

St Mary's Academy Parent Guild Meeting Minutes

February 2, 2016

Present: Kristi Cumming, Candace Partyka, Christa Giesbrecht, Connie Yunyk, Pam Knysh, Kelly Moon, Mary Fustey, Lidia Erickson, Colleen McFadden, Gwen Lawrence, Barb Adamkowicz, Carmela Buccini, Lorraine Koltek, Elaine Mordoch

Meeting called to order at 7:03 pm by Kristi Cumming, Parent Guild President

Opening prayer: Connie Yunyk

Motion to accept previous minutes from December 9th, 2015 by Mary Fustey and seconded by Candace Partyka.

Executive Committee Reports

Parent Guild President – Kristi Cumming:

- New format for Parent Guild Christmas party was very successful. Great turnout with many new individuals in attendance. Thank you to Mrs. May and the Hospitality Committee for all of their hard work. Silver collection of \$80.00 plus \$100.00 donation from the Board was donated to House of Peace.
- Inaugural Torch Talks was also very successful! 70-75 in attendance. Great response rate from survey sent to all who attended with excellent feedback and suggestions for future topics. Plan is for this to become an annual event.
- Thank you to Gwen Lawrence for all of her hard work in organizing all of the volunteers for Bingo. All volunteer positions are filled to the middle of March.

Volunteer Report- Christa Giesbrecht

- Power point presentation completed highlighting all of the volunteer areas at SMA. Video was completed in time for SMA Open House. Huge thank you to Nancy Shippam for assisting in this project! Video has been uploaded onto the SMA website for viewing.
- Looking at options for an on-line volunteer management program. SMA executive is in the process of investigating a program called "Volunteer Spot". "Sign Up Genius" was also mentioned as a possibility.

Treasurer's Report – Pam Knysh

- December financials were reviewed.
- Guild Christmas Party generated a profit of \$129.67 due to great attendance and the ability of Mrs. May to keep cost of supplies to a minimum. The money will be donated to SMA Mission Club.

President's Report – Connie Yunyk

- Strategic Plan: Approximately 100 parents and 175 alumnae completed the on-line survey. Data collection is now complete and the team is working on finding common themes/issues. SMA Board will be discussing the survey results at their Board Retreat on February 19th&20th.
- Open House on January 26th was very well attended.
- SMA recruitment video launched today on the website.
- Advancement and Development office: Very successful “Evening and the Academy” with approximately \$50,000 raised for the bursary fund.
- In honour of Ash Wednesday on February 10th, the Corner Store will not be open to sell candy.
- Extensive research is being conducted in regards to a new website. Discussed need for teachers and parents to be involved with the new design.
- Marian Awards will take place on Saturday April 30th at The Gates.
- Burning Bright Speaker Series is on Thursday May 12th. Full details to follow. Theme will likely focus on the 100th Anniversary of women’s right to vote.
- World Sports School Hockey Challenge will be held on March 10-13 at the Iceplex and is hosted by St Mary’s Academy. 10 Female Prep Teams are involved this year including a team from the U.S for the first time. The profits from the tournament does stay in the school and will help fund both SMA hockey programs.

Committee Reports:

- Bingo: All volunteer positions are filled until mid-March
- Corner Store: Looking at a few new designs of t-shirts and sweatshirts to add to the inventory.
- International Day: Claudia Davies has completed her 2 year term as Co-Chair. Ramona Thomson will be looking for a volunteer to become her co-chair for International Day 2016.
- International Day Lottery: Suggestions for improvements were provided to the executive by the co-chairs.
- Hospitality: Excellent job at the Open House! It was brought to our attention that in the future we may not be able to purchase baking from Tec Voc School. The school division had concerns about selling it to an organization outside of Winnipeg 1 School Division.
- Tartan shop: No report

Board Liason Report – Colleen McFadden

- The Board has not met since last meeting so nothing to report.
- SMA Board Retreat is February 19th & 20th.

New Business

- Ramona Thomson has agreed to complete her second year as Co-Chair of International Day. Claudia Davies has completed her 2 year term and a new Co-Chair will be needed for next year’s International Day to assist Ramona.
- Torch Talks and New Parent Night: Due to the success of these 2 new events planned this year by the Parents Guild, it was decided that they will continue to be annual events. The “Grade 7

New Parent" event will be changed to include ALL new parents to SMA. The Parent Guild will be in search of volunteers to chair each of these events.

Meeting adjourned at 8:03 pm

Next meeting March 1st, 2016 at 7:00pm