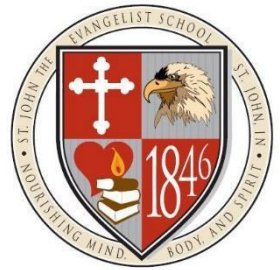


Home & School Association

HSA Meeting Minutes December 4, 2024

6:30 PM



I. Opening Prayer

II. Introductions

III. Treasury Update – what have we been spending our money on?

- Race for Ed - Raised 57k, goal was 60k. Suggestions to change the name – one more year with that name. We can change the name in 2026.
- Teacher supplemental material reimbursements up to \$100 (science, STEM)
- Middle school parties

IV. Upcoming Events

- St Nick's, Dec 6 – kids have been making shoes in class, will leave out on Thursday night
- Christmas Food Drive, Dec 9-17 – Thanksgiving Food drive was very successful, can reuse some for Christmas. Thank you! We got so many turkeys! Thank you to the parents who drove the food to Gary
- Christmas Teacher Luncheon, Dec 13 – La Quesadilla catering
- Pajama Day (pajama donations), Dec 19 – PJ/movie day. We do encourage to send your child in pajamas and donate a new pair of pajamas in their size
- Classroom Christmas Parties K-8, Dec 20 – Middle school is getting La Quesadilla, 130-230pm (enter 5 minutes prior), any room parents need to sign in volunteer names on the list for the office. If you are taking your student out of school early after party, please coordinate through the office. The office has to know where the kids are at all times.
- Christmas Program Dec 18 – 10am, we'll open doors at 930am. K-3 will be performing, SJE band kids will play, 4-8th grade if they want to cantor they will perform. We will inquire if it is parents only or if extended family can come. Looking for volunteers to help (3-4 people) – come and help on Tuesday before to help decorate setting up Christmas trees.

V. PASS Update

- PASS is our parent assisted supplemental salary. Catholic school teachers are not paid on the same scale as public school teachers. Indiana teachers are not paid on the same scale as Illinois teachers either. Our admin fights for equal pay and makes huge strides in that, its still not the same. We see our teachers spending their own money on our students. A few years ago, PASS was implemented here. We PASS on giving gift cards and apples and mugs to teachers, instead we donate to PASS. HSA and school policy to ask parents to donate to PASS if you'd like to gift to your teachers. At the end of each semester, PASS funds are equally distributed to teachers in the form of cash gifts. It deeply impacts our faculty and staff – covers all of the staff in the building. There is a formula used to distribute funds based on hours worked per week. Everyone receives it. VIDEO played about PASS. The turkey feathers were new this year to encourage donations to PASS. PASS funds are short – 99 families have donated. We have 283 families in our school. Total so far is \$12,808. Last December, we were able to raise \$30,000. We need to work together to encourage more giving. Jamie is chairperson for PASS, she has stood out in parking lot with signs with QR code. Any other ideas are welcome. Idea was brought up for church bulletin. Communicate that there are

two separate PASS distribution periods. Another craft for Christmas time – similar to turkey feathers. Hand prints to create larger scale Christmas tree. \$2500 came from Grandparents day, the rest came from the feathers. We have generous families who set up auto pay and make monthly donations to PASS. Putting up QR code at Christmas program. Every single family who donates is listed in a Christmas card to the teachers. Re-communicate Christmas card. Check, cash, write PASS on it. Numbers are due Dec 13. Post to certain grades Facebook pages to encourage donations.

VI. Race for Education Update

- It was successful, 57k is a lot of money. Thank you so much for the donations. Trying out the new software and the new crowdfunding platform was a success. Only having to give 5 addresses was easier for everyone and we'll move forward with it. Top 3 earning families do not need to purchase spring fling tickets – Miller, Bazarko, Benjamin family. Any family that raised more than \$200 is receiving a NUT day card, coming home the week of Dec 9. If anyone had issues with money going to the parish, contact Jackie to transfer funds. If you go to the race page, you can look up your family to look up current donation raised.

VII. Daddy Daughter Dance, January 31, 2025

- It is at Halls of St George (same place as Spring Fling). We need a few people, will be on sign up genius page. Chairperson needed for shadowing for next year. You can get all of your volunteer hours with this dance. We need someone to take over invitations – going electronic so just need someone to design. Save the Date went out last week, invites will go out after Christmas break. 5-9pm. Information will be on the invite, cost, etc. Very easy with the Halls of St George. Need someone to take over Raffle Baskets – makes one for the children (Pre-K through 1st, 2-5th, 6-8th), we also do a 50/50. If anyone is interested, contact Stephanie Bracken.

VIII. Catholic Schools Week 2025 (January 26 – Feb 1)

- Open House on Sunday January 26th. 7-8th grade NHS member will be asked to give tours, etc. Let the kids have fun afternoons – each day has a different theme that we try to celebrate. Wednesday January 29th is Celebrating the Nation, trying to find something new. We want to invite someone in (veteran, etc) to talk about the importance of the flag – why it doesn't touch the ground, why it is folded in certain ways. Want a hands on event for the kids to learn about the flag. If you know anyone who can talk on these things, please contact Heather DeJarlais. HSA gets pizza and ice cream for kids on Friday that week, pizza from Papa Johns. Hold treat cart on Friday for kids to buy treat of choice, bring your own drink. If you are interested in working an event, check sign up genius for last minute volunteer spots.

IX. Book Fair

- Jill Pierce and Brittany Miller are our Book Fair chair people. Two days this year, Monday February 3rd and Tuesday February 4th. Sign ups for book fair (10 volunteers per session, 4 sessions) will go live on sign up genius on December 6th. Monday is 115pm – 415pm.

X. Spring Fling Update

- Friday May 9th – Spring Fling theme will be Rodeo Ball. You can wear jeans if they are appropriate and fit the theme (men in jeans with sport coat and cowboy hat). Core committee is working on more details and need more people. Planning kicks off in January. Looking into a DJ. If you are interested in helping, please volunteer. Donations are welcome (timeshares, vacation homes, etc). Trying to push for experience donations. If you know a business, please check with Spring Fling core committee prior to soliciting donations.

XI. Next HSA Meeting – Wednesday, January 8, 2025 6:30 PM

XII. Q & A

- Question raised about classroom parties and how volunteers are selected via room parents/party coordinators. Can we add that to sign up genius?

XIII. Closing Prayer