ICOLPH School Parents’ Association Meeting Minutes

Meeting Location: Virtual via Zoom
Date: January 7, 2022
Time: 8:30am-9:15am
Facilitator/PA President: Liz Barr pa@ic-olph.org
Vice-President: Jennie Hrubesky
Secretary: Alison Dasho

Agenda Topics:
❖ Welcome/Introduction ................................................................. All Attendees
  o Opening Prayer

❖ Principal Report ........................................................................ Liz Barr
  o Asking parents to be diligent about Covid symptoms
    ▪ Addl info in newsletter
    ▪ Jan 18: MAP Winter testing 1/18-2/4, all grades
    ▪ Prepping for Catholic School’s Week
      • Asking students to participate in mass
      • ASB team working on spirit days (free dress, games, etc) – info tk soon
    ▪ Idea: Catholic Parent & Teacher shirt – make an effort to wear those at parish events, so parishioners have visibility into how involved school families & faculty are
      • Kids could wear uniform to Mass? Or small “I’m a proud Catholic School parent” Badge/Button?
      • Would school pay for this? Help build school community – internal and external
      • Bumper stickers, decals
    • ACTION ITEM: Mirran will reach out to Sara – maybe some short-term stickers, but larger execution of this idea will be pending name change

❖ Upcoming Events
  ➢ Catholics Week (January 30th to February 5th)
    (No Spaghetti Dinner this year)
    Sunday 1/30: Students wear school uniform to Mass
      • Will get free dress pass
    Monday 1/31: Student Appreciation Day
    Tuesday 2/1: Parent Appreciation Day
    Wednesday 2/2: Spirit Day,
      • 8th grade vs. staff volleyball (afterschool and recorded with FB Live)
      • No live audience
      • Class Auction pet races (will occur before school ends)
      • Same as last year, one rep from each class come down to gym, will be recorded
    Thursday 2/3: Thankful Thursday
• Sending appreciation to teachers—words of encouragement—students will be writing cards to parishioners, parents, etc. (Previously Grandparents’/special friends day)

Friday 2/4: Staff Appreciation Day
• Coffee brigade via parents’ association—help donate money, how far in advance do we need to reach out to parents to make the ask?
  o A week before or Monday before, and then a reminder week of
• Luncheon
  o School commission handles the luncheon (Staff Appreciation Lunch Committee)
• **ACTION ITEM:** Leverage room parents to help remind families to send words of encouragement (cards, letters)/solicit donations for coffee
  o Other ideas for teachers:
    ▪ Spiritual bouquet—prayers you want to say for the teacher—Linnea has a handout
    ▪ Kudoboard, etc.
    ▪ Spotify Playlists, etc.
    ▪ Ensure we’re also including non-core teachers/specialists

❖ Feedback on the Decem-brrr Christmas Mixer
What went well?
• Santa was awesome, so interactive
• Highlights: Kids singing and playing music was wonderful, hot cocoa bar was a hit, went very well
• Ugly sweater contest was fun
• The Christmas Tree was awesome, got lots of positive feedback

Suggestions for changes?
• Lighting for Santa photos could be improved—underneath the Santa tent
  o Lots of kids came back, super chatty Santa, he thought that was fun
• Not enough volunteers, had to do double duty on hot water/building monitoring
• Announcements for contests could be better circulated, so everyone knows it’s happening and when—Amie Bosler did a great job running/choosing prizes
• Next year we could transition to table stations vs. trunks—have older kids man the tables, then parents can visit, listen to the singing
• More lighting on the playground
• More people may attend next year now that they know what it is, etc.
• Do it earlier in December, first Friday, a kickoff to the season, or move to a Saturday afternoon
• Holiday bazaar? Craft fair type atmosphere? (Previously Saturday and Sunday after mass)
• Could we bring the tree inside the school, with crafted ornaments?
Volunteer Opportunities

- Volunteer sign-up genius for opportunities throughout the year (see school website for link)
  **ACTION ITEM:** Ensure this is circulated often to families (again leverage class parents, along with facebook?)
- Contact the school directly for possible volunteer opportunities
- Auction will have volunteer opportunities

Auction

- Auction info and forms on School website. Detailed information for January is in school and auction newsletters
- Pet Races will happen on Wednesday February 2nd
- Deadline for auction procurements is 1/31/2022
- Earn 3 volunteer hours when you submit $300 worth of cash donations, procurements/donated items or services and/or Eagle Scrip by Friday 1/31.
- Next week: Financial obligation balances will be sent to families. Please note that auction procurements will not be included in this. It will only have SCRIP and Annual Gift Campaign amounts.
  - New incentives for donations – deadline for auction procurement is 1/31
  - Wondering what to get, check auction wish list, signup genius
  - Financial obligation balances outgoing next week (but won’t yet include auction donation info)

Misc.

- Any ideas for PA connections/building school community i.e., virtual game night,
  - Dads/donuts
  - Can we ask a Dad to run this? Feb or sooner – Eric Wilkins can take point
  - Just dads, or dads + kids?
  - Would it be feasible to open the playground one Saturday a month to encourage community?
    - **ACTION ITEM:** Alison and Liz can help plan, aiming to start in Feb.
  - Parent coffee hour

- Box tops........................................................................................................... Heather Cook
- Used Uniforms............................................................................................... Melissa Bunny
- SCRIP ............................................................................................................. Trenieca McGinty
- Teacher Favorite’s List.................................................................................. Elisa Whitehouse

PA Meeting Attendees: Liz Barr, Jennie Hrubesky, Alison Dasho, Mirran Rajcic, Linnea Wolff, Traci Carpenter, Sasha Smith

Next Meeting: February 4th (also day of coffee brigade)