

September 11, 2020 Agenda

Welcome and Opening Prayer

Lindsay, Kerri, Joy and Karen welcomed everyone to the first SPA meeting of the 2020-2021 school year. New this year is the meeting is being offered via Zoom as well as in person. Karen leads in a welcoming prayer.

Introductions

- SPA Board

Introductions made by the board members. Officers serve for a two-year term. The current board members are:

Co-President: Kerri Handren

Co-President: Lindsay Hobart

Treasurer: Joy O'Keefe

Secretary: Karen Johnson

- SMCS parents

Everyone (both in person and via zoom) introduced themselves

General Overview

- What does SPA do?

Lindsay explained that SPA supports the enhancement of education through enrichment programs in all areas of our curriculum, as well as community service and social events. The goal is to create a sense of community and caring between parents, staff, and students while raising funds to support projects and programs that otherwise would not be funded by the current budget.

- 2020-2021 calendar of events

The Calendar of events was reviewed. It was discussed that the current calendar of events was based on a "normal" school year but some events may look different compared to past years. Some events will be modified as needed based on the current environment due to covid-19

- Typical flow of the monthly meeting

The flow of the meeting was described and all attendees were reminded that being a parent or guardian of a student at SMCS were automatically part of SPA. Attendees were encouraged to contact any of the board members with questions or new ideas! SPA board members can be reached via the school directory on the SMCS website or renweb as well as email

(SPA@stmarysmansschool.org)

Budget Overview

- Year by Year Comparison

The budget was reviewed by Joy. The actual 2019-2020 budget was reviewed as well as the estimated budget for 2020-2021. The budget from last year did include a surplus of \$5639 that was carried forward to the current budget. Also reviewed from last year was that yearbooks for all kids and additional teacher bonuses were provided. The school's main fundraiser is the Boosterthon set for October. It was noted that the net estimated amount was less than last year due to potential effects of covid-19. Please see budget for all the data.

Upcoming Events

- Walk to School – 10/2

Marianne Mackinaw (committee chair for this event) stated that the annual walk to school was being pushed off to the spring given the current social distancing restrictions in place. The hope is that in the Spring we can bring back this event in a more normal fashion.

- Parent Social – TBD

At this time no are no definitive plans for a parent social. however options are being reviewed for a safe event.

- Trunk or Treat – 10/24 (rain date 10/25)

Shannon Mason and Kelly Tinkam are chairing this event. They are reviewing ideas for creative and safe ways so we can continue to “trunk or treat” with the SMCS community. If you have any ideas or if you want to help please reach out to them! Attendees of the meeting were in favor of this event continuing to take place to allow our children a safe way to continue to celebrate Halloween.

- Holiday Ideas?/Event suggestions

In past years the Holiday season has been celebrated in a few different ways by SPA. An after-school Christmas Craft has been done in the past. Last year the kids enjoyed being able to shop at our Christmas Market purchasing gifts for their family members and loved ones.

Unfortunately, due to covid-19, neither of these fun events can be held and we are looking for all suggestions and creative ideas for a way to celebrate the holiday season while taking into account the restrictions that are in place. Please reach out to the board with your ideas. We look forward to hearing them!

Fall Fundraiser: Boosterthon Fun Run!

This is SMCS’s big fundraiser of the year. The theme this year is “Sports City”. This will be the third year SMCS has taken part in Boosterthon. In the two previous years a significant amount of money has been raised approx over 22K each year. This money goes towards SPA programming and events such as Trunk or Treat, Field Day, Teacher Appreciation Day (catered lunch and gifts for our teachers), Catholic Schools Week and the Winter Dance. The money also funds additional teacher/staff requests for items that the current school budget cannot accommodate. In past years new Chromebooks were purchased by SPA for the school. Money is also spent on donations both towards our school (gifts for teachers celebrating a special occasion) as well as our community (Mansfield Food Bank). Finally, money raised at the Boosterthon will go towards new initiatives for the school. SPA welcomes and looks forward to all your ideas for ways we can improve our school!

- Important Dates

- Pep Rally – 10/9

The big kick off to the Fun Run!

- Team Days – 10/13-10/20

It was suggested that teacher driven incentives should be more streamlined this year. In past years teachers offered their own classroom specific incentives such as Crazy Hat Day or extra recess.

These incentives were really fun for the kids and a great way to get them more involved. Some teachers offered more incentives than others. Mr. Bourque discussed having grade specific incentives (Preschool-1, 2-5, 6-8) as well as school wide incentives to ensure that all kids get to enjoy these extras while maximizing funds raised! Prizes will not be given out each day as in previous years. They will be given out at the end of the Run all together. A pickup day will be discussed closer to the event.

- Fun Run – 10/21

The actual run will be outside this year and unfortunately no spectators will be allowed.

- Collections – 10/22-10/28

General Overview/Items Discussed

- Tent

Attendees were in favor of looking into purchasing a tent for the school. We discussed that this year it would be beneficial to allow the kids more time to get outdoors even in bad weather. We also discussed that both the school and the Church would benefit from this purchase as it would be able to be used for multiple events such as Field Day and the Church's annual Septemberfest. Christine McQuaid offered to get SPA some prices so we may take the next steps. Thank you, Christine!

- Marketing - Website/Logo/Social media

Dan Dulaski has volunteered to help create a website for SPA. Thank you, Dan! The SPA logo was reviewed and discussions held about updating it. Josh Correia has volunteered to help with this. Thank you, Josh! All designs are welcomed. Please send them to SPA@stmarysmansschool.org.

Social media discussed. There is a parent Facebook page (SMCS Parent Community) as well as class specific pages. Not all classes have one. They are parent driven (started and run by parents) and are an additional resource and great place for parents to connect with other families in your child's class. At the meeting it was discussed organizing a list of these pages to provide to parents so they are aware that they exist. This would be especially helpful to provide over the summer to incoming families. It was also discussed having a representative join each of these pages to better promote SPA events, send reminders, request help for events, etc.

- Mr. Bourque announcements

Mr. Bourque thanked everyone for coming to the meeting!

- Additional discussion

Additional requests for SPA funding included basketball hoops (fixing the ones in place and purchasing new ones). Marianne Mackinaw to get some prices. Thank you, Marianne!