St. Catherine of Bologna School
H.S.A. General Meeting Minutes
Minutes of October 21, 2013

Call to Order: 7:35pm
Adjournment: 9:10pm
St. Catherine's Parish Center
Minutes Submitted by Cecilia Cassella

Board Members in Attendance:

Joseph Baranski - Vice President
Cecilia Cassella - Secretary
Gina Leone - Treasurer
Sr. Theresa - Principal
Sean Stoveken- Co- Treasurer

Opening Prayer
H.S.A. Mission Statement
Pledge of Allegiance

Vice-President's Address – Joe Baranski

- Welcome!
- Hand-outs were available: Meeting Agenda, CPR Presentation, Shop With Scrip order forms, Grocery Dollar Order forms, etc.
- Went through the Meeting Agenda Topics!
- **Reminders:**
  - Next H.S.A. General Meeting is on Nov 18, @ 7:30pm, UPC
  - Electronic Communication – Ensure Everyone is Registered!
    - Feedback : After several years of paper through the white envelope, some parents who aren't electronically savvy may take a while to adjust to the electronic communication
  - Volunteers are Needed
    - Chairpersons were given list of volunteers for specific events; Let H.S.A. know if you haven't been contacted
    - Upcoming Events –
      - Tricky Tray – lots of activities for volunteers! Please Help!
      - Family Fun Night Event (Bingo) – Oct 28 @ 6:30- 8:30pm
      - Service Auction – No Chairperson has volunteered to date; Suggestion to have a team in place similar to Tricky Tray. We Need Your Help at this Key Event!

- **Fundraiser Update**
  - Shop With Scrip – please review list of vendors participating –See handouts available at the meeting
  - Grocery Dollar – blue envelopes available as well – serves as order forms that can be completed and sent to school via backpack; can also purchase from school at any time
    - Pathmark has a new program where school can receive 1% credit for purchases
  - Kids Stuff – Sale is Over. Achieved 60% of the goal. Still 29 books are outstanding. Please turn in the books or checks. If books are not turned in, school is charged.
  - Christmas Candy – Brochures were sent in. Start date was 10/8 and ends 10/29.
  - Christmas Raffle – Started October 16th. Winner to be drawn at the Christmas Concert Night
  - Tricky Tray – Julie Sciaino
    - Julie thanked those that brought in their gift baskets / check donations at the meeting. Lots were received at the meeting
    - Winner was drawn for the early givers. Alicia DelSasso won
    - Only 3 ½ weeks left.
    - A parent suggested to advertise the event and the great gifts in Facebook to encourage friends.
    - Wrapping to start in a week – have days / nights schedules.
    - Volunteers are always needed – work in kitchen, 50/50, runners, etc.
    - Solicitor sheets were sent out. If anyone is interested to solicit, please contact Julie.
  - Clothing Drive –
    - Didn't do too well. Slowness may be due to the schedule – it was a long weekend.
    - Request if Jan 3-4 can be moved. Will look into this as this is subject to truck availability
    - No storage available for early clothing drop-offs
  - Box Tops –
    - Amy Poliey announced the winners. Dress Down passes to be awarded to the winners.
      - Gr 1 & 6A – Tie for 3rd Place
      - Gr 2 – 2nd Place
      - Gr. 4 – 1st Place

- **Grant Committee**
  - Thank You and Congratulations to the group of dedicated people that applied for grants. Toshiba is granting $6,647.00 in the form of check for the Hydroponics / Aquaponics Project. A brief description and information regarding this project was read at the meeting.
  - Request was made to put this information in the bulletin

- **H.S.A. Budget Status Update : 2013 – 2014**
  - Still early in the year. Not a lot to report.
  - We have a long way to go...Grocery Dollars, Shop With Scrip, Tricky Tray are big contributors to meeting the goal. Help Spread the Word to friends and families!

Principal's Address- Sr. Theresa

- The Grant was Huge! Committee met for months' on end! Thank you to all your Great Efforts!
- Year of Faith is wrapping up in November, followed by the Advent Season!
- Diocese invites each school to a Nov 19th mass for the Student Council Election by the National Junior Society. 16 seats are available for Grades 5 and up.
- Our school was visited by the Diocesan Superintendent, Dr. Maryann Conway. She sent a nice letter to Sister and gave very positive feedback about the school and was very complementary of the school support.
- Sister met with the First Grade Parents. There's a new grading system that starts for K – Grade 1. Most affected are Grade 1.
  - Diocese recommends 2X instead of 4X report card grading for Kindergarten.
  - 3X instead of 4X for Grade 1
  - No change in the quality of communication with parents and teachers
- Standard-Based Grading System focused on:
  - Beginners / Development / Proficiency / Exceed Expectations.
- Conference Schedules :
  - Gr. K – 8 to be held on November 6 & 7. Working on specific schedules
  - These are about 10-minute conferences. Notify teachers if extended time is needed
  - Gr. K & 1 are not issued report cards, whereas Gr. 2 – 8 will be
  - Half days have been reduced
- Fundraising
  - People are continuously generous!
    - Thank you to all the grandparents who donate their time and assist with office work / files / closet and gym repairs!
    - A generous donation from someone who wish to remain anonymous for a Doll House Gift worth $1200 and took over 800 hours to build. Tickets for $10.00 will be sold at the Tricky Tray. Price to be drawn at the Christmas Concert
- School Update
  - Year is going well! Children are Safe!
  - Many changes in the look of the school classrooms
  - Catholic Schools Week – All are Welcome! Everyone is invited to come and see the STEM Center

- Kids are encouraged to think critically, to learn to collaborate / communicate
- Sister to send the 1st Algebra Students as "emissaries" to the younger kids to emphasize the importance of Math
- There will be a Career Day during the Catholic Schools Week. Please consider to take part and send to Sister if you are interested. This is a Great Opportunity for the children to see people not part of regular school day. Please Come and Visit!
- Don't forget to sign-in: Free Homework Day for the children whose parents are here!
- Thank you!

CPR Presentation – by Melissa Kearney

- Melissa Kearney, the presentor introduced herself
- She provided a very informative presentation and demonstration on CPR, AED, What to do during signs of Choking, Stroke and Heart Attack.
- Hand-outs were available
- Feedback was requested at the end of the session!
- Thank you to Melissa!

Closing Prayer

Adjournment