

**ST. JOHN'S HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION
GENERAL MEETING
January 21, 2009**

The St. John's Home and School Association held their third general meeting of the 2008-2009 school year on Wednesday, January 21, 2009, at 7:00 pm in the social hall.

1. Father Johnson opened the meeting with prayer.
2. President Amy Snyder thanked everyone for coming to the meeting. She also thanked Marg Bohy for her work in rescheduling the class Christmas parties and she thanked the room parents for working around the schedule change.

Amy thanked all for donating to the Teacher's Fund, but we are about \$400 short. The Home and School uses this money to give the Teachers and Staff a bonus and a Christmas Lunch. There is still time to donate! Whatever money we don't receive in donations, will be taken out of the Home and School Fund.

The Parent's Night Out on December 5 had 20 children attend. The money from this fundraiser will go to the matching grant fund. President Amy asked for suggestions to make this better for next year. Some items mentioned were 1) extend the time, 2) couldn't bring younger kids, 3) didn't know about it soon enough and 4) didn't have enough room to run around in the social hall. These items will be taken into account for next year's event.

3. Principal's Update. Principal Martin gave an update on the school happenings.
 - New heaters have been installed in the main hallway of the elementary wing.
 - Two new kilns were donated for the Art Room.
 - Security cameras are installed. There are 3 cameras – 1 by the front door, 1 by the “dumpster doors” and 1 that is portable. Looking at possibly installing another camera by the pre-school doors. There are extra ports on the system that can be used for cameras when the new church offices are built. The system records 24 hours a day, but only when it sees motion.
 - Catholic Schools Week will be January 25-30. An information sheet was sent out in the Wednesday folder. The Book Fair will start on Sunday and an Art Show will be held on Thursday. Ms. Claire is working with Sacred Heart to have an event on Monday to celebrate the Asian New Year.
 - Lincoln Catholic Schools are working with LPS to share a Reading Specialist, Anne Brandt, to work with our teachers.
 - Grants. Received 40 images from National Endowment for Humanities to use in teaching. Received \$250 from Catholic Publications to use toward reading materials – mainly to obtain more advanced reading material for the 2nd grade. Have applied for a music grant to receive a Xylophone. Working on the Outdoor Grant.
 - RTA is going well. Frequency has slowed down. Had another in-service with the teachers.
 - Report Cards came home today. Seem to have an abundance of absences and tardies. Mr. Martin asked parents to pay attention to this.
 - Mr. Martin (on behalf of teachers and staff) thanked the Home and School Board for the Teachers Luncheon.

- Mr. Martin thanked those involved with the Christmas Program.
 - The restaurants offering a night out were thanked. Mr. Martin encouraged all to support these restaurants.
 - Mr. Martin reminded parents to continue to keep communication open between the school and home.
4. Room Parent Update. Marg thanked all who helped with the rescheduling of the class Christmas parties. E-mails have been set out to the 1st and 4th Grade Room Parent Captains for the First Communion and Confirmation receptions. There will be a 1:30 pm dismissal on the day of the class Valentine Parties (Friday, February 13). The 6-7-8 will go skating from 9:30 am to 11:30 am and eat lunch when they get back. The classroom parties for the other grades will be held after lunch from 12:30-1:30 pm.
 5. Children's Choir. Carleen Barger talked about starting-up a Children's Choir. The choir will sing one weekend a month at the 4:00 pm Saturday Mass. Rehearsal will be 1 hour before mass. All those interested should see Carleen.
 6. POGO Update. We have sold over \$1,900 in new POGO Cards. The Home and School will also be selling the St. John's t-shirts, again.
 7. OneCause. Melissa reminded everyone to use the OneCause on-line ordering. There are over 500 vendors to choose from. When you shop through OneCause, St. John's will receive a percentage of the sale automatically.
 8. Treasurer's Report. The Balance as of January 21, 2009 is \$3,506.15. Still waiting to receive money from UNL chairbacks. We will have about \$12,000 to spend this year on items for the school. Following are some suggestions: Interactive DVD's for the Smart Boards (\$2,000), Drop down mikes for the stage, White Boards for classrooms (\$2,000), Black film for windows in hallway near 3-4-5 wing (\$2,000), Security camera at pre-school entrance (\$400), Lunchroom Tables (\$30,000-\$40,000), Matching Grant (\$6,000), Teacher Wish List Items (\$1,000). Amy mentioned if there were other suggestions to contact a Home and School Board member.
 9. Uniform Store. Dickies has stopped making the girls flex-waist pants. Only flat front will be available. There was a suggestion to let the 8th Graders purchase their uniforms from the Pius Uniform Store.
 10. President Amy mentioned that there will be 2 openings on the Home and School Board for 2009-2010. Anyone interested should contact a Home and School Board member.
 11. Father Johnson gave an update on the Campaign - plan to start moving dirt in mid-April and have the offices completed by April 2010 and the Priest House completed by summer of 2010. We have about 87% of our goal.

Father Johnson closed with prayer.

Linda Baumert
Secretary