

SAINT VIATOR PARENTS' CLUB MINUTES OF THE MEETING 09-04-07

Present: Deni Janus, Cheryl Lardner, Teresa Young, Beverly Wickman, Pat Laughlin, Cathy Sweeney, Diane Frank, Cheryl Bailey, Alice Wimberly, Nancy Naughton, Kathi Gaffney, Chris Schmidt, Angela Pasche, Kim Williams-Helmer, Pam Sommons, Laura Ferrari, Kim O'Grady, Susan Marshall, Linda Lopez, Pam Tidaback, Margaret Beiswenger, Sharon McKee, Sharon Rosenbloom, Elizabeth Hanson, Geri Gately, Barbara Frenzer, Joanne Metler, Val Wallenberg, Terri Bordes, Kathy Loy, Jackie Frett, Kay Haubenreiser, Jean Spiegelhalter, Lori Cataldo, Nancy Anderson, Jean Simpson, Teresa Stewart, Sue Abrahamson, Nancy Murray, Eileen Cortese, Barb Siemienas, Tony Garcia, Lucy Fragozo, Susie Thompson, Eileen Manno and Bridget Platania

THE MEETING:

The meeting was brought to order at 7:35pm by Parents' Club President Jean Spiegelhalter, who welcomed all to the first meeting of the school year. Jean also led the prayer. All attendees introduced themselves to the group. Approval of last May's meeting was skipped.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT:

School Principal Eileen Manno began by stating that enrollment is currently 1,090 students, with 300 freshman, 25 transfers and four Korean students. One of the Korean students, a boy, is still in need of a home. He will stay for the entire school year, and he plays soccer.

The Foreign Language lab is now located in the old computer room. This lab is used by the students to improve speaking of their particular language. It is open at 7:30am. Students can go in before school and during lunch, as it is staffed by a language teacher at all times, but maybe not the language teacher of your language.

The Writing Lab is now located in the library, available during lunch periods.

The Math Lab is open at 7:20am and open every period of the day.

The school van, which was purchased by Parent's Club last school year for Campus Ministry, will be out in front of the school on Thursday 9/13 for Meet the Faculty night.

Mass was to be held this week during school hours, but will be postponed until next week, as it is too hot in the gym.

There will be a late start next Friday 9/14, after Thursday's Meet the Faculty night.

There will now be Saturday detentions being served from 8-11am, but they will be for the more serious levels of offense. These working detentions must be assigned by the administration, not the teachers. Normal detention is during the week after school. The students can also work lunchtime cleaning tables.

Administration is enforcing the dress code this year, especially the length of the girls' skirts, and the colors of the khaki's. Detentions will also be given for cell phone usage, as cell phones should not be in the classroom. There is currently too much text messaging, and phones ringing in the classrooms. To get in touch with your student during the day, parents are to call the Dean's Office.

Chorus director Mrs. Selvaggio quit in July, and was replaced by Amy Bearden, who is a certified teacher in the area. Kate Costello's son is in chemotherapy treatment, so please remember the family in your prayers. Mr. Majka is having a knee replacement, so an extended substitute will be teaching his classes. Mrs. Krestal and Mrs. Stevens will also be out during the year on maternity leaves, so subs are lined up for their classes.

A tornado was sighted last Thursday, but an all clear was received. It is up to the coaches to decide whether to hold their after-school sports. The football players stayed. There was no electricity in the building, so the Freshman Parent Meeting had to be cancelled; no email could be sent as there was no electricity.

Grades have been posted on-line.

Drug testing has begun. They are taking 1- 1½ inches of hair from the scalp. It has been traumatic for the girls with long hair. The cutters were trained by the drug company. If the hair was thin or short, it was taken from multiple spots. Hair weight was the key. Head hair was preferable, but it could be taken from the leg or underarm. They turn the hair sample into a liquid and then test the sample for drugs. If the result is positive, the company will run the test again before notifying the school. Results come back within 72 hours to the administration. Students have been admitting to drug usage prior to testing. They are currently clipping 60 kids per day and hope to be done by the end of September. A letter to parents will be mailed out with their child's results.

A set of security doors has been installed at the front entrance over the summer. During the school day, they are locked and visitors must be buzzed in by the paid parent at the desk.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY:

Kathy Loy passed around thank you notes from the faculty. The thank you notes were for last year's end of year gifts to the teachers.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Deni Janus reported that at the end of the last school year, 6/30/07, the General Account had a balance of \$26,430.14 and the Senior Events Account had a balance of \$4,387.32, for a total of \$30,817.46.

Deni passed out the Accounting Ledgers detailing income and expenses for last school year, and Receipt and Disbursement Procedures.

ARLINGTON HEIGHTS OFFICERS' REPORT:

No officer in attendance.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

HOUSEWALK – Friday, October 26, 2007

The Housewalk is set, and invitations will be mailed out in two weeks. Five houses will be showcased, three in Inverness, one in Arlington Heights, and one in Prospect Heights. Housewalk hours will be from 10:00am until 4:00pm and tickets will be \$40. A volunteer sheet was circulated, as many volunteers are still needed to work the houses.

FASHION SHOW – Sunday, November 11, 2007

Barb Siemienas reported that the fashion show will be held again this year at the Stonegate in Hoffman Estates, with a slightly increased ticket price of \$50. A meeting will be held this Thursday at 7:30pm in the auditorium for parents with kids in the show. A modeling fee of \$10 is due at that time. A photographer is needed, so contact Barb if you know one. They have a large number of models signed up so far, but they still need senior boys.

METROPOLIS – SECOND CITY – Saturday, January 5, 2008

Eileen Cortese reported that the show is entitled “One Nation Under Blog.” We have bought out the house, which has 309 tickets. The cost of the tickets will be \$25 or \$30, still to be determined. This will be a fun adult comedy, maybe attracting those college alumni who are home on winter break. It will be a fun get-together for Saint Viator parents.

FLORAL SHOW – Wednesday, March 12, 2008

Sue Abrahamson reported that Daniel has committed to be the host again. Letters will soon be going out to the florists.

HOSPITALITY:

Marilyn Rittmeyer said they have four people on the committee, and need four more plus more members to help. It would be best if they were from the freshman/sophomore classes. There are seven big events/receptions run by parental volunteers. They are: Meet the Faculty, National Honor Society, Three Open Houses, Junior Ring Ceremony, and Graduation. The committee goes to every event. Eileen Manno said to begin calling parents from the volunteer sheets, but as of tonight’s meeting, Marilyn had not yet received them. Teresa Young volunteered to be on the committee.

CLASS REPS:

For their respective classes, their jobs entail: calling volunteers for hospitality, answering questions and making phone calls to welcome new families to Saint Viator

SENIOR EVENTS:

VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR:

Chris Schmidt said compilation of volunteers is still in progress. She will email the lists to the committee heads. There are more volunteers this year than ever before.

MARKETING/WEB PAGE:

Teresa Stewart reported that the Lion Lines deadline for the October issue was September 5th. All information to be put on the Parents’ Club webpage must be approved in advance by the Director of P.R., Nora Cay Ryan.

NEW BUSINESS:

2007-2008 GUEST SPEAKERS:

Two Pre-Meeting Special Guest Speakers have been scheduled:

October – Joe Majkowski, Head of Counseling
November – Father Egan, President, speaking on drug test results

Other Pre-Meeting Topics, still to be finalized:

Safe Driving for Teenagers
Alcohol expert – Responsibility and Liability
Mental Health expert
College Counselor

Other Meetings:

December - Christmas Party
May – Farewell to Senior Parent Volunteers Party

HELP NEEDED – POST PROM CHAIR

A senior parent is needed to chair this committee asap.

OTHER NEW BUSINESS:

Cathy Shanahan said 'Thank You' to all the new freshman parents in attendance at the meeting.

With Homecoming coming up, a parent asked if school was going to be pro-active about underage drinking. Eileen Manno reminded us that kids are randomly breathalyzed at school dances. Jean Spiegelhalter reminded us about the Task Force set up last year for this very reason, and is looking for more members.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

The meeting was adjourned at 9:37pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Bridget Platania
Recording Co-Secretary