

St. Catherine's Parents' Association
August Meeting
August 13, 2015
Alumni Hall

Attendance:

Minutes

- Prayer
- Intros of Attendees at the Meeting
- Review of Meeting Minutes
 - Motion to approve/Approved
- Principal Report – Betty Hunt
 - Thank you to all who came tonight
 - In regards to the Angel Prep Day- Felt as if people were more prepared with their materials
 - More people came to Angel Prep Day
 - Wanted to acknowledge the Dresen Family and their loss.
 - Monday's walk through day will be shortened to accommodate the Funeral Services
- Admissions Report – Angie Peterson
 - Met with some parents earlier in the summer to discuss ways for parents to help the Admissions/Recruiting process
 - Involvement in the 9th and 6th grade summer social was great!
 - Looking to get more help from parents for Events
 - Event are:
 - Open House- October
 - Registration Night (4 nights)
 - Middle School Picnic
 - High School Picnic
 - Walk Thru Day
 - Angel Prep Day—but this isn't an Admission Office event
 - Looking for help to improve events
 - Placement Test
 - Registration Nights
 - Angie explained how her job has changed—much more paperwork, reviewing of transcripts.
 - Department is made up of: Angie: Admissions Process
 - Kory Wandry- Scholarships and Financial Aid Process
 - Brendan O'Brien- Communications
 - If anyone has any questions or has heard rumors – please reach out to Angie directly
 - Questions from the floor: with the positions already maxed out—is there any plan to add another staff?
 - Has been added to the budget process for the past 2 years—has not been approved
 - If approved in this next year, would be looking for a Spanish Speaking person
 - What is our role in the Catholic Grade Schools?
 - Attend their open houses
 - Student Speakers at Parish Masses

- Will the Catholic Grade Schools allow SCHS to come in to recruit?
 - They can connect with 7th and 8th graders
- Didn't St. Cat's give away T-shirts to all grade school kids?
 - This is a budgetary item—decided to only give T-shirts to kids who took the Placement Test
- What is the size of this year's Freshmen Class? 110—last year was 105
- Does the Admissions Office use Students to help out? Yes, they look to the Angel Ambassador club. Would like to get more Middle School students involved in recruitment events as well

- Parents' Association- Event – 6th and 9th Grade Parent Social during the Picnic – Michelle Cretton
 - Pleased with the attendance
 - There was no RSVP- no idea how many would be there
 - 6 Parents' Assoc. reps were there to host
 - Admission Dept sponsored light refreshments
 - Many Parents stayed the whole time
 - 6th grade parents had the most questions
 - Having Theresa Dixon there as a parent and a Middle School teacher was great
 - Casual Q&A session
- Angel Prep Day-
 - 10-12 Volunteers assisted where needed
 - Main role: Directions, be helpful, provide support
 - Event had just happened that day- need to do a debrief on the Volunteers role and how they can be more impactful/helpful
 - Volunteers could take on the easier roles to relieve the teachers
 - Did not lock doors at lunch, had greeters and a waiting space
 - Suggestion to have split shifts so it can run through lunch to accommodate working parents
 - Suggestion to shift hours to later to after work hours to accommodate working parents
 - Question from the floor: What do you do with the kids who didn't pick up?
 - Angie makes calls to those families
 - Can pick up from the office- until school starts
 - Question from the floor: Did anyone have problems with the online forms?
 - Minimal problems—a few with the forms
 - Main office did not communicate that there were computers available to fill out the forms (Athletics)

- Communication Discussion
 - Feedback from meeting attendees that Veritas needs changing
 - Parents' Association looking for a tab on the Saintcats.org website
 - Post Agenda/Notes
 - Upcoming events/speaker
 - Weekly run down format has changed to help divide Middle School info from High School info.
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- Student Directory

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Couldn't get waiver to approve use of family info for a student directory ready by this Angel Prep Day ○ Need to put on calendar to revisit in April 2016 to be included in discussion of materials in packet ○ Discussion from the floor: Couldn't we do a voluntary OPT IN for this now? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Send a survey link to a google doc/form to fill out ▪ Send to all parent email addresses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Uniform Swap/Donation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Parents' Assoc. should be involved/run this event ○ A lot of confusion ○ Cleaned out immediately ○ Lots of pants left- no shirt ○ ACTION ITEM: Revisit in the Spring (2016) to get this more organized and add a Re-sale day for families to sell their own stuff
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Back to School Night <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Do families like this event? ○ Should it be revamped? ○ Purpose: Go through your child's schedule- 10 minute mini classes, meet the teacher, find out expectations, ask Questions ○ Comments from the Floor: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Can be hard if you have multiple kids ▪ Need to have training sessions on Schoology ▪ Explain Power School ▪ Need to have training sessions on the iPads ▪ Start in Auditorium with Speakers/Intros- then go to classes ▪ Have Clubs/Guidance/Main Office Q&A in the Cafeteria (similar to Open House) ○ Feedback is to keep it the same for 2015 ○ Parents like this event- but shorten the time to 6-7 minutes- many of the teachers don't fill the 10 minute time and it can get late ○ Remind the teachers to provide clear expectations of their class, syllabus, how you use the iPad in that class ○ Needs to be promoted more—attendance has been going down ○ Students need to print out their schedule for their parents
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Activity Calendar <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ When will it be completed? ○ When can we expect it? ○ Principal Betty Hunt said she will move this higher up on the list
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Goals of this Organization—Involvement and Communication of Parents <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Principal Betty Hunt will attend these meetings- she will come to communicate and be our voice to the school administration ○ Invite staff members to come to these meetings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Be clear with expectations of why we are inviting them ▪ Set up a calendar of when certain teachers will come—promote those teachers and topics ○ A place to present questions and clarify information- be the ambassadors for the parents <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Questions on the Service hours was a topic

- Questions on Athletics- Can you fundraise? The Lids Program? Spirit Wear?
 - Have the Athletic Director attend soon- lots of questions
 - Questions on Fundraiser-
 - Have Tim Weiss- VP of Development come to talk about the Fundraising Calendar and expectations.
 - This group won't be able to fundraise
- This group will have a teacher liason
- This group is to make sure the Middle School parents have a voice too
 - Issues/Discussions/Topics related to MS families

- Parents' Association Bylaws and Officers Approval
 - The Parents' Association needs to have Bylaws and Officers to be covered by the Corporation Board Insurance
 - Bylaws are from the original Parents' Association (circa 90's)
 - These Bylaws were edited by the Corporation Board
 - Mission Statement of Organization- voted and approved by attendees at the meeting
 - Bylaws were voted and approved by attendees at the meeting
 - Bylaws will be attached to the August Minutes
- Officers of the 2015-16 Parents' Association –
 - Chair- Leslie Hertz
 - Vice Chair- Michelle Cretton
 - Middle School Vice Chair- OPEN
 - Activities Char- Cynde Summers
 - Middle School Activities Chair- Cara DeGuire
 - Secretary- Missy Peterson

Final topics/discussion: Have Middle School Teachers encourage MS families to get involved in Parents' Association.

Invite the Middle School Teacher to come to speak at a meeting

Closing comments: This is a place for parents to get informed and get involved—encourage others to attend these meetings.

Next meeting will be: September, 9 6:30 p.m. SCHS Library