

SJS HSA Meeting

April 11, 2023

Attendance Report:

HSA Board Present: 4

SJS Administration Present: 0

SJS Faculty/Staff Present: 0

Parents Present: 10

Meeting start time 7:04 PM

- **Opening Prayer-Hail Mary**
- **Thank you, 2nd & 4th grade for hosting March Faculty/Staff lunch!**
 - John & Nicole McKissock donated the food from their restaurant TCB (Tacos, Community & Beer). Check them out in Williamsville & Buffalo!
- **Meat Raffle Recap** – Chair: Katie Fisher
 - Grand Total \$16,659
 - Ideas for next year
 - Sponsors-some families contributed as Gold & Silver Sponsors.
 - Cole Family sponsorship for beer was a huge help. Consider that we may have to pay more in the future.
 - Try and get a better teacher presence next year
 - Faculty/Staff were offered to come as guests this year and just donate a bottle of alcohol for wagon of cheer.
 - Would love to see more next year-any ideas to get more of them in?
 - Improve the check-in process.
 - Getting money counters next year.
 - Awesome to see families, parishioners and alumni come out to support.
- **April Events:**
 - **Fun Friday (4/14)** – All proceeds go to the Sock Hop
 - **Sock Hop (4/29)** – Chairs: Marissa Jones & Jacki Cole
 - Grades K-4th
 - 6pm-8pm
 - Popcorn stand, DJ, favors (sunglasses with SJS on it), balloons
 - **Bowling with the Boys (4/16)** – Chairs: Nicole McKissock & Melissa Beckham
 - Sign up ASAP if you haven't done so!
 - 2 hours of bowling, included pizza and pop

- Chips and snacks in party room
 - Airbrush tattoo artist
 - Water bottles for favors with the SJS Jaguar (extras can be sold in bookstore or gifts for 8th grade or sports)
 - Cookies for dessert
- **Family of Parishes Event – Movie Day (4/30)** – at North Park Theatre. Includes St. John’s, St. Andrew’s, and St. Stephen’s. \$8 per student. Rental cost is \$500. Concessions will be available for additional purchases.
 - Grades 2nd-4th
 - Showing Sonic
 - Doors open at 11:00AM
- **Teacher Appreciation Week (May 1st – 5th)**
 - **Forming a committee of parents**
 - **Amazon Wishlist**
 - Need to reach out to teachers to have them setup.
 - Have them add a note of what is needed the most, what runs out quickly.
 - **Looking to do a theme and have students do small things for their teachers each day.**
 - Bring your teacher a flower day, bring a tool for your teacher to use (marker, pen, etc), teacher’s favorite color day(all kids wear that color)
 - **HSA & PreK 3 will host lunch-Cinco de Mayo!**
 - **\$50 Gift Cards for faculty.**
 - **Spring Apparel Order** – SJS Hoodies, Tie Dye Shirt, & Baseball Cap. Give teachers a voucher to use in this shop on Monday of appreciation week.
 - **Moving Up Day Mass same day as Teacher Appreciation Mass – May 5th**
- **May 17th – SJS Art Show & Spring Concert (Grades PreK3 – 5th)**
 - **Spring Concert** – Disney themed
 - **Basket Raffle Fundraiser** – Chair: Jenn Mergl. Looking for more volunteers!
 - Social with drinks and cookies in the cafeteria- idea to move baskets to library and makerspace due to Afterschool Care in the cafeteria.
 - Hoping funds from this can help with the end of the school year events and gifts.
 - **Monetary contributions** - Each grade already collected money for basket at the beginning of the school year. Encourage grade chairs to follow up with people who have not donated yet.
 - **Art Project Auction**-Hoping to do one art project per grade to auction off. Wooden Buffaloes with a theme and have the kids paint it.
 - We will also ask for Parent donations.
- **Mother’s Day & Father’s Day events** – awaiting details from Administration.

- We asked for it to be during the school day and in small groups. Do a half hour and create something, have muffins or some snack. Still waiting to hear more on it.
 - Maybe do it on a Sunday after 10am Mass.
- **End of Year Events!**
 - **Field Day & Hot Dog Lunch** – June 12th – Chair: Tracy Hadden(Field Day) & Angel Panowicz (Hot Dog Lunch)
 - Field Day is about \$1000, Hot dog cookout is about \$1000
 - We don't know too many details because it is during the school day.
 - **End of Year Party/Color Run/Adult Cornhole** – June 15th
 - Incorporate color run, just for fun, no cost. Have 2 start times, kids wear white. They run the triangle and we throw the colored packets at them.
 - Administration is open to the idea of working with Apex. Doing a color run or dance party (glow party, silent disco, etc). We asked for dates to be picked now for the 2023-2024 school year.
 - They do character building activities with the kids. Need about a 2 week block, but they aren't in the building for the entire two weeks.
 - **Year end gift for faculty, \$100 each.** Milestone and retirement also receive a monetary gift.
- **Financial Report – Jen Baer, Treasurer- \$23,487.84**
- **School Supply Fundraiser – Mary Kate Conrad**
 - This is just an idea. They put together the kits with all school supplies and deliver them to the school directly. Parents can order online. All name brand items.
 - Can be a fundraiser also by tacking a few extra dollars onto the kits.
 - We would have to sign a commitment form.
 - Have an option for a box to send for entire classroom (like glue sticks or pencils)
- **Board of Trustees Meeting**
 - Kristen and Mary Kate went to present about what is going on in the school and voice concerns.
 - Asked where the board gets their scope of what is going on in the school and suggested doing a survey. It seems they are going to do it because it's overdue. Last time one was done was more directed to a COVID time.
 - **Parent:** There is not much information on the Board of Trustees. What is their role in our school and can we have information on who they are and what their purpose is?
- **Spring STREAM Update**
 - Waiting on sign-up so kids can do the competition in May at St. Joe's.
 - If there is a lack of teachers, we are looking to parents to help fill in and run the STREAM clubs.
 - **Parent:** I thought STREAM was coming back in February?
- **Parent Concerns**

- Calendar needs to be updated with more details.
 - Heads up about dress down days, not an email 1-2 days before.
 - Include all events. (HSA events, concerts, dress down days)
- Offer music lessons -Paul (last name?) - want to look into the program that other schools use.
- Looking into Mt. St. Mary Auditorium (or any catholic high school) for our concerts. Look into the cost.
- Have the Athletic Director send all the upcoming dates to Kelly Gotham-Audin so we can get it all posted on social media.
- Do we know the protocol for the lockdown drills?
 - It is set by the Town of Tonawanda Police and all schools in the Ken-Ton area follow it. All schools public and non-public are treated equally with TOT security (visits/interactions with schools).
 - Parents have expressed concerns about the safety of doors and windows of the school. Mary Kate and Kristen explained that this was being addressed by Admin and the parish.
 - **Parent:** This type of information should be communicated to the parents so that we are aware that the security of the building is being addressed.
 - Concern about too many entrances, ex: 3rd-8th grade door on the back. There isn't always a teacher there in the morning. Have a single point of entry.
- Have 8th grade safety patrol to prevent people using the parking lot at the end of day.
 - Katie Fisher has access to high visibility vests.
 - Parents expressed concerns that they still see parents/grandparents picking-up in the parking lot.
- Field Trips?
 - Parent asked if there was information on field trips. Other parents stated that they had information from their child's teacher. Direction was given to parents if they haven't heard about your grade field trips, contact your teachers.
 - **Parent:** All we want is advance notice especially since field trips are submitted prior to Christmas.
 - **Parent:** Parents work, and need to request time off. Advanced notice is required.
- Volunteer compensation
 - Can we offer something to increase volunteer participation?
 - Example: Parent chairs an event, knock off \$50 from BEST account balance.
 - Example: Tuition incentive. Sell football tickets and then whoever sells the most is entered into a raffle to get half off tuition.

- **Welcome Crew**
 - Looking to assemble this committee for welcome back events (ice cream social, supply drop off)
- **Gym T-shirts**
 - There is a large t-shirt bill (increase in price due to fabric of shirt and quantity ordered) that needs to be paid. The bill was for 520 t-shirts. We have 300-350 kids at the school.
 - Propose to pay for the number of t-shirts that equal the number of children that were enrolled as of September.
 - Parents that are present support this proposal.
 - Future suggestions
 - Option 1: Pause purchasing shirts for everyone. Hoping to offer a coupon at supply drop off towards the Fall apparel order.
 - Option 2: Children will receive shirts when HSA family dues are paid.
 - Option 3: Receive coupon when HSA family dues are paid.
- **Next HSA Meeting – Thursday, 5/11 in Reina Room**

Meeting end time 8:52 PM