

Saints Peter and Paul Home & School Association

General Meeting Minutes

May 5, 2015

Attendees: 24 School Parents, 8 Teachers, HSA Board Officers, Mrs. Egan, Trish Kyle, and Daniel Hoover

Opening Prayer: Daniel Hoover, Director of Pastoral Ministries

Pope's Visit – Daniel Hoover – discussed and asked people to contact him or Michele D'Alessandro if can help. Abbeyfest at Dalesford Abbey in September
www.theabbeyfest.com.

We held a Confirmation Vote (by show of hands) and welcomed our new VP, Trish Salome and re-elected our Treasurer, Lauren Ranalli. Thank you to Mary Jane Lorenz for her 4 years of service on the board and everything that she has done for our school. Trish spoke about her Catholic School experience, how she loves SSPP and wants to give her kids and all kids the same sense of community that her parents gave to her.

Spring fundraiser – Jocelyn Wood –

- We raised \$90, 600 this year!! April 9th is next year's fundraiser so save the date! Jocelyn and Christy Cosgrove are running it again next year. Also, we will not make the mistake again of having our fundraiser on the same date as Bishop Shanahan (which is always the Saturday before Palm Sunday).
- If parents want the fundraiser to be held at the school, please write a proposal to the board and submit it by December 2015. (2017 Fundraiser location will be decided then).

HSA funded the following during the 2014/15 school year: DARE, Fun Day, Foundations manuals, Reading Olympics, Grease musical, Honor Tree for Father Welsh, Outdoor Fitness equipment, math, support and music room, new laptops and printer.

Treasurer Report – Lauren – Income primarily from spring fundraiser and small amount from coupon book sale and interest. Big payout was \$30,000 for math, support and music room. Current balance is \$149,000 but bills still coming in for this school year. We will start the 2015/16 school year with money in the bank.

School Update - Mrs. Egan –

- 6th Grade overnight trip at Echo Hill – Activities were zip-lining, low ropes course, boating, team building and science. We were able to use Giant rewards money to subsidize the trip.
- On May 12th the 6th, 7th and 8th grades will be shown a video from the District Attorney's office called "Too Smart for Trouble". This video shows the laws that

are broken by doing certain things on the internet – which are felony crimes. We need to increase the knowledge of our students and parents about what can happen to kids. We will present the information again in the Fall at an HSA meeting for parents. A former student hacked the Google doc files of one of our current students. This has facilitated the need for this awareness at SSPP.

- Also on May 12, parish staff will talk to the 5th – 8th graders who would like to become altar servers. Michele Marinelli and Bruce Carlson will be the trainers.
- May 26 is the 5th grade maturation talk. Paul McAllister will talk to the boys and school nurse Maureen Kempinski will talk to the girls. Parents can preview the information that will be presented (call the nurse's office).
- May 28th is Terra Nova night. There was great improvement in our test scores. Standardized testing is good if you use the results to improve in certain areas – which we do! We look at the scores to see what the class coming up knows, what we need to work on, how we improved from last year. This drives the instruction in our school.
- Mrs. Simon will not be returning to SSPP next year. She will be replaced by Ms. Anna Kates. Mrs. McGuire (Art) will be working 2 days per week and we have hired another art teacher for two additional days.
- We already started the re-accreditation process for Middle States. Mrs. Levitan and Mrs. Dickson will lead the effort. We will also pursue the Blue ribbon process and this will be led by Mrs. Conway.
- The YMCA had wonderful things to say about our third grade during their safe swimming outing. Also our 6th graders were great on their overnight field trip.
- Volunteer breakfast, Friday, May 15 and Field Day on May 22nd.
- This year was challenging with the process for volunteer clearances. All volunteers must have their clearances completed and copies to the parish office by August 15th 2015. A new PA law will require clearances every 3 years instead of every 5 years.

Suzie Hutchinson is available after the meeting to answer any questions about the SSPP Parish Summer Camp. Thanks to Suzie and Corey for attending this meeting.

Advancement Update – Trish Kyle - Sept 28th is the Golf outing. Please consider volunteering for this! See Trish K if you can help.

Question from the floor: How will we use the money raised at the Spring Fundraiser? We have between \$30-40,000 of annual recurring expenses. Then we hope to use the balance for a large project. One idea is to support new technology for the school – both equipment and an improved space. If parents have other ideas, please speak to a Board member – we welcome your input!