

**St Mary's Academy Parents' Guild Meeting Minutes**  
**Tuesday, October 30, 2018**  
**SMA Durocher Library**

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In attendance: Connie Yunyk, Ramona Thompson, Gillian Hauser, Venus Denis, Anita Auriti, Cassandra Loiseau-Walker, Mel Jones, Rosa Bovino, Chrissy Werestiuk

1. Meeting called to order at 7:04 pm

- Opening Prayer by Connie

2. Approval of Agenda

Motion to accept by Rosa Bovino and seconded by Mel Jones

3. Approval of Previous Minutes – Tuesday September 11, 2018

Motion to accept by Cassandra Loiseau-Walker and seconded by Rosa Bovino

4. PG Executive Committee Reports

President – Ramona Thompson

- International Day was a success and final numbers are being determined. The wrap up meeting has been re-scheduled and waiting for date from Shannon Cisneros. Received positive feedback on torch cards and snack portions. Many pavilions sold out of food. Rainbow auction did very well.
- Cash Raffle – Mel Jones confirmed that all books were distributed to students. There is a big difference this year compared to last year where students are taking more books out (approx. 4—5 books). Deadline for return of books is Nov. 2, 2018 and Draw date is November 16, 2018.
- Parents Guild Christmas Event will be held on Dec 4, 2018. This event will begin with a brief meeting from 6:00-6:30 pm then will be gathering for wine, cheese and treats while putting together “Handbags for Hope.” This is the first time the Parents’ Guild has participated in this charity. The handbags will be collected and filled with toiletries, other needed items and treats for women in need. Considering donating 10-15 bags but will depend on how many people attend. Devon Ostir will send out a list of items needed to fill bags. The event will be in the Communiqué with details including how much it will cost per person to cover the wine, snacks, etc.

2<sup>nd</sup> VP – Gillian Hauser

- Suggestions to improve International Day by those who attended meeting:
  - Hand out reminders to students when International Day is. Resurrect the distribution of free soda tickets to students if they attend International Day.
  - Provide more training to students who volunteer for international day. Those paired up with seniors would have more information on how, when, where to get food.
  - Put up posters earlier to advertise International Day, which would include the food being offered, the entertainment, and rainbow auction prizes to entice people to attend.

- Advertise on Facebook and Instagram.
- Advertise at Spring Uniform Sale – have a kiosk to educate parents (new and existing) on the events that will happen in the year, including International Day.
- Advertise events in the acceptance package for new students. Design a fly sheet and include in package.
- Involve Head Girl when advertising International day to encourage students to go.
- In the Communiqué, put a call out to parents to share their heritage – to add to our existing pavilions.
- Create a new position on the International Day committee that is dedicated to marketing and advertising international day – to students, parents, seniors, etc.

#### Treasurer – Anita Auriti

- Provided update on Financial report
- International Day numbers are still being finalized.

#### 5. SMA Presidents Report – Connie Yunyk

- Many events are being planned such as Marian Awards, Gala in September, Mother Mary Rose Week (need drivers, host family, etc.) Looking for Steering Committee volunteers from the Parents Guild to help with events.
  - Cassandra Loiselle-Walker, Ramona Thompson, Rosa Bovino, Chrissy Werestiuk, and Gillian Hauser volunteered.
  - Any others are welcome to volunteer and to contact Connie.
- Consider keeping the International Day Model on the same weekend considering there are many 150th birthday celebrations to do next year.
- Will need to discuss and finalize plans regarding the traffic flow that Stantec (consultant) provided. There is one design to review and focus is on safety and traffic flow. Deadline of November for the SMA Board of Directors to decide so work can be done by summer when students are not in school.
- Working on updating grade 11 Religious Studies curriculum.
- Developing a framework: SNJM Teaching the Learning Framework.
- In spring, working on survey for community regarding program visioning.

#### 6. Committee Updates - VP – Venus Denis

- Corner Store:
  - Currently transferring SMA keychains from the Corner Store to Alumni committee.
- Tartan Shop:
  - Shawn Morrison is working on getting a second computer to run at lunch to deal with high sales at lunchtime. There is an issue with connection for the computer. Hopefully will get computer before spring sale.

- International Day:
  - Received great feedback from those who attended and a wrap up meeting is being re-scheduled.
- SMA Cash Lottery:
  - Mel Jones provided an email confirming that everything is going well and there is only 10 books left and about 150 that have been handed in.
- New Parents Mix and Mingle:
  - Event well attended.
- Torch Talks:
  - Received an email from Nancy Shipman confirming that the speaker is secured. More information will be forthcoming closer to the Event scheduled for February.

7. Board Liaison Report – Connie Yunyk (for Colleen McFadden)

- No report at this time.

8. Miscellaneous/New Business

- Evening at the Academy – almost sold out. Need auction prizes. Confirmed Jets box and have a fishing trip for auction. Need 100 bottles of wine to be donated for event.

9. Action Items for next meeting

nil

Meeting adjourned at 8:26pm

Next Parents' Guild Meeting and Christmas Party:  
 Tuesday, December 4, 2018  
 Time: 6:00pm  
 Location: Sheila Chipman Atrium

RSVP to Devon Ostir for Christmas Party at: [dostir@me.com](mailto:dostir@me.com) . Cost is \$25/person. Christmas Party includes refreshments and food plus collecting and assembling "Handbags for Hope".