

**St. Alphonsus Home and School Association  
Minutes – October 19, 2004**

**Present:** Monsignor Owens, Sister Ruth, Jane Girondo, Gerri Lipp, Susan Hitchings, Karen Sullivan, Lisa Stefkovic, Lisa Vernacchio, Pat McNamara, Kathy Tenzinger, Linda Lillo, Bill Hunter, Joanne Quinn, Suzie Devlin, Mimi McCloskey, Jeanne Calhoun, Kevin Zakrzewski

**Opening Prayer** – Monsignor Owens

**School Update** – Sister Ruth Hennessy

- This spring will be the 3-year progress report for Middle States. The faculty needs to look at goals, evaluate and change the focus for the next few years.
- Terranova Testing for grades 4-8 is scheduled for October 19-21st.
- Aramark has installed a new ice machine for St. Alphonsus School. The debit system will begin in the cafeteria, as students will be given pin numbers.
- An Archdiocesan Principal's Conference will be held October 26-29<sup>th</sup> in Avalon, New Jersey. Sister Ruth will attend this conference.
- The faculty is reviewing a possible new ILA Series for grades K- 5.
- An Open House is scheduled for Tuesday, November 9<sup>th</sup> from 9-11 AM. There will be an announcement in The Church Bulletin. Also, during Catholic Schools Week St. Alphonsus will have an Open House.
- David Newdeck and Edda Kerper will attend Smart Board training at The Montgomery County Intermediate Unit. Afterwards, St. Alphonsus will receive a free smartboard and projector.
- The Virtus Program has a second phase which involves working with the children. The Diocese is asking all homeroom teachers to give the program on December 13<sup>th</sup> and March 21<sup>st</sup>. Monsignor Owens will talk to the parents at St. Alphonsus before the program begins in school.

**Parish Update** – Monsignor Owens

- The Church Dedication will be held at the 12:00 PM mass on Sunday,

November 7<sup>th</sup>. Cardinal Rigali will attend the dedication. The Genesis Choir will sing at mass. Linda and Mimi are representing Home and School. A reception will follow the dedication.

- The Finance Report is finished and The Parish Annual Summary will be Distributed on November 14<sup>th</sup>.
- There are no MMR students in the school. They have joined our Parish.
- Attending The Safe Environment Program is required for all volunteers. The Archdiocese is being audited. St. Alphonsus has received a memo asking our school to have the files available. The business manager has a list of people who have not met all requirements for volunteers.

#### **Treasurer's Report – Karen Sullivan**

- Karen reviewed the expenses and revenue and updated everyone on The Home and School Budget.

#### **Auction Report – Susan Hitchings**

- The St. Alphonsus Back To School Bash encouraged everyone to get in donor forms. The value is at \$86,000.00 in cash and items. Presently, we sold 216 Auction tickets and collected \$3,430.00 in raffle tickets. The deadline for purchasing tickets is October 21<sup>st</sup>. We are still in need of a printer. We will have an auctioneer at the live auction this year.

#### **Technology Committee - Kathy Tenzinger**

- Kathy briefed us about the status of technology at our school. Goals for the Technology Committee can be viewed at The St. Alphonsus Website.

#### **Miscellaneous**

- Sister Ruth has a model of the bylaws from The Archdiocesan Handbook. Gerri, Linda, Suzie and Sister Ruth volunteered to update the bylaws. They will schedule this sometime after the auction.
- Sister Ruth spoke with Bill Richmond, the gym teacher, as his brother is involved with AED training, and may be able to get us training at no cost.

- Kevin distributed a hand out regarding information on the flu and flu season. He suggested disinfectant for every classroom. It has statistically been proven that proper hand washing decreases absenteeism by 20%. The board was in favor. His estimate for this Home and School expense is \$500, but he will review pricing and purchase disinfectant for each room.
- Trunk or Treat is scheduled for Sunday, October 24<sup>th</sup> from 2-4 PM. Linda reported up to 175 are expected for the event. We will use the same route as last year. In the event of rain it will be cancelled. A bin will be available for unwanted candy and donated to St. Mary's Villa or a nearby nursing home.
- Gerri will speak with Mr. Newdeck about having Mock Elections. A dress down day with a patriotic theme, "Red, White and Blue," is scheduled for November 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- Gerri received 65 responses of all that were in favor of a Creative Arts Program. However, she has not had success in reaching an outside program, that will come to St. Alphonsus and guide us. Our goal is to have someone available to plan a "Spring Fling" in the Parish Center.
- Secret Santa is scheduled for December 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>. Karen, Gerri, Lisa S., Lisa V. and Joanne will price the items for this event.
- Two suggestions were placed in the suggestion box. Replacing the tiles in students' bathrooms were suggested so Sister Ruth spoke with Mr. Carmean about this matter. A regulation uniform shoe was suggested, but as of now is not a necessity due to costs and unavailability of shoes. We may discuss this in the future.
- Monsignor Owens scheduled a Parish Social Kick Off for March 5<sup>th</sup>.

**Respectfully Submitted By:** Lisa Stefkovic

**Next General Home and School Meeting:** Thursday, January 20, 2005

**Next Executive Home and School Meeting:** Tuesday, November 16, 2004

