

St. Mary's Academy Parent Guild Meeting Minutes
March 4, 2014

Present:

Sister Susan Wikeem (arrived around 8 pm)	Kathleen Reid	Susan Yurkiw	Teresita Chiarella	Leslie Finch (arrived around 8 pm)
Pam Knysh	Candace Partyka	Gwen Lawrence	Kevin Sneesby	Adelina Nicolin
Lorraine Kuzyk	Claudia Davies	Susan Chyzyy	Lidia Erickson	Carolyn Eva Meadows

Regrets: Janice Beveridge, Sharon Godenir

Meeting called to order at 7:04 pm.

Prayer – Teresita Chiarella (Sr. Susan at the Board of Director's Meeting)

Approval of Previous meeting – February 4, 2014

- Minutes reviewed

Motion to approve minutes – Pam Knysh, Second – Gwen Lawrence; All in favor; Motion carried.

President's Report – Kathleen Reid

- Reported on plans for Sr. Susan's retirement
- The Nominating Committee – made up of Sr. Susan, Candace Partyka and Lorraine Kotyk met a couple of times regarding slate of candidates for Parent Guilds vacant positions.

Director's Report – Sr. Susan

- Reported on various activities of the school.
- Handed out the upcoming Female World Sport School Challenge Hockey Tournament Schedule and invited all to attend. This is now SMA's annual event.
- The last week of March before Spring Break, SMA will host the Sisters of the Holy Names Schools for North America conference. SMA hosted the same conference in 1997 and 2007.
- Next week is Heritage Fair
- The Re-registration package will be sent out shortly and due on March 21st.

Treasurer's Report – Susan Yurkiw

- Financial report for the period: July 1, 2013 ending February 28, 2014.
- Wrote a cheque to the school in the amount of \$10,746.00 for various items from their wish list.
- The Lottery generated \$13,000 and so far, \$11,000 has been spent.
- Total Cash in Bank = \$52,736.82.

Motion to approve the financial report – Susan Chyzyy; Second – Candace Partyka; All in favour; Motion carried.

Bingo Report – Gwen Lawrence

- Email went out to ask for volunteers for the March 9th bingo and that is filled.
- Future bingo date is not until April; will send out another email for volunteers later on.

Board Liaison Report – Leslie Finch

- Leslie attended the Board meeting at 5:15 prior to the Parents' Guild meeting.
- Reported on various activities of the Board Committees:
 - Nominating Committee – reviewing submissions for the President's position
 - Finance Committee – reviewed finances of the school and the legal structure of the Board of Directors and the school.
 - Sr. Susan presented the Director's report

- Mrs. C. Yunik – presented the Principal's report
- Leslie Finch – reported on the Parent's Guild based on the February meeting
- Alumni – reported on their latest sponsored event – Sr. Strikes II
- Maintenance Committee – reported on outstanding aspects of the 3rd Phase expansion – i.e. the fence

Corner Store Report – No Report

Tartan (Uniform) Shop – No Report

Hospitality Report – No Report

Volunteer – Kathleen Reid (for Janice Beveridge)

- A volunteer form will be included in the school's re-registration package that will be emailed to parents later in this week. The purpose is to explain online volunteer registration. The form also asks for contact info and whether the parent is planning to volunteer or not. This will ensure that all parents are accounted for; if for any reason parents that have indicated they are signing up online do not appear on our system, we can contact them directly

New Business:

1. Parents' Guild Survey – Pam Knysh

- Pam presented on the survey that was sent out in November along with the International Day information.
- Every year with parents' generous support of activities such as International Day, the Raffle, Manitoba Lotteries bingos, the Tartan Shop, and the Corner Store, the Guild has raised substantial funds. These funds are used to enhance programming and the general school life of the girls. Funds raised are allocated according to the wish list provided by Administration. It was anticipated that there would still be discretionary funds available after the allocated monies have been distributed. Therefore, the Parents Guild wanted to hear parents' suggestions for where they would like to see funds diverted.
- Pam went over the survey results
 - 28 respondents participated in the survey
 - There were several categories on which to comment:
 - Academic
 - Arts, Music and Drama
 - Health and Well-Being
 - Sports
 - Technology
 - Facilities
 - Miscellaneous
- The responses varied from general to specific comments.
- The survey result is a good starting point for discussion
- Discussion ensued about the categories, how to make the survey more accessible, and the reasons for low participation.
- It was suggested that the Parents' Guild should communicate how the monies are spent as regards to the wish list.
- A good discussion ensued around the topic of community building. Sister Susan and the Guild are open to and would welcome suggestions that create a stronger sense of connection amongst parents. Kathleen Reid encouraged parents to send any ideas to their Parents' Guild

Next Meeting: Tuesday, May 6, 2014 at 7:00 pm

Meeting adjourned at 8:34 pm

Teresita Chiarella
Secretary