

St. Anastasia School

PTO Monthly Business Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, January 20, 2010

7:05 PM – 8:00 PM

Parish Hall

Attendance

In attendance at the meeting were Kelly Ritter, Esmeralda Balsz, Carolyn Godlewski, Rosemary Connolly, Nathalie Herbst, Susan Pearson, Traci Thomas, and Elizabeth Warner.

Opening

Board President Carolyn Godlewski opened the meeting with a prayer.

E-scrip Coordinator Sheila Higbie announced the good news that Vons has awarded St. Anastasia a \$1000 bonus for being in the top 250 schools in terms of Vons receipt collection. She reminded parents that Office Depot will apply an entire receipt both to St. Anastasia and to any other school. In other words, you can "double dip" if you have children at two schools. Sheila received a letter from Albertsons that their e-scrip program is ending. They have switched to a gift card program where 5% of the card's value will go to the school.

Agenda Items

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT	Traci Thomas, First Vice President
Catholic Schools' Week begins at St. Anastasia with an Open House on January 31. Students who wear their school uniforms to any Mass the weekend of January 30 th and 31 st will earn a day of free dress day on Monday, February 1 st , in addition to the mis-match day for all students on Thursday, February 4 th .	
Louise Kolesnikow is preparing for the Open House on January 31. There will be a table where Bob Gunnell and St. Anastasia alumni will answer questions of prospective parents. Red, white, and blue balloons will be ordered for the table and other areas around the school.	
Louise Kolesnikow has sent requests in the electronic envelope for parent volunteers for Career Day.	
Traci announced a new chair position under the First Vice President. The school would like to match a newly baptized baby in the parish with a Second Grade student. The Second Grader would write a welcome card to the baby when it is baptized into the parish. The same student as a Third, Fourth, Fifth, and maybe Sixth Grader would write a birthday card a year until the baby entered kindergarten at St. Anastasia. The Board thought a parent with a younger student at the school might be the best fit since the job continues every year, but of course any parent is welcome to volunteer. The goal is to make parish families feel welcome at St. Anastasia School long before their baby hits school age.	

SECOND VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT	Jacque McIntyre-Winston, Second Vice President was absent. Carolyn Godlewski had not yet received the 2 nd Vice President's report but noted that the K-3 talent show and the Christmas program were both huge successes. The Teacher Appreciation Luncheon is Friday, February 5 th .
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THIRD VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT	Susan Pearson, Third Vice President
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Susan has not received the check for the St. Anastasia fundraiser at Rubio's. It should be coming soon. The 8th Grade will be organizing the next three restaurant fundraisers.

The school earned \$1500 on the See's fundraiser between Thanksgiving and Christmas and will hold another See's fundraiser around Easter.

Valerie Guziak organized the Christmas tree and wreath sale. St. Anastasia earned \$750 on the sale (40% of the \$1800 worth of trees and wreaths sold). Parents commented that the trees were beautiful and freshly cut. The sale was easy. Next year the chair thought we should take ownership of the Christmas tree sale, hold it on the grounds of St. Anastasia, and market it as a school event. Other suggestions for a sale next year is to have parents, Seventh Graders, and Eighth Graders earn service hours by manning booths and tying trees to cars. Eighth graders could also sell coffee, hot chocolate and doughnuts at a booth.

St. Anastasia's largest fundraiser, the Parish Ball, will be held Saturday, March 13th, at the Sheraton Gateway Hotel. Gift gathering parties will be hosted by the Wiseman, Roges, Fong, Aguilera, Pearson, and Arambulo families. The Silent Auction Committee reminded parents who have vacation homes and season passes to consider donating tickets to an event or weekend's stay which are usually best sellers at the Silent Auction. Also, parents should consider the professional services they enjoy most and solicit a donation for the school.

DISCUSSION & CONCLUSIONS	
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Some parents have mentioned to Susan Pearson that they felt overwhelmed by the number of sales and collections at St. Anastasia from mid-November until December. The Board decided that the Third and Fourth Vice Presidents will coordinate events so that not too many events requiring donations or cost to the parents fall within a one-month period. Christmas is an especially busy time for parents. The Board will take a look at the calendar and consider what can be moved to a different part of the school year or deleted altogether.

FOURTH VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT	Esmeralda Balsz and Stephanie Nuno
Adopt-a-family was successful again this year thanks to Rose Fissinger	
Therese Guerra organized the students' gift box donations. The goal of these events is to keep students cognizant of the school's mission of service to others.	
Ms. Carter will organize tutoring again for one more trimester on Wednesdays from 3:00 – 3:30, from February 3 rd through March 10 th . It is more of a buddy system for studying where older students help the younger ones with their homework or by reading to them.	

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT	Rosemary Connolly
In association with the Archdiocese of Los Angeles, St. Anastasia is collecting donations of \$1 or more to support the victims of the earthquake in Haiti. The program is called "Hats for Haiti," and students who donate will be allowed to wear a hat to school on Friday, January 29. An anonymous donor has agreed to match donations from all Archdiocesan schools up to \$100,000. Donations will be wired to the Holy Childhood Association for immediate aid to Haitian families. Also, St. Anastasia will be holding a prayer service for the people of Haiti at 11:30 on Friday, January 29.	
Theresa Hoiles alerted the school office that Sports Chalet has requested donations of shoes for Haitians. St. Anastasia will collect new or used shoes until Friday, January 29. They will be sent shortly thereafter to Haiti.	
St. Anastasia is preparing for an excellent Catholic Schools' Week beginning with Open House on January 31 st .	
Congratulations to the Second Graders who made their First Reconciliation on January 21.	

New Business

As part of a larger effort to market St. Anastasia to the parish and community, the school's website will be upgraded, alumni and students will be available at a table during Open House to answer questions about the school, and efforts are being made to reach out to other alumni via the website and social networking sites.

The Board considered inviting a priest, deacon, and/or nun to Career Day to talk to the students about their vocation.

Closing

The meeting was called to an end at 8:00 PM.

Minutes submitted by Kelly M. Ritter.