

ECCSS PTO BOARD MEETING
Held November 11, 2014
At The Administration Building

Present: Mary Lynn Carnovale, Mary Beth Schaut, Sam MacDonald, Heather Mader, Bonnie Pearson, Melanie Meyer, Courtney Bauer, Gina Pistner, Sandy Florig, John Schneider, JC Fritz, Tricia Bauer, Ann Caskey, Dawn and Joe Gier, Kelli Brannock, and Julie Heary.

7 p.m. - Mary Lynn opened the meeting with a prayer. Last meetings minutes were approved by Sam MacDonald and seconded by Joe Gier.

President's Report (Sam MacDonald)

An online survey will be going out in the next few days. All families are asked to participate. It is part of the Middle States Accreditation.

Principals' Report

Mary Beth Schaut (Elementary)

(Was absent from the meeting, but sent notes.)

Last Thursday, the ES had their Thanksgiving Feast - decorations were nice and there were many servers.

Three priests attended. Thank you to Anne Reedy and family, Helen Krug, and the cooks.

Last Wednesday, they celebrated Adoration Day system-wide. All classes had time to spend in church in silent prayer - Benediction at closing.

Thanks to Janet VanEerden, Georgia Wagner, Elena Radkowski and the other Good Shepherd catechists for providing the Good Shepherd program to the Kindergarteners and the 1st graders twice a month.

Dress Down Day on Thursday, November 20 - donations will be collected for Mrs. Kuntz's Christmas in Kentucky project.

November 21 is Grandparents' Day for 3rd grade. They will participate in Mass, do some fun activities together, eat lunch and put on their musical at noon. Everyone is welcome at noon to the multipurpose room for the wonderful performance of "The Hundred Year Snooze."

Monday, November 24 - 5th grade will visit the MS to experience a day in that environment.

Wednesday, November 26 - Our first ECCSS system-wide mass will be at Queen of the World at 9:15 a.m. St Leo students will join us. Our 5th grade will present a short service afterward.

Only one early dismissal this year on December 9. This will give teachers time to plan Catholic Schools Week activities and meet with their Middle States committees.

Christmas Store and Auction will be held on December 10 - 11.

Visiting author, Gary Henry, will be here on December 11 to read his book, "When Santa Claus Prayed," and to tell students how he wrote the book and his daughter illustrated it.

John Schneider (Middle School)

Halloween Party was very nice on October 24.

On October 28, 8th graders attended a Diocesan Religion competition in Erie.

On Friday, the geocaching group will go to the Elk Visitor Center.

Tuesday will be Parent/Teacher conferences.

November 24 is the 6th grade retreat.

Next week, 5th graders will visit the MS.

A new Emergency Notification System will soon be utilized by the school system.

Sandy Florig (High School)

PSAT testing went well - all students were present that day.

The senior-sponsored Haunted House was a big success.

Adoration Day was last Wednesday.

First Quarter Academic Assembly was held on Monday with guest speaker Lt. Col. Tim Pearson. The HS would like to offer a new course next semester based on Medal of Honor curriculum. Lt. Col. Pearson has offered to teach it if there is enough interest. Sometime in December, an announced lockdown will take place, part of the Crisis Management Prep; based on "Run, Hide, Fight." Joe Corbi order forms have gone out.

Committee Updates

Race for Education - Jen Meyer is attending tonight's meeting to help give her input on the race and possible ways to change it this year. We had previously talked about it becoming a service-related project as opposed to a race. We decided that it would be hard to find something service-oriented for 500 students to do together. We wondered if we should change the name of the event, but decided that at this point, parents know what it is and what it's for, so we shouldn't mess with that. It was decided that we would eliminate all the small prizes like lollipops and doughnut breakfasts. We'll try to boost participation by offering a "Super Relaxed Dress Day" if 75% of students participate by turning in their labels - 5 names equals participation. And for every 10 names submitted, the students have a chance to win a Walmart gift card. We will be posting thank you's on the sign in front of the schools, church bulletins, Facebook, and the PTO Notes. The race date will be Wednesday, May 6 which is a change from a Friday event. Race day will include a prayer service and race only - dinner will be served at each school before the kids are bused to the HS.

Clothing Sales - Rubber bracelets were given out at the health fair last week. We will sell our PTO bracelets at basketball games at the admission table.

Magazine Sales - Still in desperate need of a chairperson at the elementary school for next year.

Hoagie Sales - Delivery is Thursday. Twelve people have volunteered from 12 – 2 p.m. \$6,346 is the estimated profit, which is down \$1,500 from last year. Flyers need to be sent home with ALL students in ALL grades in the spring. Julie suggested that we mail the flyers to the HS parents. Jen Meyer volunteered the HS students to fold and prep those mailers. Easter Candy sale will utilize flyers too.

Gunners Fundraiser - Tricia said that the Gunners folks aren't sure how successful this would be. Maybe we could have a game/spirit week in which the school gets a percentage of the profits for that week.

Holiday Club - Had the Holiday Club party last weekend. 125 people were there. It was held in the MS/HS cafeteria, and Fr. Ross was the DJ. Expenses were ~\$1,200, in from 50/50 and rip-off tickets was ~\$1,100. There are still 250 tickets left to sell.

Purse Bash - Happening this Saturday. All tickets have been sold.

Box Tops - Still waiting for a check to arrive. \$4,200 check is coming in January. Well ahead of projections.

Halloween Party- A success! Needs new chair people for 2015.

Christmas Store & Auction- Ready to go. Usually the PTO pays for the students to go to the Apollo Theater for a movie, drink and popcorn. If we could have the movie at the schools in the gym, it could save us \$2,000. Vote was unanimous "yes" to not go to the theater.

Festival - Plans are moving along. Beer booth paperwork has been submitted. A Color Run committee is planning. For entertainment, Moore Brothers, and they are working to get Six Pack, and the ECC band will perform. There will be a photo booth, alumni booth, 3-on-3 basketball tournament, and the Music Boosters

will sell mums. Different grades may have their own booths. We need sponsors for the beer booth and the bands so we can pay in advance for beer license and band deposits.

Convent Sale Booth - We had a food booth at the convent sale both weekends. Not worth the time, made \$300. We won't be selling at their sale in the spring.

Flower Sale - Last meeting, we talked about having our own flower sale in the spring. Tricia is waiting to find out possible dates to sell.

Finance (Kelli Brannock)

Kelli went over the budget. She suggests that we put out a letter to families after the holidays that explains the PTO's commitment of \$115,000 to the school each year and breaks down how all of our fundraisers are struggling to meet that goal this year.

Outreach (Dawn)

Movie night will be Friday, November 14 - "Muppet Movie."

Volunteers (Melanie Meyer)

We need volunteers for the Christmas Store, Hoagie Sale, and a chairman for the Magazine Sale.

OLD BUSINESS

A beautiful wind chime was bought for Dave Hefter's wake in acknowledgement for his years of service to the Scrip program.

NEW BUSINESS

By-law revisions are pushed to next meeting.

Meeting closed at 8:39 p.m.

Our next meeting will be held on January 13, 2015 at 7 p.m. at the Administration Building. There will be no meeting in December.

Respectfully submitted,
Bonnie Pearson
ECCSS PTO Recording Secretary