

## Home and School Meeting Minutes

August 11, 2011

Dr. Wiliby's Update:

- Dr. Wiliby introduced herself and shared that she is eager to start the new school year.

Back To School Night:

- There was discussion on the plan for Back To School Night. It was recommended that the students and parents would like to meet and hear from Dr. Wiliby. It was decided by Dr. Wiliby that the plan for Back to School Night will be to have her introduce herself to the students and parents before students meet their teachers. It was also decided to have the sign up tables for committees in the commons area as in years past.

Meeting Dates, Times and Locations:

- Meetings for this year will be either in the library or in the parish center.
- The next meeting is September 8. This meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m. and will include a social hour with appetizers before the business meeting begins at 7:00 p.m. The location of the meeting is yet to be determined. This information will be provided asap.

Back To School Lunch Update:

- Kelly Bodner reported that the theme for this year's back to school lunch was movie/vip premiere. Mr. Lebeda and Dr. Wiliby thanked the committee and the Home and School members for a wonderful breakfast and lunch.

Back to School Tables Needed:

- Box Top, Classroom Coordinators, Year Book, Spirit Wear, Welcome Cookies (2 tables), Girl Scouts and Martyr Marathon.

Secret Santa:

- We currently do not have any volunteers to chair this project. It was recommended to write a job description of what is involved with this project and include it in the Martyr Messenger.
- There was discussion on whether or not to continue with the project. It is considered a fundraising project for H & S, even though the project does not result in additional funding. If H & S would decide to discontinue this, we would need to come up with another fundraising project. One suggestion was to have a scrapbooking event. It was recommended that for the September H & S meeting, the issue of brainstorming fundraising ideas be added.

Change in Chairpersons-Box Tops:

- Caroline Straub and Lisa Moffet will be the new chairs for Box Tops.

Playground Clean-Up/Mulch Update:

- Lisa Bazis reported that a group of parents cleaned the playground last night. A parent/parishioner is donating his time and product to kill the weeds that are on the playground. He will be doing this tonight. A parishioner is also going to donate his time to level the playground. Lisa Bazis reported that there is a grant available through the State of Nebraska that will pay for 50% of the cost of rubber tire mulch if the mulch is from tires. Maurice Anderson is contacting a company that sells rubber mulch to obtain a bid for the mulch.

- There was a discussion on who is responsible for the upkeep of the playground. Dr. Williby recommended that the officers provide a document on what Home and School responsibilities are for the playground.

#### Committee Updates:

- Uniform Sales: Brenda U. reported that the total amount from the sale was \$4,171.85, with Home & School's profits totaling \$1511.85, which is slightly higher than last year. She also reported that she donated several uniforms that did not sell to Assumption of Guadalupe School, who were very thankful for the donation. Brenda recommended making a change next year: if the amount a seller is to receive is under \$10, then it will be donated to Home and School. The price guide was very appreciated this year. There was discussion on having a second sale during the school year. It was determined not to have one at this time.
- Martyr Marathon: Lisa Gell reported that she is in charge of corporate sponsorships and has raised \$3500. Patty Brown reported that the committee is going to sell advertising in the Buzz Book. She will be contacting businesses around St. Stephen's. The proceeds from the marathon will go for the technology fund for the school. The proceeds do stay within the H & S budget for technology. There was a discussion on what types of things are needed. St. Stephen's is not wireless and at this time iPad's, as one recommendation to purchase, would not be a possibility due to the lack of wireless. Pam Foral asked Dr. Williby and Mr. Lebeda if they could provide information to H & S on what the technology needs are. There was discussion on the clickers that are used with the smart boards. Mr. Lebeda reported that the teachers were in favor of these. Dr. Williby reported on the use of the voting clickers that research has shown to provide instant feedback to teachers on how well students understand the concepts that are being taught. She recommended that the voting clickers would be better suited for 6<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grade. T-shirts have been ordered for the marathon. These will be sent home in the Friday folders. Water bottles will not be distributed this year.
- Yearbook: Lisa Bazis reported that the yearbooks are in. There are about 50 extras. Lisa asked for permission to have H & S purchase a camera that would be kept in the office for staff to use to take pictures for the yearbook. Lisa requested \$109.00 be used to purchase a Nikon camera that is available at Sam's. She reported that this camera has received great reviews. She also reported that it has been helpful to have staff take pictures that the committee is then able to use for the yearbook. Pam Foral asked for a vote. The vote was yes to purchase the camera.
- Cooks Night Out: The first night out will be on August 16<sup>th</sup> at Yo-Zone. We will need to let them know that we are from St. Stephen's. The committee would like the future Cooks Night Out to be the second week of the month. The funds raised from this are slated for playground enhancement (i.e. rubber mulch, equipment).
- U.S. Cellular: U.S. Cellular will begin this contest in the next few weeks. If parents would like to be a part of this committee, the next meeting will be either August 22 or 23 or they can contact Julie Moritz. Jeanne Johnson recommended that someone from the committee speak at either Back to School Night or at Curriculum Night. It was decided that someone from the committee will speak at Curriculum Night on September 1. Stacey Germany reported that U.S. Cellular will donate \$100,000 to the top school and will donate \$50,000 to the top 2 through 17 schools. The monies would be used for an art department/enhancement program.
- Misc: Mr. Lebeda asked for an officer or officers from H & S to speak at Back to School Night. Someone from Martyr Marathon will speak to the Kindergartners Back to School Night. Stacey Germany reported that a cheat sheet has been created for the Kindergarten parents to provide information. They are also resurrecting the mentoring program for the Kindergarten parents.

Budget Update: Beth S. reported that financially H & S is on target to begin the new school year. She reported that currently there is a surplus of \$15,217.48. There was a request to purchase laptop bags for the teachers. Pam Foral asked for a vote. The vote was yes and passed to purchase the laptop bags.

Next Meeting: 9/8/11 at 6:30 p.m. Hospitality Night, location to be announced.