



ST. JAMES ACADEMY PARENT COUNCIL

Meeting Minutes

September 7th, 2017

Present were: Kathy Dunn, Christine Lang, Lisa Ronco, Kelli Fuller, Tatiana Walton, Tina Gilmore, Trish Bugg, Tonia O'Brien, Theresa Hoiles, Sherri Daquipa, Charles Tanner, Lane Miller, Melissa Mahon, Shannon Amidon, Jennay Gunderson, Joanne Horvath, Lisa Fitzpatrick, Anne Marie Oldham, Maritxu Basson, Lori Mendes

Meeting was called to order by Melissa Mahon at 8:05 a.m.

All welcomed Melissa as the new President and all introduced themselves.

Opening Prayer – led by Jennay Gunderson .

Principal's Report presented by Mrs. Lang and Mrs. Dunn

- Back to School Night
5:30 Social/light food/informational tables on blacktop. Thank you to Sherri Daquipa for stepping up to be our Hospitality person.
6:00 pm – General meeting in Parish Hall (no food or drink)
Followed by 2 classroom sessions
Gala/Bocce – tickets available at BTS night
Families are encouraged to arrive at 5:30 to socialize before the general meeting at 6pm
- GAP – Guardian Angel Pledge
Bridge Gap between tuition and actual cost of educating each student (\$1,800 per student)
Commonality within Catholic Schools
Has been an on-going situation for many years, but in light of the Parish subsidy being removed, and the 12 month to 10 month salary conversion, we are taking steps to continue being fiscally responsible (should not rely on fundraising efforts to bring gap)
- CMG
All volunteers must watch the CMG safe environment videos, answer the questions and print certificates.
Volunteers who have NOT been live scanned must complete the \$20.00 CMG background check.
- Facilities update at BTS
- Student Harvey and Irma response - 8th grade students researching different avenues to reach out
- Family Mass – Saturday September 9th
- Next week: Advisory Board Meeting, cluster meeting (also PD days), finance meeting
- Diocesan Partners in Mission – Mrs. Dunn and Mrs. Lang participating

- Solana Beach Chamber business expo – next week on 9/20/17. Anyone who is interested to be present during the Solana Beach Chamber Business Expo is welcome.
- High schools visits begin (OLP and Saints visiting today)
- Renaissance testing – standardized testing for math and reading starting next week

Green Initiative presented by Mrs. Oldham

- Last year, with the help of teachers, parents and kids, St. James Academy was awarded the Green Ribbon Bronze Award (first Catholic school in Southern California to receive this)
- This year, Mrs. Oldham's goal is to skip silver and go straight to gold.
- With the help of Lane Miller, St. James has been featured in the Coast News publication
- October 24th – Sustainability Gathering – Mrs. Oldham will speak and the Traveling Lorax will be doing an appearance (the Traveling Lorax will also be presenting at diocese events and at three lower income Catholic schools)
- Goals: to have a sustainability curriculum and to add a fence by the garden to create an outdoor classroom
- If you have a piece of sustainability you have a passion for, please contact Mrs. Oldham.
- Music news – the Christmas Pageant this year will be divided into two sessions (K-3 followed by a break and then 4th-8th). All are welcome to attend both.
- Variety Show – will continue to be a K-8th show

President's Report presented by Melissa Mahon

Melissa went through the Representative Expectations & Guidelines for the year 2017-2018 as follows:

The Parent Council seeks to involve parents in a supportive role in various aspects of the school. The Parent Council provides a forum enabling parents to give their input. Volunteers assist in the school, organize public relations, coordinate fundraising activities, assist with co-curricular activities and provide opportunities for parent education. Grade Representatives act as liaison between the parents/teachers and the Parent Council. All parents are encouraged to attend and participate in the monthly council meetings.

Duties to include but not limited to:

- Attend all monthly Parent Council meetings
- Liaison between parents, teacher and Parent Council
- Represent the parents, teachers and students of their grades
- Coordinate Yard Duty as per the grade schedule
- Actively participate in at least one major school event or project
- Send meeting minutes and additional communications from Council to respective classes within 24 hours of receiving
- Encourage classroom participation in areas of fund-raising. Events shall include but are not limited to the Bocce Ball Tournament, Gala, Spell-a-Thon, etc.
- Assist teacher and Room Parents with volunteering regarding field trips, special projects, yard duty, classroom aide, etc.
- Parent Council President should be copied on all communications to class.
- Coordinate class baskets for annual Gala event (**TBD by Gala Chairs*)
- Include Mrs. Dunn and Mrs. Lang in all email communications

Yard Duty

Yard Duty is a vital component here at SJA. Please remember to review the school calendar (located on the SJA website) before creating your sign up genius. Please make sure to send a final schedule to Mrs. Reed, so she can pull aids if needed. The school calendar will have all half days or days off noted. Months are assigned accordingly due to number of days and class size.

- September: 7th Grade
- October: 6th Grade
- November: 8th Grade
- December: 2nd Grade
- January: 3rd Grade
- February: 8th Grade
- March: 4th Grade
- April: 5th Grade
- May: Kindergarten
- June: 1st Grade

Breakfast Schedule for 2017-2018

- September 7, 2017: PC President
- October 12, 2017: 8th Grade
- November 9, 2017: 7th Grade
- December 7, 2017: 6th Grade
- January 11, 2018: 4th Grade
- February 8, 2018: 5th Grade
- March 8, 2018: 3rd Grade
- April 12, 2018: 2nd Grade
- May 10, 2018: 1st Grade
- June 7, 2018: Kindergarten & Preschool

Melissa Kuhn is looking for volunteers to help with Ki's lunches. Please contact her at kuhnmel@yahoo.com if you are interested.

Important Dates:

September 7th : Back to School Night
September 8th: Noon Dismissal
September 11th-22nd : Renaissance Testing (K-8th)
September 15th: Picture Day
September 23rd : Bocce Ball Tournament
September 29th – Noon Dismissal
October 4th : Blessing of the Animals
October 6th : Noon Dismissal
October 9th – no school
October 12th : PC Meeting

Ways and Means presented by Lisa Ronco

Lisa introduced herself and mentioned her role as Chair of Ways and Means is to oversee the different fundraising events at St. James and work closely with the chairs.

Bocce (by Mary McGuinness and Tatiana Walton)

Date: September 23rd at the Hazel's home – 3pm (2:30 pm check in)

Registration and sponsorship forms went home in the Wednesday envelope. Raffle tickets have been distributed.

Sign up genius link to sell raffle tickets: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/70a0f49aba72e5-stjames1>

Make sure to bring cash or check the day of the event, as credit cards will not be accepted.

Gala (by Lisa Fitzpatrick)

Date: March 3rd, 2018 at the Turf Club at the Del Mar Fairgrounds

Capacity: 200 guests

Auction online and pre-launches before Christmas

Tickets: \$150.00 each (BTS night incentive: \$50.00 in Gala bucks – goes towards auction)

Gala meeting: September 28th at 8am for those interested in helping out

Scrip Program – requirement – every family needs to purchase enough Scrip for a \$100.00 return to St. James Academy per calendar year.

Treasurer's Report presented by Barb Stoddard

As of September 2017:

Checking: \$21,532.78

Savings: \$8,001.37

New business – Spirit Wear Flash Sale

Extended to September 15th

Closing Prayer led by Jennay Gunderson.

Melissa Mahon adjourned the meeting at 9:16 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Tatiana Walton, Secretary