

St. Bernadette PTO Meeting Minutes

September 8, 2022; Cafeteria

Meeting called to order at 6:40 pm. Officers present: President Jeni Fulton, Vice President Annie Antel, Treasurer Vanessa Hartman, Secretary Denise Byrum, Member at Large Jessica Benkelmann, Social Event Coordinator Jennifer Harris.

Confusion about what time the meeting began. Looking at changing the time to 6:30pm so that it is not ending so late.

Principal's Report through Jeni Fulton:

Mrs. Ingram gave her report at Meet the Teacher night. There are many items that the school would like to get funding that were mentioned, and these were also listed in the school newsletter. A former alumni made a large donation to provide STEM materials for the school. Looking for parent volunteers to host after school club activities.

Meet the Teacher feedback: Mrs. Ingram wanted feedback for having it after the first day of school. A few people were neutral, but most parents preferred to have it earlier, before the first day of school. Kindergarten parents wanted more procedural information before the first day of school.

Uniform changes: Want to wait for any changes to getting rid of shirt colors due to difficulty getting shirts. Thoughts that shirts without logos would be an option?

Classroom Coordinator: very few signed up, so we need more helpers for parties, especially the Grandparent Day breakfast.

Grandparent Day: Friday Oct 7, All students at the same time. Mass at 8:15, then visit in the classroom until 10am.

Funding Request for House System: Banners, bling, snacks. Suggestion to purchase materials for the kids to make banners or other projects. Agreed to purchase snacks.

Grandparent Club: Thoughts about starting this. Need a grandparent to head up, but invite them to participate for playground/lunch duty, PTO in the meantime.

Fine Arts Booster group: Is this for those participating in extracurricular fine arts, for the entire school presentations, or both?

Busing issues for Field trips: Cannot use West Clermont and several other school districts because of the times; issues with Peterman being late. Wanted to use Crosswell, but the cost is prohibitive at over \$1500 per show. Either could pass the cost on to parents or limit field trips. May not even be able to go to the Childrens Theater because of sell out. Suggestion to have in-house assemblies like the Juggler to provide for the entire school and prevent issues with busing.

Updates and New Business:

Welcome Annie to the PTO, serving as the Vice President. Annie has a kindergartener.

Harmony Hill Parents Night out (Jenn Pikal): Switched from Mom's night to be Parent's night. Wine, potluck snacks, good time. Great venue, closes at 9pm. Looking to meet at the school to carpool as a group. Sept 16 Friday night.

Upcoming Events (Jennifer Harris): Volunteer sign up genius to help with various events. Some of these events need a chair. Thoughts about working with St. Thomas More for future events. Good to have additional volunteers, but concerned that we will be lost or it will lose some of the school identity. Assigning each class an event with a binder to instruct how to do it would be an option

Grandparent Day, coming up soon—need classroom coordinator plus helpers to serve breakfast in the classroom. Get donations of food from classroom.

Fall/Halloween party, gym versus outside (trunk or treat). Fall games, petting zoo, pet parade., costume contest, DJ, hayride. Concerned about gym availability. Contest to get trunk or treat participation, incentive by class or house. Hot chocolate lady. This year we need to market it better. No date yet.

Fundraisers

Fall Fundraiser: Kickoff on Sept 19; \$10,000 goal, last year raised \$9300. Looking for funds to get new furniture and an outdoor classroom. \$20 donation or purchase, need to tell everyone that the donation should be made directly to the school for the school to get the full amount.

Used Uniform Sale (Craig Meissman): Raised \$2173. Always looking for more donations.

Larosa's Night (Jenn Pikal): Sept, \$185 donation from \$914 sales. Concern that purchases may have been missed. Brian is leaving as manager of Larosas; Ken will be there. Continue to put the word out—first Thursday of the month. Thoughts about looking into Marcos or other pizza vendor as well.

Discussion to prioritize what we raise money for as some concern that there are significant needs for the school.

Other Business

Playground Needs: Need outdoor maintenance help, playground, ramp staining, and other maintenance. Funds as well as volunteers are needed. Could the 8th Graders help? Gaga pit is being repaired by the Boy Scouts who installed it.

Front Row seats for the Christmas and Spring concert: Sold 8 at the festival. Checking into raffle for remaining seats and to get into the gym early.

Christmas concert (Tuesday, December 6): Trying to find out dress code to share in advance.

End of school swim party (Batavia swim club): Rent out?

Meeting adjourned 7:59 pm. Minutes submitted by Denise Byrum.