

2020-2021 St. Margaret Mary School PTO Meeting Minutes

September 15, 2020 7:00 – 8:00 pm Zoom

Attendees: Mrs. Pronio, Shannon Sprow, Katherine Frey, Leah Booker, Amanda Barnes, Angie Vargo, Ann Foley, Brandon Morris, Colleen Sanders, David Csurics, Emily Nordfors, Kristin Daniels, Heidi Daugherty, Jarrod Graham, Jenny Shyk, Kelly Fox, Kelly Hill, Kristin Moise, Lori Schlauderaff, Niki Alicea, Sherri Clinkscale, Tracey's Librandi Mumma, Vanessa Pastaitis, and Shannon Williard

I. Opening Prayer

I. Principal Update:

- We've had a great start to the school year. The kids are doing really well. They are enjoying their mask breaks and are playing hard. They are reconnecting with each other, which is one of the most important things we can do for them.
- I appreciate the families who have taken things seriously, and who have kept their children home when they're not feeling well or if they have a cough or a cold. That makes a big difference Strep and the cold are going around, as well as regular allergy season. We don't know what is causing the cough or sneeze, so we appreciate parents keeping their children home.
- There was a litter of kittens in the window well by the chapel. They had fleas and now that the weather is cooler, the fleas are attaching to the children on their way into the school. Terminix will be coming tomorrow for treatment. School will be virtual for all students so they can safely treat the gym.
- Back to school night was great! All teachers put nice summaries together. We received a lot of great feedback from our families. The summaries and videos the teachers put together put a lot of families at ease.
- Teachers are using new technology for school – Google and Microsoft Office – and the students are learning how to use them in steps. It is a process and there will be bumps in the road. Once they learn to use these tools, they'll be much better off.
- Ms. Shanda is doing a great job with brown bag hot lunch. If numbers don't go up in the next month, then will have to cancel the program. We have to pay to use the online service. We are hoping to have more students buy lunch now that they have one month under their belt are hoping to stay above red line. If not, then we'll just go back to everyone packing. Ms. Shanda she has been creative with the lunches, and the lunches are healthy.
- Question about virtual day at home: Do the kids work at their own pace? Children in Rediker Middle school will log into Rediker in first class. Younger children can log into Seesaw at 8:10 or a little later, but teachers should be sending messages. Students should be logged in at 8:10 and dressed. Virtual students should wear their uniform, at least from the waist up.
- Question about deadline to order lunches: The app is not working, and no one had received any notices. There will be an email from Ms. Shanda when the next deadline is coming.
- Question about parent teacher conferences on Oct. 6 and 7: Do kids have school or not that day? Are they like any other year? They will be virtual and will not have school in order for teachers to get through them all.

- Question about adaptive plans for Santa Shop: Mrs. Crawford sent plans for review. No definitive answers yet, are going to wait and see.
- Question about pancake breakfasts: September event will not be held. Yes – the concern is not people being together because we don't have that many people, but concern is more that the food has to be completely contained and the containers would be costly. Pancake breakfasts were more designed to bring the parish and school communities together, and the cost to purchase containers would be costly. Will see if anything loosens up for October.
- Question about September 30: That is a teacher in-service day, so that is a true day off.

II. General Updates

- **Welcome back!** PTO meetings will be virtual likely through the fall; keep September and October as Zoom; maybe November also. Will reassess in new year; will use the Parish Activity Center instead of the cafeteria since 6th grade is in the cafeteria
- **Ideas:** Welcoming new ideas what PTO can do for kids/teachers/families this year; Interested in new ideas for this year for the students that will work for us in current situation; in lieu of field trip buses. Would be nice to consider other
- **Fundraisers:** Confirmed R&K subs sale, Golf Tournament, and sales for masks, directories and magnets.
- **PayPal:** We are happy to have a new PayPal account, and hope that it makes it easier. We will still accept cash and checks, which are preferred because PayPal takes a chunk of payments.

III. PTO Committee Reports

- **President:** There will be a new Golf Tournament on November 7 at Manada Golf Course. The event is being co-hosted by the school and parish. Participants don't need to play golf to participate. The scramble format is a great way to learn and play golf! Dinner will follow the golf tournament at 5:00 or 5:30 and will be by the same folks who cater Monte Carlo Night. We are looking for volunteers to help on the day of the event.
- **Vice President:** The directory is in progress, and the virtual book fair is going on now. Book fair books purchased will be shipped directly to your house, and free shipping is available for book orders over \$25. Non-book items are counted in total for free shipping. Book fair ends September 23.
- **Treasurer:** When using PayPal, please unclick the goods and service button to avoid extra fees. Using the budget from the 2018-2019 school year as a baseline, since last year was an unusually good year. The budget is in good shape for the year. We were able to pay for the repaving of the blacktop and the teacher in-service lunch.
- **Secretary:** Four teachers retired at the end of last school year. The PTO is purchasing small gifts to mail to each of them to thank them for their service. Also, Mrs. Frey is participating in scoping efforts that Mr. & Mrs. Fazzolari are spearheading to identify ways to support school fundraising in a coordinated way, since some of the usual fundraising events have been cancelled or modified.
- **Uniform Exchange:** Thank you for patience during different uniform exchange this year; did a google forms; wasn't ideal but hopefully was better; if you still need uniforms, we still can go and help fulfill requests. There are a lot of uniforms available, so parents should let the committee know if they need anything.

- **Social:** Fall Festival is the next event. Father Leo's directive is that the festival will happen, so long as trick-or-treats are happening. If we do have it, will have to make some changes. We may not have pizza and may make other changes. That may be the only social event on the calendar for now. If we are able to do it, maybe we could come up with some socially distanced games and may have a route for the children to follow so they are not running around.
- **Santa Shop:** Mrs. Sprow will be reviewing Mrs. Crawford's adaptive plans with the school board.
- **Spring Festival:** Still planning to do the festival in June, but haven't made any plans yet. Will regroup in the new year. We would like to do the chicken barbeque with the spring festival.
- **SCRIP:** Brand new committee this year: Kristin Moise, Emily Nordfors, and Mary Fox. Getting into the swing of things for the year. They would like to get feedback from folks who buy gift cards after Mass to if there is anything else that they would like. Also, there is a new app to use to buy SCRIP called Raise Right.
- **Outreach:** Mrs. Sanders is working on an outreach flyer for the school. Mrs. Pronio confirmed that all of our classes are full except two or three due to social distancing of desks. Continue to promote us but look for new registration information for the next school year. The flyer should have more facts about the school and promote registrations for next year. Mrs. Sanders is also working to create a brochure or publication to promote all of the things we are doing since we are in school. She is looking for some sort of a database to send that to alumni, other donors, etc. Mrs. Sanders goal is to develop and distribute one during this school year.

IV. **Parent Concerns & Ideas** – school board meeting tomorrow, any thoughts, concerns, etc.?

- The next school board meeting is tomorrow, September 16.
- A parent asked if we could offer families an opportunity to buy dress down passes for a fundraiser? Mrs. Pronio will talk with Father Leo to see if that's an option. She prefers it when they all dress down at the same time.

V. **Closing Prayer**

Volunteer Opportunities:

- Fall event volunteer flyer: Mrs. Frey will distribute a survey with opportunities for time and help.
- Hot Lunch: Ms. Shanda needs volunteers to help serve hot lunch to students in their classrooms. Masks must be worn at all times. Click [here](#) to access the sign up.

Next meeting:

- Tuesday October 13 at 7:00 pm via Zoom
- Link will be available in Rediker and will be distributed via email