

SAINT VIATOR PARENTS' CLUB MINUTES OF THE MEETING 9/13/2010

Present: Sue Abrahamson, Mary Baur, Diane Beletti, Jeanne Carney, Lori Cataldo, Eileen Cortese, Angie Dickey, Patti Durkin, Linda Falotico, Jackie Frett, Kathleen Guth, Kay Haubenreiser, April Hanes-Dowd, Diane Jamieson, Mary Ann Kouvelis, Sara Kay, Charlene Krawzak, Karen Levenson, Kathy Loy, Eileen Manno, Erin McMahon, Patti Menges, Nancy Murray, Jeanne Stefanowski, Gina Steiner, Teresa Stewart, Kathy Sutton, Cathy Sweeney, Valerie Wallengberg, Alice Wimberly, Carla Zivoli

Pre-Meeting Presentation: Jim Bristol talked about the plans for the St. Viator 50th Anniversary Celebration. There is one internal committee working with alumni, staff and students and another external committee in charge of working with the community, local businesses and media. There is a kick-off mass open to everyone on January 30 at 2:00 in the gym. We are hoping the Cardinal will be co-celebrating the mass with the Viatorians. He is still coordinating is schedule.

Rather than adding events, we will be using existing events to publicize the 50th anniversary. Even our sports teams will be sporting logos for the anniversary starting in January and going through the end of 2011. The big event will be April 9th at Navy Pier. This is the Night of the Lion and we will be honoring all of the clerics from St. Viator. The chairpersons of that event are Pat & Betsy McAvoy along with JoAnn & Dan Murphy. We are hoping to get 1000 people out to event.

THE MEETING:

OPENING PRAYER:

At 7:45 pm the meeting was brought to order by Parents' Club Co-President Nancy Murray who led us in prayer.

INTRODUCTIONS OF ALL PRESENT

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Theresa Stewart moved to approve the minutes and Erin McMahon 2nd the motion.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Theresa Stewart

There are two bank accounts. One will be for General (\$8049.64 balance) and a separate one for Senior Events (\$1450.70 balance) . Due to excellent fund-raising by the senior families last year, they had a surplus of funds and were able to donate \$9000 to the tuition assistance program. The Parent's Club gifted \$46,050.00 last year as follows:

Cash gifts for faculty and staff:	\$6,500
Viator foundation:	\$2,000
Two 50% Scholarships:	\$10,500
Tuition Assistance:	\$25,000
50% towards Rachel's Challenge	\$2,050

Anyone making purchases for the Parent's club should request a tax exempt letter and reimbursement form from Theresa Stewart. She can email them to you. Also, if we have received a donation, it is important that a thank you/ tax receipt letter goes out.

St. Viator has a new software system called Blackbaud that manages donations and events. It contains an online booking/reservation system that we will be able to use in the future. It will also give us the ability to do thank you & tax letters and formulate a data base of emails for future contacts. Chairpersons should

be thinking about ways this system can help them and organize all the things that are done/sold so that the webpage can be tailored to their special event.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT: Eileen Manno

Wednesday, 9/13/2010 there is a college athlete presentation in the auditorium at 7:30.

Thursday, 9/23/2010 there will be a college panel at 7:00 in the auditorium.

Monday, 9/27/2010 there is no school due to a faculty in-service day.

October 6 there will be a presentation for parents at 7:00 called Rachel's Challenge. We did this last year and are repeating it this year. During the day the students will see the presentation. It is put on by the father and brother of one of the Columbine victims and discusses the perils of bullying.

There will be a unit on cyber-safety in every computer class. Cyber-bullying continues to be a problem. Facebook and texting abuses continue with horrible language being used and rumors being spread. Please remind your students that colleges are even looking into some of the things going on out there and determining if they want to admit certain kids to their schools based on their lack of character as indicated by some of the things they are seeing on the computer sites.

Student directory is coming out this week in homeroom. We are still missing emails from some freshmen parents. These are necessary to receive important updates as well as to give you the opportunity to monitor your children's grades. Please submit to the office a.s.a.p. If you have received emails or have been able to check grades then they have your emails.

Eileen Manno thanked the senior families for their generous donation of \$9000 to tuition assistance. It came in handy.

Fr. Perham is taking a medical leave. He has been helping with Geometry. Keep him in your prayers.

Daily announcements will be on-line so the parents will have a better way of knowing what our kids are hearing (but not necessarily passing on). There is also a new email format coming out that will be clearer.

On December 1 we have the North Central Evaluation Team coming in. This is something we do every 5 years to renew our accreditation. We don't anticipate a problem.

We got great results from the Parent Survey that was distributed at the end of the school year. We had 438 parents respond. When asked what we liked the most, we answered the following with one being the most:

1. Faith-based curriculum
2. Sense of Community/Family
3. Excellent Curriculum
4. Quality, dedicated teachers
5. Small class size

Liked least:

1. No complaints (this was the #1 response)
2. No stadium
3. Cost
4. Our Spanish program

Suggestions:

1. Deal with "poor" teachers.
2. Keep doing what you're doing.
3. More leadership opportunities for all students.
4. Improve foreign language department
5. Air conditioning

94.5% of the parents commented on how strongly they felt our quality of education was very high. In a survey sent to alums from the last 10 years, the consensus was that they were very grateful to their parents for sending them to St. Viator.

We discussed ways to stream-line book day including the suggestion that we order everything on line.

PARENTS' CLUB PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Jackie Frett

Thank you notes were distributed from teachers thanking the Parent's Club for their bonuses.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

-FASHION SHOW Alice Wimberly

We have over 200 models for this year show. Two big stores declined to work with us so if you have any suggestions, contact Jean Malone or Randi Rooney. The fur store pulled out as well and alternate fur stores were discussed.

Mitchell Jewelers is donating some jewelry but they are in need of many more donations as well. The menu for the event is being selected this week. The fashion show is November 7.

-FLORAL SHOW -Diane Beletti and Diane Jamieson

It is on a Thursday night this year, April 14.

-HOSPITALITY - Kathy Loy

The Parent's Club closet has been cleaned out. Please do not put perishables in there including sugar and coffee. (We want to keep the critters away.) There are supplies in there including cups, napkins, baskets and banners for the Senior Celebration. There are also 8 white and 8 navy long rectangular table cloths and raffle tickets. Before you buy more supplies for an event, get the key from Kathy Loy and see if we have what you need. The tall round cocktail tables are stored in the booster closet due to space issues.

The next event for hospitality is the Junior Ring Ceremony on October 24 starting with a 10 a.m. mass. The Curriculum night went well with great treats from the volunteers.

-CLASS REPS - nothing to report

SENIOR EVENTS- Mary Baur

Meeting with last year's committee to brain-storm about the expectations. Over 100 parents volunteered to help.

-POST PROM - Jeanne Stephanowski

They were able to negotiate a lower boat rate for post prom. Last year it was \$53/person and this year it will be \$47/per person. They are looking at competitive bus rates.

VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR- Mary Ann Kouvelis

The master volunteer list was completed and distributed. We have over 325 volunteers. Any late arrivals will be hand-written in and given to the respective chairpersons. There was a discussion about the confusion for new parents regarding the responsibilities of the various volunteer jobs. It was pointed out that this information is on the web page but we need to do a better job of guiding the new parents of where to find this information. We also have parent class reps that are listed in the directory and can be called to clarify issues.

MARKETING/WEB PAGE & LION LINES: Diane Jamieson

The website has been updated. The deadline for submitting information to Lion Lines is the first Wednesday of the month. Also, Eileen Daday has offered to write an informational piece for any committee if given the main topic and related bullet points.

NEW BUSINESS: nothing

OLD BUSINESS:

Nothing

ADJOURNMENT:

Erin McMahon made a motion to adjourn and Jeanne Carney seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 9:06 pm. The next meeting is October 4 in the Resource Center at 7:30.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Guth
Recording Secretary