

St. Catherine's High School  
Parent Association Meeting  
July 8, 2015 6:30 – 7:30 pm  
SCHS Alumni House  
MINUTES

In Attendance:

Cara Tullio	Nick Commande	Steve Van Dis	Betty Hunt
Mike DeGuire	Kate O'Brien	Nancy Van Dis	Leslie Hertz
Sharon Shea	Matt Schmidt	Cynde Summers	Michele Cretton
Amy Bigna	Bobbie Schmidt	Jane Clope	

Meeting was called to order at 6:34 pm, beginning with opening prayer.

JUNE 10<sup>TH</sup> MINUTES were not approved. Due to computer issues, minutes will be approved at August meeting. Review and approval will be completed at the August meeting.

INTRO TO BETTY HUNT: St. Catherine's new principal was introduced. Betty shared how she came to her new position as our principal. Today was her fifth day. Betty prefers to be called by her first name.

1. OLD BUSINESS:

- a) DECORATIONS: A group of parents, students decorated the cafeteria in time for 8<sup>th</sup> grade graduation. They were kept up through HS commencement. When needed, Mrs. Mudlaff had students move in/out decorations on school days. Day prior to events, a few parents went in to make sure nothing further needed to be added, fixed, etc.
- b) PRE-PROM, CAFETERIA: It was suggested that the kitchen staff keep to beverages only as students, families attending coronation have already eaten. Discuss with kitchen management, student government rep how to proceed for 2016.
- c) 8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE GRADUATION: Better communication needed. Announcements made day before. More student recognition preferred. 8<sup>th</sup> grade mass early morning. Students participated in roles of mass.
- d) 8<sup>th</sup> GRADE ART SHOW was a success. Next year, better communication needed alerting parents to take artwork home that evening. Many pieces were left behind. No room at school to store these items so they were disposed of. Mr. Merkel and Ms. Aguila hosted the event.

- e) TALENT/VARIETY SHOW – 2 HS, 10 MS students participated. An evening event held in May. Ms. Aguila hosted, potentially Mr. Wisnoski. Suggestions having drama instructor involved to help promote and facilitate. Sharon Shea spoke of her experience starting the show. Sharon passed it on Ms. Aguila.
- f) HS AWARDS NIGHT ASSEMBLY, SIENA CENTER: Cynde Summers suggested having a better system to ensure immediate family has seating. A survey was recommended to identify how many in each family allowing for preparation. Underclassman help set up chairs before and after ceremony. The PA can be assist the graduation faculty in coordinating volunteers.
- g) HS GRADUATION: Commencement speaker was very good. Length of ceremony better (shorter) than years past. Students and parents appreciated having Mr. O'Brien part of the ceremony. They would like to see that continue.
- h) POST-COMMENCEMENT SOCIAL: A different location was suggested including the practice field for next year. Cafeteria was packed. Extremely hot. Consider another location within the building?
- i) JULY 4<sup>th</sup> PARADE: The cheer-pom team will participate this year. It was discussed, for 2016 potentially add a float building team. Having students from all programs including athletes, drama, math/science programs, walking/riding float. Application submission handled by SC admin. Michele Cretton mentioned the Fourth Fest has a how to build a float class in April. A survey of interest was suggested.
- j) PA POSITIONS: Open positions to be posted in upcoming communications.
- k) PARENT DIRECTORY: Requests made to bring back directory. Suggested selling printed format and offering access on website. Permission to distribute info needed. Suggested including tab on registration forms. ACTION: Betty to follow up if this can be done for this year.

## 2. NEW BUSINESS:

- a) HS/MS TEACHER LIAISON: It was suggested that the PA has teacher liaisons for both MS and HS having them share what they need from us. Bobbie Schmidt suggested Mr. Rosales.
- b) STUDENT LIAISON: It was suggested that a HS Student Government representative, ideally with their parent, attend parent association meetings.
- c) WEBSITE TAB FOR PA: It was discussed the PA having it's own tab on the SC website, under "Current Families." Agendas, Minutes and other PA links can be accessible here. ACTION: Michele Cretton will make request to Brendan O'Brien.

3. UPCOMING EVENTS: Michele Cretton had a meeting with Angie Peterson regarding the needs of upcoming admissions events. Details are:
- a) SUN., JUL 26<sup>th</sup> – CLASS OF 2019 WELCOME PICNIC, 6 – 7:30 pm: Upperclassman helpers are coordinated by Admissions. Michele suggested to Angie that a PA hosts a parent social open house take place that same time while students are getting acquainted. Angie to get okay, budget. PA discussed having it off-site, but given the short time span, having it at school will be more conducive. More details from Admissions forthcoming.
  - b) WED., AUG 5<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>TH</sup> GRADE WELCOME PICNIC, 6 – 7:30 pm: Same as Freshman Picnic, upperclassman helpers are coordinated by Admissions, the PA hosts a parent social open house was suggested. More details from Admissions forthcoming.
  - c) WED., AUG 12<sup>th</sup> – ANGEL PREP DAY: Betty Hunt will notify PA if volunteers are needed. PA meeting that evening.
  - d) MON., AUG 17<sup>th</sup> – WALK-THRU DAY, 7:45 – 11 am: Suggested Angel Ambassadors are there to help parents, students get around.
  - e) BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT: Not sure if one is/will be scheduled.
  - f) EMERGENCY CARD/REGISTRATION: Phone campaign may be needed towards the end of July, early August. Spanish speaking volunteer may be needed. Angie to confirm.
  - g) ACTIVITIES CALENDAR: Due out shortly. It was mentioned that in the past, by Memorial Day we knew the next year's schedule. May 27<sup>th</sup> - Last day of school; Graduation June 5<sup>th</sup>
  - h) UNIFORM GIVEAWAY vs SALE: Given the cost, it was suggested by some parents that we have a sale again versus donating their uniform shirts, pants. Michele shared her conversation with Angie Peterson. Because last year's sale happened as few parents selling, many parents trying to buy, and difficult to manage this year it was decided to have a donation. Group decided to revisit this later in the year for next year's agenda.
  - i) UNIFORM SHIRTS: Parents suggested we revisit the Lands End shirts versus other vendors in town to embroider our logo onto less expensive shirts. Also suggested, revisit the LIDS Spiritwear arrangement.
  - j) ANGEL BUDDY FAMILY: It was suggested that we bring back this program. Admissions to report on possibly bringing this back.
  - k) ENROLLMENT QUESTIONS: The group asked, but Betty didn't know the answers -- How many freshman coming in? How many freshman are staying from 8<sup>th</sup> grade?

PA IDEA/SUGGESTION BINDER: Leslie offered to create a binder to keep the list of new ideas, suggested improvements. Who can work on it, give staff a heads up?

Angie Peterson, Admissions Director will attend the August meeting. Her schedule may be limited to 6:30 – 6:50 pm, but will stay longer if possible.

Question for August Meeting: Can we get an update on the Strategic Planning Meetings held earlier this year?

Meeting adjourned at 7:40 pm.

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, August 8, 2015 at 6:30 pm held at the SCHS Alumni House.