

St. Alphonsus Home and School
Meeting Minutes of 2-18-09 @ 8:15 am

In Attendance: John Steck, Nick D'Amico, Patty McNulty, Terry Zajac, Mary Dolaway, Dianne Signoretta, Lucy Paccione, Liz Fitzpatrick, Sherry Mischler, Carla Cooper, Judy Felix, Maura Zimmerman, Kellie Brogan, Beth Perri

Parish Report

- ❖ The parish's finances are following the economy and are facing a continual downturn. Nick anticipates the parish being \$225,000 off their planned economics and will have to eat into our reserves to cover the shortage.
- ❖ The capital campaign is maintaining itself but Nick expects an updated report shortly.
- ❖ Nick is asking that the parish's approval be sought for large expenditures

School Report

- ❖ Mrs. Stack is preparing for the school show on 2/19/09.
- ❖ The new math program is still being investigated.
- ❖ Our anticipated enrollment for next year is 426 students, 21 above our current enrollment of 405. We will have three kindergartens with 45 children enrolled. We will also have a Pre-K program with 12 children currently enrolled. There are 26 current school children who have not re-registered.
- ❖ The Peace program committee is underway and we will have a representative attend the Peace Institute 3 day workshop held by the Connolly Foundation.
- ❖ We are seeking a grant from the Connolly Foundation for a laptop cart which would include 16 wireless laptops and a printer.
- ❖ Some classes will enjoy Donuts on Mardi Gras. Mr. Steck would like this to be a Home and School sponsored treat next year rather than a party sponsored by the homeroom coordinators.
- ❖ Terra Nova testing will be held March 9-13 for grades K, 2, 3, 4 and 7. Next year all Terra Nova testing will take place in the spring. Kindergartners will be tested but will be reported only as a group, not on an individual basis. This is to provide grade level information to the schools and the Office of Catholic Education.
- ❖ The TV Studio is 98% implemented and will be used by the 8th graders this year. Kathy Tenzinger is overseeing its implementation.
- ❖ The class size limit used for registration will be the same limit as Upper Dublin School District which is 27.

Treasurer's Report

- ❖ The process to transition the budget management to Lucy is underway.
- ❖ Heartland which processes credit card payments for the auction experienced a breach of information in August. They did not notify us because it occurred prior to our fundraiser and they did not feel our information was compromised. Dianne wanted feedback on whether our community should be notified. Nick recommended calling Commerce Bank which referred us to Heartland.
- ❖ Dianne will seek approval to release the remaining teacher startup funds.
- ❖ A budget meeting will be held in March. (Sec. Note: The preliminary budget meeting is set for March 4th at 2:45)

Social Committee

- ❖ Bowling is set for March 22nd at Thunderbird Lanes. Our cost is \$62 per lane for bowlers, pizza, drinks, etc. We are looking at charging \$8 per bowler. There will be considerable setup work ahead of time to assign bowlers to lanes.
- ❖ The Father-Daughter dance will proceed as planned with the date and budget to remain the same.
- ❖ The Talent Show will also remain on the scheduled date of May 30th. We will sell hotdogs, drinks, and snacks.
- ❖ The date for Teen Trivia is TBD.

Ways and Means

- ❖ Carla explored options with eScrip. Nick encouraged her to check with the legal department of the diocese. If the diocese approves it, we can include the info in the family envelope.
- ❖ We are in the process of finding co-chairs for our fundraiser.

Programs

- ❖ Mr. Steck felt that Unique Entertainment got the kids riled up and felt they were expensive given the work performed and their requests from the teachers for questions for the game. He encouraged us to explore other vendors.
- ❖ There is a NCEA planning guide that we can purchase that may list other vendors.

Community Volunteers

- ❖ If we want to offer the Mileage Club, we need more volunteers. We will solicit for volunteers again in the fall and hopefully re-implement that program then.
- ❖ We discussed have a Wellness Wednesday or Fitness Friday program and implement the Mileage Club along with that program.

Volunteers

- ❖ Beth had nothing to report except that she is soliciting volunteers for the ice cream social.

Old Business

- ❖ The hand bells will be demonstrated at the school show. Immediate plans to purchase them are on hold until funding can be determined.
- ❖ Judy and Maura will coordinate the Principals' breakfast meeting on Feb 24th.
- ❖ There is one general home and school meeting scheduled in April with Kathy Ganster to attend discussing Terra Nova scores. Other options might be to have the Peace Institute do a presentation for \$250 on anti-bullying or to have the "A Pledge and a Promise" presentation to publicize the risks of drinking and driving.

New Business

- ❖ The next meeting will be an evening meeting to accommodate working board members. It is scheduled for Monday, March 9, 2009.
- ❖ We will continue to solicit fundraising co-chairs. Liz Fitzpatrick volunteered to be a chair and will consider other people to work with.
- ❖ The board was asked to consider candidates for new nomination to fill board positions for those whose terms are up. That list includes Deana Michie who does publicity, Carla Cooper for Ways and Means, an open Social chair position, and Karen Hornbaker for secretary.
- ❖ Mary Dolaway volunteered to coordinate the Book Fair Ice Cream Social and will solicit other 4th grade parents for assistance.

*meeting adjourned @ 9:40 am K. Hornbaker

