

St Mary's Academy PTA Meeting

March 20, 2019 6:30pm

Attendees – Karen Staring, Tara Nolan, Tessa Heyer, Chelsea Kowalski, Kelly Ranous, Juli Turino, Serena Romero, Josie LeMay, Maria Yumagulova, Ana Maria Murabito, Kim Cass

Welcome and Review of previous meeting action items –

- Overview of Objectives and discussion about increasing parent participation
- Discussion about a common app that can be used by teachers and parents to increase communication
 - Would prefer to see all teachers and grade levels using the same app
 - A way to streamline communication, send reminders, open parent/teacher communication
 - Class Dojo is very user friendly
 - Once an app is chosen, host a tutorial for parents to teach how and why to use it and also how not to use it
 - This is a goal for the 2019-2020 school year and the teachers would need to agree on it
- Fundraiser follow up –
 - Contacted Barnes and Noble regarding a book fair at their location
 - This is a small fundraising opportunity but also a marketing opportunity for St Mary's.
 - Cannot solicit on site but can distribute flyers in advance of event at school and throughout the community. Can we distribute at St Elizabeth Ann Seton?
 - Could ask teachers to be on site to read stories and parents to be on site to work a craft table
 - Do gift card purchases count? Do purchases have to be in store or could they be online too?
 - Need to confirm available dates

Upcoming Events –

- **Mother/ Son Basketball** – Saturday, March 23rd 6-8pm
 - So far 18 families have signed up
 - Pizzas and basketballs have been donated
 - Decorations are set
 - 5th grade volunteers for pizza, drinks, set up/clean up, oversight of games
- **Father/Daughter Dance** – ~~Saturday, April 6th 6-8pm~~ **Date changed to Saturday, April 27th 6-8pm**
 - Correction -Kindergarten and 2nd grade have been asked to host this event
 - Decorations – reusable table clothes have been purchased (white with pink and lavender runners), centerpieces are set, need to make a balloon arch the day of or day before
 - Need to ask Mrs Kippen if we can borrow her speakers
 - Need to create an age appropriate play list
 - Need game ideas that are appropriate for all grade levels

- Cheese ball game, freeze dance to YMCA, Vaseline and cotton ball game, minute to win it games have been suggested
 - Ask alumni volunteers to teach dances to girl and Dads
 - Need craft ideas (maybe something that the girls can make for their Dad's)
 - A bow tie and picture frame to decorate are ideas that have been used in the past
 - Need volunteers for set up/clean up, games, craft table
 - Food -popcorn, min cupcakes, cheese, crackers, fruit, water and juice
- **Teacher Appreciation Week** – May 6-10th
 - Need to coordinate with room parents by mid-April
 - Teacher favorite things survey was well received. Need new survey to distribute (Wednesdady)
 - Will need classroom coverage for a teacher lunch on Thursday or Friday of that week.
 - Would like to start the week by decorating teacher doors (Monday)
 - Need a committee to cover special area teachers
 - Windows cannot be covered
 - Need a couple of time slots to allow parents to come and decorate
- **Muffins for Moms** – Friday, May 10th 8-8:45 (doors open at 7:30)
 - To be hosted in classrooms and the gathering space
 - Plan to have a picture station and coffee station
 - Kids and teachers are preparing a song to sing
- **Penny Carnival** – Friday, May 31st
 - Try to host around the fountain instead of back parking lot
 - All grades need to hos and participate in this event. At least 1 game per class
 - Searching for a food truck for this event. Should we try to find one that is more kid friendly? Can we find one that would donate a % of sales back to the school?
 - 6th Grade is done fundraising
 - What is the budget for this event?
 - Can and bottle drive to offset costs
 - Can we have a dunk tank or bounce house?
 - Would Father Cliff participate?
 - Does the church own a tent that we could use?
- **Yearbook** –
 - Deadline is fast approaching
 - Need pictures from each grade and classroom
 - Need to make sure that each students name is spelled correctly
 - Teachers currently send pictures to Tara. Send directly to sma yearbook editor to be used in yearbook. 2 or 3 favorite pictures from this year
 - Mrs Buckner has taken a lot of pictures at various events. Would she be willing to submit some to the yearbook?
 - Can we have a casual dress day on April 5th to get a picture for the cover of the yearbook? Arrange students to spell SMA with a cross.

Next Meeting – Wednesday, April 24th 6:30-8pm