

# St James PTA Minutes

## Wednesday December 10, 2014

### 8:15 AM in the School Library

Dana Franznick called the meeting to order

**Opening Prayer:** Christian Buckman

**Principal's Report:** Mr. Cardone

- Mr. Cardone reported that it was a busy weekend at St. James with Breakfast With Santa on Saturday and Grandparents Tea on Sunday. Everyone truly had a great time, and the kids were all well behaved. It was definitely worth all of the hard work that went into both events.
- Tuesday, December 16 is the Christmas Pageant for K-5, so they will be busy setting the gym up that day in preparation. Students in the upper grades will participate as announcers, elves and Santa.
- The Preschool is busy rehearsing for their Christmas Show, which will be held Wednesday, December 17, following the Christmas Pageant since the chairs will already be set up. Mr. Cardone stressed that the Preschool is part of what the rest of the school does, including fundraising, so to give them an opportunity to have a Christmas Show is important to make them feel like part of the St. James Community.
- Two schools in the diocese will be closing at the end of the school year. This may allow for increased enrollment for St. James, especially for those people who plan to send their children on to RBC for high school.
- Mr. Cardone gave an update on where things stand with the Visitor Security System. He wants to be able to create a database of the students in order to generate late passes and other reports. He is working with the company to make sure the printer can create late passes before he purchases it.

**President's Report:** Paula Pangilinan

- **Father-Daughter Dance** - Paula fully supports it. She is unable to stay for the presentation, but encourages the PTA to approve what is agreeable. The main focus will be to keep the ticket price reasonable and avoid it becoming a financial burden on families. The main goal is fathers spending time with their daughters.
- **Basketball Blowout** - The foam fingers are being stored in a warehouse and Paula is trying to track them down. They were never paid for, so we are not out the money if they cannot be located. If the Royals would like to just go ahead and order them new, that is fine, and we will approve it.

## **Father-Daughter Dance Presentation - Tiffany Havard**

Tiffany began by presenting copies of the estimates the committee received from the vendors they wish to hire. DJ for 3 hours will be \$375, photo booth with attendant for 3 hours will be \$600, and video/picture montage of 8th grade girls will be \$375. Meals at Beacon Hill Country Club will be \$27.95 per adult, \$13.95 per child, and \$25 per vendor. The committee would like to set the ticket price at \$40 for adults (increase of \$5 from last year) and \$35 per child (same as last year).

PTA rejected the video/picture montage since it singles out the 8th grade. The dance is for K-8, not just the 8th grade, and some people will be upset if they are not in it or all of their pictures don't make it in. The 8th grade has their own dance around graduation, and they already have a video with their content at that time. That lowers the entertainment price down from \$1350 to \$975. The 8th grade will have opportunities at the dance to stand up and lead prayers, etc. in order to take a leadership role at their last Father-Daughter Dance.

Some are concerned about the cost of the photo booth and also the potential for Mr. Gray to lose business on his portraits when he's been really good to the school at events over the years. Tiffany pointed out that they intend to have the photos from the photo booth replace favors, so that would be one less cost. There was concern that the line might get long, and some girls may not get a chance to take a photo, whereas others will take multiple photos. The solution presented by Dana Franznick is to give each girl a ticket to ensure everyone gets at least one photo. We will ask for moms (of sons) to volunteer to help with the line at the photo booth via the school website. Additionally, the contract includes a scrapbook of all of the photo booth photos, but the school does not need it, so the PTA would like the committee to see if they could negotiate the price down further without the scrapbook.

The Eiffel Tower centerpieces will be auctioned off at the end of the event.

PTA asked Tiffany why they would like to go with Beacon Hill Country Club as the venue. Tiffany said they compared Beacon Hill and The Oyster Point Hotel, and they feel that Beacon Hill gave a better deal based on cost. Feedback from last year was that the room at Branches was dark and not as elegant, and the food was not great. Beacon Hill offers a gorgeous room with a view, and a patio to step outside. There will also be no other events or club members there that day. The event will be Sunday, March 1 from 1-4pm. Lisa Goga will do the invitations, and they will include an RSVP for an accurate headcount. Tiffany will donate the paper to print up a Save the Date notice.

The following deposits were approved for this event:

\$500 deposit to Beacon Hill Country Club - approved by Lisa Noonan and Ann Mazza

\$200 deposit for DJ - approved by Christian Buckman and Dana Franznick

\$100 deposit for invitations - approved by Laurie Williams and Dana Franznick

## **Vice Presidents Report – Dana Franznick**

- **Thanksgiving Pie Sale** - The pies were delicious. The fundraiser made \$287, which was a lot of work for a small amount of money, but it provided a service to families and the convenience during the busy time was worth it. The most difficult aspect was picking the pies up at Dearborn Markets and transporting

them to the school, but it saved a \$25 delivery charge. The PTA is hopeful that word will spread that the pies were really good, and encourage others to take part in the sale next year.

- **Fall Fundraiser** - Everything was distributed, and the school made \$7,000.
- **Grade Parent Meeting** - Dana continues to reinforce the different ways that are acceptable to get information out to the parents.
- **SJAA Events**
  - Run With the Royals 5K in the spring
  - Friday Night Bidy Basketball information has gone out

### **Recording Secretary's Report:** Laurie Williams

Attendance of Executive Officers:

Paula Pangilinan – present

Jeanne O'Connor – not present

Dana Franznick – present

Laurie Williams– present

Fay Eigenrauch – not present

Lisa Noonan – present

Mary Asfendis - not present

November 12, 2014 Executive Meeting Minutes approved by Christian Buckman and Dana Franznick.

### **Royals:** Dana Franznick

- Dana emphasized that the Royals were extremely helpful over the weekend, setting up Breakfast With Santa and breaking down after Grandparents Tea. They have been very organized this year, they have great attendance at their monthly meeting and they are continuing to recruit more dads. It is important that we support them in the Polar Plunge as it will be a huge fundraiser.
- **Polar Plunge** - Will be held Sunday, January 11, 2015 in Long Branch. Every dollar made comes back to the school 100%, so it is a significant fundraiser. The corporate sponsors pay for the t-shirts. There is space for one more sponsor at \$150 to be on the t-shirt. (It was two sponsors, but Lisa Noonan volunteered at the meeting that either her company (Morgan Stanley) or her husband's company will take one of them.)

**Marketing/Legislative Affairs:** Dana Franznick

Dana reported that the Hulafrog contest for Most Loved Preschool is still going on. We need to continue to encourage people to log onto the site and vote for St. James School to win the \$15,000 playground equipment prize.

**PTA Meeting December 10, 2014 Attendance**

Mr. William Cardone  
Paula Pangilinan  
Dana Franznick  
Laurie Williams  
Lisa Noonan  
Ann Mazza  
Christian Buckman  
Maria Rimmele