

St. Alphonsus Home and School Association
Minutes – Wednesday, September 19, 2007 @ 8:15am

Present: Monsignor Owens, Sister Ruth, Suzie Devlin, Angie McDonnell, Dianne Signoretta, Karen Hornbaker, Elena Wall, Carla Cooper, Judy Felix, Jamie Cardosi, Susan Marley, Mary Dolaway, Michele Gallagher, Ann Markley, Carolyn Schumann, Sherry Mischler, Lisa Vernacchio, Deb DeAngelis, Mark Wolpert, Deana Michie.

Absent: Liz Fitzpatrick

Opening Prayer: Monsignor Owens

1. Parish Report Monsignor Owens

Very happy to announce that currently we are caught up on the principal payments.

Bicentennial - October 29th.

School song contest is now in progress.

Our Faith, Our Future campaign

2. School Report Sister Ruth

1. **Back to School Nights:** These went very well. About 95% attendance.
 - a. **Papers to be returned:** There were MANY papers to be signed and in the future this will not be given at that time. New directive from Archdiocese that these forms need to be updated yearly. They will go home with re-registration packets and re-registration will not be considered complete until they are returned.
 - b. **Emergency Form for Each Student:** This will be given at Book Day and required to be completed before parent/s leave the building that day.
 - c. **Teacher Requests:** I did ask the faculty what they asked at Back to School Night. Here are their responses:
 - i. Grade 7 – papers and books contacted by Monday
 - ii. Grade 1 – Books covered and papers by Friday IF possible by middle of next week at latest
 - iii. Kindergarten – one journal book contacted by Monday
 - iv. Grade 6 – Everything done y Monday
 - v. Grade 5 – Monday
 - vi. Grade 8 – Monday
 - vii. Grade 3 – Monday
 - viii. Grade 2 – 3 books per night
 - ix. Grade 4 – books covered if possible by next day; paperwork by first full Friday of school
2. **Student Meetings:** Sister Ruth held meetings with Grade clusters (1-8) after the pledge during the first full week of school. Reviewed and explained basic school rules.
3. **School Shoes:** Students have been given a two week grace period to have the required school shoes. Every student is expected to have the ‘solid black or brown shoes’ by

Monday, September 24th. NO shoes with stripes on sides that are of different color are acceptable.

4. Confessions: Msgr. Owens and Father Papa will begin to hear confessions for students every Tuesday afternoon. Grade 8 will start on 9/25.
5. School Atmosphere: Every teacher is up and running full speed ahead! The Smart Boards are an exciting element in each classroom – thank you to the H&S for purchasing them!
6. Play Yard: Students are enjoying this area a lot!
7. Lunch Recess: We have had steady parents reporting each day! There are 3 designated areas: Field, Back Play Area and Blacktop.
8. Volunteer Meeting: This was offered as ‘optional’ and on Friday morning about ten parents attended; one parent on Saturday. Material was quite comprehensive and the parents who attended stated that it was well worth the time. Would you like me to offer it one more time?
9. Open Houses: There will be several open houses before CSW:
 - a. Wednesday, 10/3 (9 to 11)
 - b. Tuesday, 11/6 (9 to 11)
 - c. Thursday, 12/6 (9 to 11)
 - d. Sunday after 5 pm and 10:15 am Mass / 10/13 and 10/14 / Sacramento Sunday ... Classroom doors open – will get some students to be available to answer questions, etc.
10. Curriculum Night: Last year the teachers who presented were given a stipend. Could H&S do the same this year?
11. Laminating Film: Mary and I have been shopping for the best prices ... H&S budgeted \$400 ... cost of film exceeds this ... large laminator / film is about \$200 per roll + shipping; small laminator / film is about \$50 + shipping ...
12. Mileage Club: Several schools have instituted the “Mileage Club” and it’s been managed by parents. Would H&S begin this program at St. A’s? Information available.
13. Mrs. Gironde: Auction / Teachers
14. School Nurse: A School Nurse from the Upper Dublin School District will be at school Wednesdays and Fridays from 8 to 1pm.

3. Treasurer’s Report: Dianne Signoretta

We have switched banks.

We are moving to Quick Books with the help of Sherry Mischler.

Some auction expenses have been paid.

4. Committee Reports

Ways & means

Auction – Carla/Angie

Auction update – Main focus now is for the volunteers that we have presently to show “new” volunteers for next year what to do and how to proceed.

Sister Ruth authorized the pizza party competition in the cafeteria.

Raffle tickets will be sold at the Fall Festival to benefit the auction for a Great Wolfe Lodge Weekend trip.

October 5th raffle deadline!

Although we are striving to be “paperless” with communication. Sister has agreed to have flyers about the auction to be sent out in the next 3 Family Envelopes.

Social

Fall Festival

Mary/Deb– Volunteers met with plans now in place.

DJ will be provided. A sign-up to attend flyer will go out in the Family Envelope.

Programs

Carolyn/Mark

Assemblies - A good group of volunteers. One assembly is set during Catholic Schools Week.

Another assembly is to address the topic of “Bullying”.

Looking for motivated speakers

Community Affairs

Deanna/Ann – will be taking pictures throughout the school year.

Walk for Fitness

Publicity

Ann – Pizza Party competition to get donations. Ann displayed a wonderful pizza poster.

October 5th is the deadline.

Volunteers

Sue/Angie- has volunteer sheets and will communicate with social and program coordinators.

5. Old Business

Thanks to all who help with Back to School night! In the future, more attention to clean up.

Curriculum Night – A \$50.00 stipend will be paid to the teachers that attend. Unanimously approved.

6. New Business

Drama Club in the Spring. Denise Whelan as teacher for the upper grades?

Walnut Street Theater for the lower grades? Drama Club should be continued, as it is a nice alternative for those children who do not wish to play sports. Carolyn Schumann will follow up on this.

Chess Club is on Tuesdays.

Sister Ruth will discuss further with Msgr. Owens about the possibility of a Scrapbook Club for adults that would meet once a month.

* Meeting adjourned at 9:18am

*Next H&S meeting will be on Wednesday October 19, 2007 @ 8:15am

Respectfully submitted by Karen Hornbaker

