

PTO MINUTES
September 17, 2008

- I. Call to Open- Meeting began at 7:02 p.m.
 - A. Brenda Harris opened the meeting with a prayer.
 - B. Brenda Harris was approved as a copresident.

- II. Old Business
 - A. May, 2008 minutes were approved and seconded.
 - B. The treasurer's report dated 7/1/08-9/15/08 was approved and seconded.
 - C. Libby reviewed the PTO purchases that were made since the last meeting.
 - D. The job descriptions for Ways and Means and Corresponding Secretary are being worked on.

- III. Committee Reports
 - A. Golf Outing- Another success. We made just under \$8,100. Next outing will be August 21, 2009.
 - B. Market Day- The October special is the pie sale. The chair, Suzanne Buchanan, would like to have a goal of 500 pies. She hopes each family will buy 5 pies. We will make \$3.75 per pie. The November special is cookie dough. The pick up date will be the Wednesday before Thanksgiving. For the month of September, we had a profit of \$344.26 with 49 customers ordering.
 - C. Soup Labels- We will be collecting and clipping on Sept. 30th. Susie Homa needs volunteer bakers. Please contact Susie if you can help. Mrs. Gilfillan has 37,000 points to order PE equipment. New this year- Kroger and Campbell's is teaming up. You will get more information on how to register your Kroger card on line so that Blessed Sacrament will get credit for Campbell's purchases.
 - D. Box Tops- Jean Berry will send baggies of box tops home for volunteers to clip. Please let Jean know if you are interested in helping out.
 - E. Scrip- The \$50 minimum has been dropped. Rebekah Rhode and Libby Kieffer will make a Scrip binder so that there are specific policies in place. This year we wrote the rebate checks to the families. We will be changing the policy. Next year, the checks will be written to Blessed Sacrament School with the family name in the memo line. BP has added a new denomination-- \$250. The \$250 card will be at 3%. Marathon cards at \$250 are at 4%.
 - F. Assemblies- The first assembly is Monday, Sept. 22. It will be a storyteller. Two other assemblies are booked- a laser light show and a juggling assembly. It is our year to have the Escape School assembly.
 - G. Red Ribbon Week- This week will be coordinated by Melissa Sage-Bollenbach. She will have activities for each day of the week. The week will be celebrated in October.
 - H. Parent-Teacher Conference Dinner- The PTO will provide the dinner for the teachers.
 - I. Swim Party- We had 67 families attend. It was a cool night, so the number of families was down.
 - J. Fiesta Dinner- Cindy Honegger reported on the dinner. We brought in about \$600 for the PTO and the 8th grade bake sale brought in over \$200. Cindy and Julie Moza will chair it for one more year. About 72 families attended.
 - K. Book Fair- Patty Howard reported on plans for the book fair. Julie Blair and Patty Howard will chair it for one more year and they are looking for new people to learn "the ropes" so that new chairs can be trained for subsequent years. We are upgrading the library lending system. The theme this year will be "Going Safari." Last year we made about \$1,800.
 - L. Bus Trip- Saturday, Nov. 15. Leaving at 7:30 am from BSS parking lot to Chicago. Price is \$35. There are several options for shows, if people are interested.
 - M. Room Parents- All positions are filled.
 - N. New Families- Melissa Kraft has contacted mentor families to work with new families. They had a New Family Coffee earlier in the school year.
 - O. Tool Boxes- We had 72 students use the Tool Box service.

IV. New Business

- A. Check Writing Policy- If you are writing a check made out to PTO, please use the memo line so that the treasurer knows what the check is for. This typically happens with checks made out for Market Day, Tool Box, Book Fair and Scrip.
- B. Volunteer Lists- If you are chairing an event, please keep track of the volunteers that help you with the event. There may be a social event planned later in the year to recognize volunteers.
- C. Donut Sunday- This will occur during the Book Fair on Sunday, Sept. 28th. We need volunteers to help with Donut Sunday.
- D. O&O Article Items- Libby Kieffer will write articles for the PTO column in the O&O.
- E. Catholic Schools Week- There will be no special assembly provided by the PTO during CSW.

V. School Update

- A. Mr. Eckhart's Comments (via Libby)- There will be 10 DVD/VCR put in the classrooms. There will be a new computer server by December. We are taking the Iowa Test of Basic Skills in grades 2-8. Tests will be completed by Sept. 26. The Center for the Prevention of Abuse needs food items. We will be taking up a collection. The class that collects the most will be given a pizza party. The BSS enrollment is 277 with waiting lists in preschool, kindergarten, and 1st grade and one spot in 2nd grade. We have purchased a lot of new playground equipment.
- B. Teacher Comments- The tests are very tough. Do not be surprised if your children's scores have gone down from the scores parents are used to seeing with the Terra Nova.
- C. Fr. Mark- We are collecting money for the Golden Anniversary Campaign. He is hoping each organization can pledge money to the Campaign. This will be discussed at the next PTO board meeting. Regarding the 50th anniversary of the school, we will be having mass from the church into the hall while the church is being renovated. There will be a rededication of the church around Thanksgiving of 2009.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm
Next meeting will be Wednesday, November 19.

Minutes submitted by Susan Rapp