

PTO Minutes – 1/18/17

*Call to order by Sharon Orr at 6:09 p.m.

*Opening Prayer by Fr. Albert.

*Treasury and Secretary Reports accepted.

*Principal's Report/Comments

-Catholic Schools Week begins Sunday, January 29th – students to thank Parish at all Masses that weekend.

-Open House at MD School for prospective families 1/29/17 from 12 – 1:30;tours to be given by some students.

-Assembly – teachers voted at last faculty meeting to try to get someone for school;would like it to be science-related.

-CSW schedule of events to go home shortly.

-Junior High dance in MD gym on Friday, January 27th;MD and BS students invited.

-Ann Scott coming next week to see our progress since NEASC last year.

-Mrs. Laura Cannon helping out in school;allowing for teachers to work on their curriculum an hour each week.

-Spelling Bee – March 8th and March 9th at St. Mary's.

-words are challenging

-M & W practices with Mrs. Rex after school;also practicing during lunchtime with some students.

-Question from parent – Is Language Lab being utilized? Mrs. Rex assured those present that Grades 3-8 are utilizing Language Lab. Younger grades are being instructed in language within their classrooms.

-MD Performance Group and 8th Grade students to sing 'God Bless America' on ice at January 28th Thunderbirds Hockey game;Grade 8 pre-selling hockey tickets - \$20.00 for special seating as MD School group;8th Grade to man the 'chuck-a-puck' tables during game, with a portion of sales going back to them.

*Fr. Albert Comments

-apologized for not being able to be at last PTO meeting.

-Thank you for any and all help at Fall Festival;profit approximately \$23,000.

-Parish Offices have moved to Convent.

-Convent Chapel getting new carpeting;will be completed in a few weeks;hopefully teachers will use for Stations of The Cross with classes.

-Mater Dolorosa Church – steeple has significant deterioration since merger;water damage;final report being waited on by Fr. Albert;Diocese will take next step;Bishop has serious concern at this time.

*Old Business

-Approved budget

-Calendar has a deficit of activities.

-Lead in to Sharon contemplating what the PTO's role is? Is PTO still relevant? What can we do to change it? Activities that in the past promoted community spirit within MD School, but not so much now. What do we do?

*New Business

PROPOSAL TO PTO

-Mr. Ben Masse (Grade 8 teacher) and Mrs. Laura Cannon (MD Substitute Teacher and Performance Group Director)

-Proposed a motion for monetary donation to put on a junior version (family friendly) of "Into the Woods" musical.

-Passed out proposal

-MD Performance Group very excited about idea.

-Great way for kids up to 8th grade to know what it's like to be part of an ensemble.

-Excellent way to build community spirit in a new and fresh way with this play.

-Open up for all students from Grades 3-8.

-Asking for monies to pay the copyright fees to be able to put play on.

-Play would be 2 nights – Friday and Saturday nights.

-Lots of parent volunteer opportunities.

-Sharon presented a motion to donate copyright licensing fee up-front;if we as PTO run short on committed funds, then it is understood that some \$ gets paid back if necessary from ticket sales.

- motion seconded;accepted

-Mr. Masse and Mrs. Cannon very excited and thankful.

-Toast to the Future Gala – Nora Moreau

-planning is up and running.

-parents will be asked to donate \$5.00 for a ‘balloon pop’ table.

-Chinese Auction format this time.

-in past years, PTO has donated \$600 to Gala, could we ask same from PTO this year?

-Sharon presented a motion to donate \$100;seconded;accepted.

- Fr. Albert donating balance of \$500 to Gala.

-Thank you

-request from Gala Committee to put word out there about the Gala so it can be a huge success.

-Year End BBQ – Chair?

-Road Race Corral

-Peter Stasz – in charge of crew that parks cars in MD parking lot day of road race.

-Bonnie Brainard – in charge of snack area concession stand again this year.

-Is there anyone we could reach out to organize the Road Race Corral in MD School gym this year?

-Lisa B. in charge in years past – crew usually came in on Friday before to tape off corral area;who will tape off gym this year?;we will try to find someone to coordinate volunteers for this.

-Gingerbread Shoppe

-need more volunteers next year per Bonnie Brainard.

-Bonnie is asking for an interested party to start phasing in as new Gingerbread Shoppe coordinator, as her youngest child will be going into 6th Grade next year.

-This is a great opportunity for a parent/grandparent of a younger student to become familiar with procedures of this fun and time-honored MD School tradition, so that the torch can eventually be passed on.

*Meeting adjourned at 6:57 p.m.

*Next PTO meeting Wednesday, Feb. 15, 2017 at 6 p.m. in MD School cafeteria.

Respectfully submitted by Mary Fedora