

St. Alphonsus Home and School Association
Minutes – January 17, 2006

Present: Monsignor Owens, Sister Ruth, Diane DiNenno, Pat McNamara, Suzie Devlin, Kim Paris, Mimi McCloskey, Jeanne Calhoun, Kathy Farris, Angie McDonnell, Michele Gallagher, Gina Giuliani

Absent: Linda Lillo, Lisa Vernacchio, Jennifer Princivalle

Opening Prayer: Monsignor Owens

Parish Report: Monsignor Owens

Monsignor thanked everyone for the support he received as he was recuperating. The tuition schedule for next year will be out shortly.

Bishop Burbidge will be at St. Alphonsus at the end of the month, during Catholic Schools Week. A Safe Environment session is offered January 23rd at Holy Martyrs.

School Report: Sister Ruth

The gym may be signed out for the January 31st general meeting. Officer Methany from Upper Moreland will speak about the “Choking Game”. All parents and students in grades 6+ will be invited.

There will be a pre-K open house the week of January 23rd. Sister Ruth will ask pre-K moms to help. Catholic Schools Week Overview:

1/29 10:15 Mass

1/30 1:00 Bullying Assembly (grades 4 – 8)

1/31 Open House (9:00 – 11:00)

MS Read-a-Thon Assembly 1:00 (K- 3); 1:30 (4 – 8)

2/1 Faculty/Staff Luncheon

Mass at 1:40

Installation of new Classroom Representatives

2/2 Student Day: Career Day, Unique Entertainment, Dress Down Day

2/3 Principal and Vice Principal for the Day

2/4 Family Bingo

The school did well on the Terra Nova tests. The faculty will work with the test results and will review curriculum areas.

Bishop Burbidge will visit the school in the morning on January 25th and will have lunch with the faculty.

A memorial mass for Carol Garcia is scheduled for February 14th at 10:15.

Sister Ruth thanked Home and School for Craft Day and for the new computers in the 1st floor computer lab. She dreams of having smaller monitors for the 2nd floor lab and relocating the 2nd floor lab to the new wing, giving students the opportunity to be in the new building more often.

Treasurer’s Report: Pat McNamara.

Pat distributed current copies of the cash account register, the statement of income and expenses and the auction income and expense statement.

Two items were noted: the payment for the new PC’s and the deposit for the All Sports Court.

Mimi will ask George Tenzinger, a member of Project Fun, to sign the contract for the new sports court.

Secretary's Report: Kim Paris
Minutes will be posted after the meeting.

Committee Reports

A.) Assemblies: Gina Giuliani

Unique Entertainment is coming during Catholic Schools week, their fee is \$850.

A Bullying assembly is scheduled during Catholic Schools week for grades 4 - 8, this outside speaker's fee is \$600. There will be a separate program for K – 3 later in the year.

The speaker for the "Choking Game" presentation scheduled for the January 31st general meeting will receive a \$150 donation.

There is interest in a drama club. An outstanding issue is after school coverage of the office/front door. The art program has resolved this issue by paying a teacher to stay after hours and incorporating this cost into the art class fee. Gina will follow up with Sister Ruth and the Walnut Street Theater.

B.) Community Affairs: Jeanne Calhoun

Upper Dublin provides a school nurse to St. A's on a limited basis. Surrounding townships provide non-public schools nurses on a more regular basis. Jeanne will investigate requirements for providing a nurse.

Jeanne will investigate busing requirements as well.

C.) Publicity: Kathy Farris

St. Alphonsus Press Corps was recently published in the Ambler Gazette and the Enterprise.

D.) Social Activities: Michele Gallagher, Jen Princivalle

Ice Skating was a success.

Trivia Night will be rescheduled for sometime in March.

Upcoming Activities are planned as follows:

- Feb.24, 7:00 – 9:30 Father Daughter Dance, Sister Ruth will check on the DJ used last year.
- March 5, Mother/Son Olympics
- April 6, School Show

E.) Volunteers: Angie McDonnell

Craft Day was fun, a success overall.

Angie is meeting with the volunteer coordinators to get ready for Catholic Schools Week.

To date, about half of those who added their name to the volunteer list at the start of the year have been called upon. Angie projects that most of the others will be contacted to help with Catholic Schools Week.

Pat asked everyone to keep notes on all activities, assemblies and events, for use in the future.

F.) Technology: Mimi McCloskey

The new computers in the 1st floor computer lab are great.

Kathy Tenzinger is configuring 10 new laptops for teacher/classroom use.

A suggestion was made to incorporate lab upgrades as an on-going, line item in the budget.

As early as next year, students may be required to have their own "Jump Drive," a portable external drive which would contain all of their personal files so this information can be kept off of the server.

The IU evaluated the technology at St. Alphonsus in December, no results are available yet.

Auction Update: Jeanne Calhoun and Mimi McCloskey

An Auction wrap-up meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 16th at 7:30; Home and School Board members are asked to attend.

New Auction chairs need to be named.

The Auction generated net \$139,957!

Pat suggested that an amendment to the Home and School By-Laws be considered in which we reinstate a Ways and Means Committee. The Auction and any other Home and School Fund Raisers would fall under this committee.

New Business

Catholic Schools Week Responsibilities:

1/29 Reception after Mass – Linda/Kathy

1/31 Open House – Mimi/Michele

2/1 Faculty/Staff Luncheon – Jeanne/Gina

2/4 Family Bingo – Pat/Suzie/Jen

Teacher Appreciation – Linda/Lisa/Kim

In the past, students have received a treat and small gift on Student Day. This year, Michele Gallagher will coordinate a treat for the students. But instead of a gift, a donation will be made to the students of our sister parish, Our Lady of Hope. Sister Ruth will contact the principal there to coordinate this.

A plaque for Mrs. Garcia was ordered, and will be available by 2/10. The final price not available yet. As the 2006-7 budget is developed, any area with expenses this year should propose an amount to be budgeted for next year.

The All Sports Court will cost \$39,000. Mimi will reconvene the Project Fun committee to develop a plan for the remainder of the fiscal year and will look at the following possibilities: fencing the sports court, upgrading the playground, and enhancing the baseball/soccer field area.

The school has received \$400 from the Box Tops for Education Program. Sister Ruth is planning to use the money to purchase digital cameras for the school.

A UD police officer has met with the 6th grade weekly and has completed the DARE program with them.

Motion

A Formal Motion was made to approve purchasing a \$100 gift card for the officer in appreciation for his work with our students.

Vote

A vote was taken by the committee and the motion was unanimously **approved**.

Mrs. Gironde and Mrs. Robins will be overseeing the new Student Council. They have asked to use the money that was budgeted for use by the inactive speech club for any incidentals.

Motion

A Formal Motion was made to approve \$300 for use by the Student Council.

Vote

A vote was taken by the committee and the motion was unanimously **approved**.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on February 21, 2006 from 7:30 – 9:00.

Respectfully Submitted by: Kim Paris