

St Mary's Academy Parent Guild Meeting Minutes
September 09, 2014

Present:

Kristi Cumming, Candace Partyka, Connie Yunyk, Susan Yurkiw, Pam Knysh, Leesa Sylvestre, Sharon Godenir, Cindy Hasselman, Leslie Finch, Kathy Degen, Tracy Labossiere, Mary Nemeth, Colleen McFadden, Lorraine Koltek, Mike McKernan, Debbie Mackaw, Lisa Olench, Roger Bean, Rose Pagtakhan, Jen Iskterski, Sandra Henantt, Tracy Monney, Lidia Erickson, Elaine Murdoch, Susan Chizzy, Christie DeJong, Deneen Klippenstein, Angela Wandering Spirit, Carolyn Eva Meadows, Gwen Lawrence, and Kathleen Reid

*meeting called to order at 7:29 by Kristi Cumming, Parent Guild President

Approval of meetings for May 06, 2014

* motion to approve and accept by Sharon Godenir and seconded by Susan Yurkiw

Parent Guild President – Kristi Cumming

*introduced new committee chairs: Telephone – vacant, Bingo Committee – Gwen Lawrence, Corner Store – Sharon Godenir, Tartan Shop – Cindy Hasselman, Hospitality – Kristi Cumming / Candace Partyka, Board / Guild Liaison – Leslie Finch, Volunteer – Pam Knysh, International Day – Kathy Degen

*Telephone coordinator – must get every ticket back for lottery, committee members – contact other parents from home room; one parent assigned to each home room.

*New business / action item to acquire telephone coordinator

*International day lottery application is in so that draw will be held at International Day

*just waiting for clearance on lottery license

*Carolyn Meadows to chair lottery

*tickets are \$ 5 and 10 in book; books \$ 50; one book per student to each home via mail

*Cupcake party for classroom who raises most funds; prize for top sales

*draw prizes are \$1500, \$ 1000, \$ 750, and \$ 500

*Finally note parent night at 7:00 pm; requesting volunteers from parent guild to attend parent information night.

End of presidents' report

President, St Mary's Academy - Connie Yunyk

*Beginning of school year started nicely, new Principal Josie Odino; she will meet parents at information meeting

*Activities have started extra curricular, check backpacks / binders for course outlines so know what they are doing in class, meet teachers and talk about programs

*Violin club will be running again, auditions for Shrek under way

*Opening mass went nicely, new music teacher

- *Grade 12 did reflection day earlier this year; day went well; students were happy with how day brought people together.
- *upcoming event walk for cancer next Thursday will be bringing home a consent form
- *Mass set the tone for the school year
- *All parents are invited for parent information evening. Introduce new staff, there will be messages from school principal and guild president. Guild president will speak about International Day
- *Grade 7, 9 and 12 parents will breakout, meet teachers
- *Send another eblast for all parents to come to parents information night for 7 pm.

Board Liaison Report – Leslie Finch

- *Last board meeting may 20th topics covered short presentation on relationship between principal, president and sma board
- * New board member Leanne Tsai, Mark Dufresne resigned, new board chair Scott Greenlee; board members evaluations of board experience conducted, year end read sep 16 mtg, developing non teaching staff leave policy
- *Small surplus of St Mary's Academy transferred to St Mary's Academy Foundation, update on legal structure, reviewed strategic plan more information to come at next meeting
- *Update to come on pension and benefit status for school

Corner Store - Lydia Erickson

- *Negotiating better prices
- *Consider bringing plastic cups, blankets for alumni tea , we had profit \$ 2551 of revenue, gently new and used items from store, looking at credit and debit card system at store

Uniform Shop - Cindy Hasselman

- *Uniform sales went well, ran out of sizes what will sell, what is needed, took special orders and try to do best and stock, expensive to hold items for St Mary's Academy logo, inventory cannot be too high
- *Added scanners for sales and tags for precision, inventory control
- *Not a lot of interest in blazers; nothing going forward in that regards

Hospitality – Colleen McFadden

- *it is year 2 for Colleen on the committee
- *host six events per year
- ***parent information** night needs some volunteers for tear down
- *Great event to welcome people when they arrive
- *Great opportunity to meet the teachers
- *Parent information evening was sep 18 last year
- *planning **guild Christmas party**
- ***Open house** in January 2015
- * there is also a **teacher appreciation** event
- ***carnival** need to recruit more people to get involved
- ***Convocation**

Bingo – Gwen Lawrence

- *there are approximately 20 bingos per year at Club Regent and McPhillips Street Station
- *so far there are about 55 volunteers; there are committed bingo dates up until December 2nd

Volunteer – Pam Knysh

- *This is a layering of experiences for parent and daughter to be a community of service and get to know other families in SMA community
- *Moved to online registration for volunteers, sourcing volunteers more easily, hand out electronic lists to committee coordinators
- *parents shouldn't feel you have to volunteer on all committees
- *Where on website to register for volunteering: main page and parent volunteers will ask questions and will sort you into different volunteer events / committees, please call to find right volunteer opportunity
- *No need to fill out form every year; Janice Beveridge cleared database for non returning parents Pam to send database for committee corner store volunteers – action item

International Day – Kathy Degen

- *Kathy Degen - Background – daughters in gr 10 in gr 7
- *Kathy was involved in the rainbow auction when Bonnie was still coordinating International Day
- *International Day is like a mini folklorama with 6 to 8 , of different ethnic backgrounds, serving food and entertainment, always on Sunday
- *Good way to get girls involved as well
- *many people want to be involved with International Day
- *Everyone who does oversee a pavillion will volunteer in some capacity – receive convenors kit 5-6 pages of what they need – tables, volunteers, forms on how to handle food (a complete package)
- *Parents from school – pavillions can be run by anyone who would like to; most pavilions are families are connected to the school
- *Usually maximum of 8 pavillions, as room is restricted

One year british pavilions, pavs have changed over the years

- *Shannon Roberts to continue organizing the talent action items – will be confirmed on Monday
- *Usually talent is scheduled for alumni hall
- *Always looking for someone to perform
- *Susan Yurkiw is organizing Torch Bucks – cash substitute for purchasing food at pavilions
- *avoid handling food and money at the same time at each pavilion
- *\$ 10 books was – may go to \$ 20 books
- *you can buy something from each of the pavilions
- *Keeps food safety handling restrictions met, keeps accounting for funds more manageable
- *Printing costs are not too expensive
- *Girls have own money walking around to buy food
- *International Day meeting on Monday, September 15/14
- *October guild meeting will have information updates on International Day

- *Important to note – lots of spots for volunteers – lost 5 people who left positions ie subcommittees ie parking, art auction, several spots – some rather large spots to fill – need succession plans for everything; majority of jobs for International Day –no succession plans yet made
- *Action item – Pam to send Kathy Degen list of new volunteers, set up International Day table at parent information night
- *Rainbow auction Kathy Degen to speak to Mrs Yunyk

New Business – Connie Yunyk, President, St Mary's Academy

- *parent education suggestions: goal of parent guild – to provide par education around certain issues of young girls / teenagers ..bullying cyberbullying brain development in young women, social and emotional issues in teenagers have skyrocketed, brought in speakers about those issues
- *3 suggestions: one is timely for the October meeting: very seasoned therapist one of our clinicians grade 7 to 10 on study skills, another idea is for parents and students in gr 10 to 12 – making your mark at SMA about academic programming organizing your self for success
- *Two possible dates Tuesday, Oct 7th Carol Hrynuik – Atamov available 7:00 to 8:30 get parent guild meeting 6 to 7 and then session
- *Third event in possibly February: a session on bullying / anti-bullying.. has to do with what is going on in the last couple of years – Amanda Todd legacy...came to guidance counsellor last May. Don Windsor local, teamed up with Amanda Todd's mom. She committed suicide last year because of awful things happening to her at school and social media. Don provided ideas with impact of cyber bullying , empowering youth, second part online predators and strangers. Talked to executive already Book for February 2015 with parent guild meeting. Have a 6:30 to 7:00 pm meeting and then 7:00 to 8:30 presentation.
- *Perhaps have an April session for security speaker

Meeting adjourned at 8:34 thank you for coming out and have some refreshments