

St. Mary School HSA
General Meeting Minutes
September 30, 2009 7-8pm

Present: Kara Russell, Jennifer Robinson, Sarah Jennings, Tom Maynard, Father Joe, Mr. Cosham, Mrs. Cosham, Liz Savluk, Elaine Weber, Nancy McMahon (4,1), Tammy Bacho (2), Josephine Huerta (7), Andrea Eselunas (pre K), Sue Santos (K), David Johnson(K,3), Kelly MacMeekin (K,8), Anna Jackie(3), Penny Contreras(K,1), Rosa and Dominic Marino(8), Cheryl Rice (6,4), Pam Doolan (8), Janice Vazquez (7), Jessica Wagner (4,2), Belinda Baruffi (6), Pauline Colon (pre K).

The meeting was called to order by Kara Russell at ~7:08pm.

Father Joe led us in an opening prayer to begin the meeting.

Guest speaker: Elaine Weber, RN on H1N1 virus: please see hand out. Additionally, the H1N1 vaccine is separate from the 'regular' flu vaccine; speak to your physician for recommendation. Symptoms are normal flu-like: fever >100° with sore throat, cough, runny nose.

The following items were reviewed:

- Principal's report: Mr. Maynard asked that all parents make sure they are receiving the weekly principal newsletter via e-mail, otherwise please inform Mrs. D'Angelo of your e-mail so you can be added to the list. Progress reports are being sent home Friday October 02, 2009. We got a first hand look at how well the new energy efficient and motion sensing lights in the gym, and all the classrooms, work.
- President's Report: Kara Russell reviewed the following topics:
 - ▶ Fund-raisers :
 - Yankee Candle grossed ~\$12,000 which netted ~\$5,000. Delivery in time for Boo Bash on Friday October 30, 2009.
 - Candy: order your desired number of boxes by the first of the month, and a few days later you can pick them up (include payment of \$52 per box).
 - Lyman pies: brochures going home next Friday October 09, 2009, with due date of Friday October 23, 2009 and delivery slated for Thursday November 12, 2009.
 - ▶ Fun Events:
 - 2nd Annual Cookie Challenge and Scholastic Book fair: Tuesday October 06, 2009 6:30-8:00pm in conjunction with Alex's Lemonade Stand in honor of Mrs. Cosham's young cousin. It's not too late to enter.
 - Boo Bash Friday October 30, 2009: Halloween costume party with DJ and raffle (Wii). Small fee covers cost of the event. Flyer going home soon.
 - ▶ Scrip Program: first orders went smoothly and delivery was right on time. In an effort to increase participation, Mr. Maynard is offering a dress down pass to all children in a family that orders ≥\$50 in cards for the month of October. Additionally, we will be registering SMS in Stop & Shop's A+ bonus bucks

program which offers cash back to the school for all registered accounts. More information will follow. There has been a great number of requests to use credit cards to purchase cards – Scrip does not accept credit cards. We are exploring setting up a SMS PayPal account – we will keep you apprised.

- ▶ School Reach: new automated system to alert parents of school emergencies (unscheduled early dismissals, etc) as well as general school announcements / broadcasts. For a modest fee, we get unlimited contact numbers and calls. This will replace the infamous ‘snow tree’, and should be in operation by November 01, 2009.

- Wine Tasting and Silent Auction: Jennifer Robinson reported that action is starting early on this potential large money making event. Committee meetings are being held the 3rd Sunday of each month 2-3pm at Panera Bread. Please considering joining and also please help with donating goods or services!

- New HSA officers: Sarah Jennings encouraged prospective candidates to get a group of friends to consider stepping up with them to a 2 year term as an officer of the HSA. She reviewed the election process and asked people to volunteer or offer nominations for officers to add to the slate of candidates for the January meeting with the election to be held April 2010.

- HSA by-laws revision review: Sarah Jennings shared that the by-laws have not been amended since 1997 but with this unique economic climate the HSA board (officers) does not believe radical changes should be made. Instead, a set of Operating Guidelines is being established and awaits final approval.

- Parent Q & A:
Dave Johnson asked for volunteers for the advancement committee to help market the school to the community to increase enrollment, which is the most effective way to assist the budget.

The meeting was adjourned at ~8:11pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Sarah C. Jennings
HSA secretary