



Parent Collaborative Tuesday, October 18, 2016 Meeting Minutes

Approximately 36 parents were in attendance at the 2nd Parent Collaborative meeting of the 2016-2017 school year. The meeting was held in the school cafeteria.

WELCOME & OPENING PRAYER:

In Sabrina Manno's absence, Adelina Mitchell gave a welcome to all that could attend; several introductions were made from parents that were not at the last meeting in September. Flavia Vanzo from the Spiritual Committee began the meeting with an opening prayer.

TREASURER'S REPORT (Pam Seymour):

Pam went in to detail about the upcoming Internet Safety talk that will be given in the school cafeteria this Thursday, October 20 from 7-8:30pm. This is a talk that will be lead by BSS parent Eve Piemonte who is a member of the Department of Justice along with members of her department. Students in grades 5-8 will be receiving their own talk on Internet safety during the day on Thursday. While this is not open to the public, friends of BSS families are welcome to attend.

OLD BUSINESS:

Used Uniform Sale (Rebecca Lopez): The sale during Back To School Night was able to make about \$1,500. Rebecca has developed a couple of new business ideas.

- There will be a POP-UP SALE Friday, 10/21 after assembly. If you have any specific needs, go upstairs to the Library hallway and Used Uniform volunteers will help with specific needs. Pop-up sales like this one will be held hopefully once a month
- Parents can now also request the availability on specific items/sizes. There is a Used Uniform Request form to request specific items or an appointment to meet. The form is on the **BSS Website>under Parents> BSS Parent Collaborative**, scroll to the very bottom.

Scholastic Book Fair (Anne Rijo): It was a smooth transition to Rosemary Schuster and Kendra Hartlage.

- The Facts Incidental billing system was implemented for payment without a lot of difficulty. Hopefully it was easy for parents to submit forms as well.
- The Fair sold approximately \$8,000 in books/items, which translates to approximately \$4,000 for Mrs. Ferguson to purchase books/supplies for the library. Thank you to all parents who volunteered and supported the event.

BSS Golf Tournament- Advancement (Seana Dorich) – Many thanks to the sponsors, and to the weather, for the October 3rd event. Approximately \$20k was raised to help families in financial need at BSS.

New Parent Reception (Lynne Bongette) – A fun time was had by all the new parents that could attend the evening affair that was held on September 29.

NEW BUSINESS - Committee Updates:

Communications Committee (Jacqui Gil):

- Committee met to review communications procedures. Please let committee know if you aren't receiving information from one of the sources.
- **BSS Babysitting Group** is a new idea we hope to implement by the November 16th 7PM PC Meeting. A Sign Up Genius link was sent to 7th or 8th grader parents to see if their students are interested. Babysitting will be for BSS school-aged children (no infants/toddlers) while the parents attend an evening school meeting/presentation. **If your child is interested in being on the list of**

babysitting volunteers to be contacted when needs arise, please follow this link:

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0c44aead2da64-bssbabysitting>

Volunteer Committee (Jen Hague): Approximately 80 families returned/filled out the Volunteer Sign Up Sheet that went home the first week of school. Thank you to all that returned them. Any names that expressed interest in an event /activity will be passed along to the respective coordinators.

Mentoring (Lynne Bongette): Hoping that former mentees will be interested in being next year's mentors.

- Question was asked about providing families that are joining the school mid-year a "packet" with necessary information such as uniform info, events, volunteer opportunities, etc. Lynne will work on sending out a survey among new families to ask what information they think is valuable to future new families.

Student Enrichment (Jenn Trendel): Many events are in the works such as a Dental Hygiene visit, Sparky's Puppets, NE Aquarium (new), Bash the Trash (new), etc. She is still researching and planning. Keep your eyes open for more info on upcoming student events.

- If you have an enrichment idea, please email bsspc@blessedsacrament.org

Green Team (Keely Daly): Green Team had its first meeting of the year.

- *Volunteers:* We are always looking for volunteers who are interested in helping to keep the school "green", Please contact keelydaly@gmail.com
- *Recycling Bins:* There are several specific recycling bins in the gym foyer for items such as used ink cartridges or markers.
- *Composting:* GT is looking into composting, if you have an information on companies that can do this for schools, please let Keely Daly know.
- "**GREEN WEEK**" is on the calendar for April 2017. Be on the watch for possible reusable bags w/ the new BSS logo!

Spiritual Enrichment (Flavia Vanzo): Pleased that the rosary group is now up to a prayer group of 8.

- Please continue to come on ***Monday mornings after assembly*** whenever you have a chance.
- All are welcome, there are coloring books for little ones.
- Rosaries and rosary guides are available and it only takes 15 minutes. We meet in the church community room.

Used Uniform: See information in "old business"

Trivia Night (Suzanne Yeghian) – This event is scheduled for ***Saturday, January 28 @ 7pm.***

- Former beer donors are no longer with the school. If you know anyone who can donate beer or have any ideas, please get in touch with Suzanne Yeghian at suzyeghian@hotmail.com.
- This event is open to the community.

Christmas Bazaar (Kelly Chute): This Community event that will be held on ***Saturday, December 3 in the BSS Gym.*** This is open to the Public.

- 25 vendors have signed up so far for the craft/artisan area in the gym. Raffle Tickets coming soon.
- **New Vendors:** If you know of anyone who could be interested in a table, please contact Kelly Chute at kchute1224@gmail.com. It's only \$75 for a regular table, a little more for a premiere location.
- **Baskets:** Currently have 10-12 silent auction baskets, hoping to add some more.
- **Giving Tree:** Mentioned idea about incorporating lower grades into creating baskets to be auctioned. In light of upcoming class baskets asked for Under the Stars event, will consider utilizing Giving Tree and incorporating lower grades into creating baskets that way. Be on the look out for the Giving Tree in the gym foyer.
- **Kitchen Coordinator needed: plan a menu/organize a food team for the event.** Contact Kelly Chute.

Admissions (Holly Shaughnessy):

- Looking for **Admissions Ambassadors** to help disseminate materials in a variety of towns.
- **Wednesday 11/2 @ 9am First Open House** for 2017-2018 school year is scheduled for. Looking for parents to be available to field questions from families that attend the open house.
- If you can help with either of these needs, please contact admissions@blessedsacrament.org

Hospitality:

- Bakers needed for Halloween Event. 2 Dozen Halloween themed goodies per baker.
- **You get 1 service hour for 2 dozen baked items**
- Please label the items for Halloween party with your name and any allergens and deliver to the school on Friday, October 28, or Saturday, October 29 from 10am-12pm.

DISCUSSION: Halloween Party – 1) charged event or free community activity? 2) Donated food item vs. charged event? or 3) No party at all this year?

Facts: Event is scheduled for **Sunday, October 30, 1-3pm in school gym**; for kids grades 4 and below. The proposal is \$7/child, \$20/family, in which kids get unlimited games, pizza, water & a baked good.

- Last year, event made approx. \$700 (net) last year;
- It currently has no coordinators; Patriots Game @ 1pm; this event requires many volunteers to set up (6-8), operate (10-12) and bakers (10); has always been held during Patriots game, has made range from \$700-\$1000(net) in the past.
- Discussed: Should we charge admission, or make it free event? Should we make admittance a canned good? Are we having party to raise \$ for BSS or to help another cause? Will canned good admission hurt school-wide Food Pantry canned good drive in November? Will student enrichment be affected if we don't earn the \$700 from this party?
- **No, enrichment will not suffer if party didn't occur: PC finished 2015-2016 school year with over \$14,000, that went into school's general fund at the end of the school year.**
- Real Issue: not pricing, but whether or not to have the Halloween Party at all this year, since no coordinator, and in future since a lot of work for not much profit.
- **Motion to Vote:** Should Halloween Party be held on 10/30, or dropped from calendar given the low revenue; high volunteer/effort; challenging time slot, lack of coordinators; seemingly minimal impact to student enrichment plans?
- Call to vote was suspended when **Sarah Mercuri and Linda Pelchat** stepped forward to consider coordinating this event once they realized it was not a make it or break the budget kind of event. **Thank you Sarah and Linda!!**
- They will run the event this year, and will audit all the expenses to determine the viability of the event for the future.

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday 11/16 @ 7pm in the school cafeteria. We hope to have the Babysitting protocols in place for this evening.

CLOSING PRAYER: Flavia Vanzo

ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned around 9:10am