

St. Thomas School  
Wednesday, November 30, 2016  
Meeting Minutes

Heather Hahn called the meeting to order at 5:35 PM, and we prayed an opening prayer. Eleven members were present.

**Secretary's Report**-- No corrections or questions about the November minutes. Bridgett Bollman moved to approve, and Kristy Geier seconded.

**Treasurer's report**-- showed a budget balance of \$3,036. 78. Expenses were \$338.22. Halloween expenses of face paint and tablecloths had leftovers that can be used later in the year, as needed (face paint for end of the year party). Athletics should be reimbursing PTO for leftover hot dogs. Kristy Geier motioned to approve the report, and Wendy Carmien seconded.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

**1. Weiner Roast**—Saturday worked well. We had a good turn out. Junior High enjoyed being at the cemetery to scare riders on the last hayrack ride. Suggestions for next year, included finding a way to communicate to people when hot dogs are ready and let people know they can cook their own or eat from ones that are cooked. Get volunteers to cook hot dogs (ask on flyer).

**2. Pumpkin Contest**—Ended up letting the students vote instead of staff, and students loved doing this. A visitor from another basketball team suggested letting visitor's vote—have jars and vote with counters, beans, or coins. Other suggestions:

- Use jars where people can't see who is winning (Pringles cans?)
- Do a penny vote and give money to charity
- Have only 3 categories
- Make sure pumpkins are sent in with just the category visible and no names showing (add this to the flyer)

### **NEW BUSINESS**

**1. Teacher Luncheon**—Lois used Sign Up Genie for last luncheon and will use it again for luncheon on February 17. That will be a soup/salad lunch. Add parent conferences dinner/breakfast to the list of provided lunches for next year.

**2. Budget for 2017-2018**—Discussions included: increasing Buddy Lunch and Library Improvements (pizza for students who meet reading requirement for voting on books) each by \$50 due to increased enrollment; increase Catholic Schools Week budget to \$725 for increased enrollment at Skateland; find a way to help buy

teacher's polos (use Book Fair money, take out of Teacher Appreciation Week budget or add line item)—it was decided to leave Book Fair money alone-- \$200=\$20 each for 10 classroom teachers and add a \$260 line item for vouchers for staff members to get \$10 towards any Spiritwear item, including polos=\$10 each for 26 staff members. If staff members do not use the voucher, that money would just stay in the budget.

#### **Summary of changes to Budget**

- Buddy Lunch –Increase to \$150
- Library Improvements—Increase to \$200
- Catholic Schools Week—Increase to \$725
- Add line item “Staff Vouchers for Spiritwear”--\$260

#### **3. Catholic Schools Week—January 29-February 3**

- **Kick Off Event (Saturday)**—Members present voted on movie night versus a dance, and dance won. Lois will contact Diane Ducey about providing music and lighting. Sarah Smith will do a flyer, asking families to bring a snack to share. Have pop and punch to drink. Get volunteers to set up tables/chairs.
- **Teacher Appreciation Day (Tuesday)**—Teachers had lunch/movie from 11:30-1:30. Lois will get volunteers to watch the classrooms (2 per classroom).
- **Parent Preview (Wednesday)**—Open house from 6-7 PM. PTO will provide cookies. Lois will ask for volunteers.
- **Skateland**—Mrs. Doughan has reserved the date and is waiting on prices.
- **Preschool Snack**—Get pizza for the pre-school for lunch, as well as movie/popcorn because they don't get to go to Skateland. Meesha will get or organize getting the food.
- **Parent Speakers at Masses**—Mrs. Doughan asked for volunteers to speak at the Masses the opening weekend of CSW to promote St. Thomas School.

**4. Secret Santa Workshop**—In the past this money (\$700-800) has been used for field trips. This year organizers would like it used to be divided among students so their cost to have lunch at Skateland is reduced. Another bus will also be needed to transport students there. Mrs. Doughan will check on the cost of the bus. Bridgett will check on the cost of Skateland lunches.

**5. Other**—Mrs. Doughan asked about whether anything had been done on parent buddy list. Lois will work on this with Heather.

Could PTO minutes be distributed after meetings so people not attending

can know what's going on? These will go on the website under Current Families or a new PTO tab.

Could childcare be provided during meetings? Wendy will ask if Josie is interested in doing this. Also, look into Junior High helping.

We will try to get the PTO agenda out earlier so people know what will be discussed at meetings.

Have a garage sale in the fall? Will this take away from the Youth Group's garage sale? Lois will check with Father.

**Next meeting**—January 18, 2017 at **5:30 PM** in the library. Sarah Smith motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Jane Rhoton.