

St. Bernadette PTO Meeting Minutes

March 9, 2017; St. Bernadette School Cafeteria

Meeting called to order at 7:06 pm. Officers present: President Kelly Brokamp, Vice President Londa Thomas, Treasurer Vanessa Hartman, Secretary Christina Boss, Member at Large Beth Hoyt, Member at Large Julie Tipton. Opening prayer was led by Christina Boss.

Father/Daughter Dance Plans: Jenn Brinck was not able to attend, but she will send an update to the committee and the envelopes will be coming home soon to sign up.

President's Update:

- Kelly Brokamp mentioned that a new library coordinator is still needed to replace Carla Tribble. There are other areas where volunteers are also needed, which Kelly has mentioned in previous meetings.
- Flying Pig Registration has started, sign up by Friday to get a green shirt.
- The eighth graders have almost raised all the money they need for the class trip.
- PTO approved Mr. Hoffman's request to purchase black paper to display art work for the art show in the spring.
- PTO will pay to top off the mulch on the playground in the spring.
- Marco's night in February brought in \$60, not sure which class won yet.
- Mrs. Schooley requested, and PTO approved, reimbursing parents for parking who drive students down to the stadium for the Red's outing. The cost is \$10 per car, and this reimbursement is cheaper than paying for busing. Receipts will be required.
- There was a brief discussion about how to get more parents involved in the volunteer opportunities available. Some parents have been asking how to get involved, but are not attending PTO meetings where many of these opportunities are shared.

Box Tops Update: Christina Boss reported that the winter collection brought in \$199 worth of boxtops. The recent collections have been received by Box Tops for Education and the next check will be for \$415 (should arrive in April). The final collection of the year will be in May.

Principal's Update:

- Mrs. Ingram reported on registration numbers. There are currently 206 students registered in the big school for next school year, but only 17 so far for kindergarten. This means there can be only one class at this point. One reason that may be affecting this is that all day kindergarten is free at the local public school for the first time next year. There is not much attrition in the upper grades for next year. The preschool registration has 25 students so far.
- Mrs. Ingram discussed ideas for attracting more students, especially kindergarten. A 2nd mailing to a larger radius, an ice cream social with an additional open house, possibly paired with the April Girl Scout egg hunt, and an updated yard sign campaign are a few of the ideas.
- Mrs. Ingram has met with realtors to share the benefits of St. Bernadette so they can share news about our school with new home buyers in the area. She has also mailed letters to local non-catholic Christian churches in the area to help attract families who are interested in a faith-based education. The preschool teachers have visited some local daycare centers.
- The most important thing families at St. Bernadette can do is share their positive experiences with others and spread the word about our wonderful community face to face to try to attract new students.
- Someone suggested handing out flyers about St. Bernadette during cookie sales at local stores. It was also suggested to hand out flyers at another local egg hunt.
- Ascend will be going away and the school will need to sign up for a new messaging system.
- SHP has developed a wonderful plan, but it won't be feasible unless we can keep kindergarten enrollment up.
- Mrs. Ingram needs help with marketing projects. She needs someone who can take them on and see them through from start to finish. Her duties as principal prevent her from having the time necessary to devote to this important effort. Is there someone in the parish or school who can help with this?
- She also needs someone to manage the school website. Vanessa Hartman offered to help.

Treasurer's Update:

- Vanessa Hartman reported that the magazine drive has brought in \$8548 so far this year. PTO has spent money for student enrichment and helping the teachers including field trips, busing, student appreciation, teacher start-up money at the beginning of the year and reimbursement money at Christmas. PTO also paid for the new Stievenard carpet.
- Vanessa asked for suggestions for how to spend some of the remaining money this year. Mrs. Ingram mentioned there may be a request for a 3-D printer for STEM (approx. \$900), a request to pay for repairs to the music room piano, the ice cream social to attract new students in April, and a possible junior high retreat (has not been planned yet).

New Business/Community Input:

- Craig Meisman has agreed to take on the Used Uniform Sale. It was suggested to do one at the upcoming science fair in April.
- Beth Hoyt needs someone to organize the Walk-a-thon this year. She will need to focus on teacher appreciation activities that week. The person organizing will be responsible for keeping track of all the money raised as well as coordinating the day of the event.
- PTO elections will be held after Easter. There may be one or two positions that need to be filled. More information to come.

Meeting adjourned 8:34. The next meeting will be held at Don Rigo on May 11, 2017. Minutes submitted by Christina Boss.

The minutes from the January 2017 meeting were approved by the Board and have been posted on the PTO website.