be solved at the lowest level whenever possible. Persons having a concern with another individual should go directly to that person before going to that person's superior. If parents have a concern with a teacher, they must discuss the concern first with the teacher. If the parent feels the concern is not resolved, the parent may should follow the policy as outlined in the Parent Teacher Handbook.

- d. Blue Ribbon: Thanks to the hard work of our students and teachers, we will be applying to CAPE to be nominated as a 2019 Blue Ribbon school. This is a year long process. CAPE will make nomination decisions in the spring of 2019. There are several factors that must be met to qualify for nomination, including IOWA math and reading test scores at/above the 75 percentile in the nation. Please pray for our school as we work towards this prestigious award.

#### 4. Old Business

Grandparents day was a huge success! Thank you, Gigi Hopke and team, for all of your hard work!

A big "thank you" also to Monique Dennis, for pulling together a welcome back breakfast for our teachers and staff on the first week of school!

#### 5. New Business - Upcoming PTO/Fundraising Events

Oct. 19 - Family Fun Night - Trunk or Treat (Community Life)

Oct. 23 - Fr. T.J.'s birthday (Community Life)

Oct.25/26 - Conference Day Teacher lunches (Hospitality)

Oct. 25 - Chick-fil-a Spirit Event

Oct. 26 - Crusader Open Golf Tournament - registration opens this week

Oct. 28 - Priesthood Sunday (Community Life)

Nov. 5-9 - Vocations Awareness Week (Community Life)

Nov. 15 - Gobble Gathering (Homeroom Parents)

Nov. 26 - PTO meeting

#### 6. Announcements/Q&A

If you have suggestions or questions you would like addressed at the next meeting, please email [vicepresident@stmarthacs.org](mailto:vicepresident@stmarthacs.org), or drop an anonymous note in the suggestion box outside the registrar's office in the main hallway.