

St. Mary's Home and School Association  
Meeting Minutes  
April 16, 2009

Attendees that signed in: Suzanne Hasiak, Amanda Cervantes, Kellie Kouba, Melissa O'Neill, John Evans, Maureen Sobilo, Randy Schmitz, Cory and Becky Billings, Marlena Leister, Tina Zieno, Andrea Walther, Diana Kepford, Frans Lang, Melissa Renner, Tina Targy, Karen Medrano, Jennifer Krepps, Mary Jo Navarra, Mr. Huben.

**Call to Order**

Following opening prayer, Mary Jo Navarra called the meeting to order.

**Business:**

See attached meeting agenda

**1. Benefit Auction Summary:**

Tina Targy shared that the St. Mary's Benefit Auction was a fun night for all. The estimated profits of the Auction are around \$33,000, but the final numbers are not in. She is looking for co-chairs for next year's event.

Brief budget summary. See attached information sheet. This information will be plugged into the budget form for a more precise summary. The Home and School contributes to the parish budget in which money from the parish goes to tuition assistance for school students, adult education and religious education. Monies are still being deferred, final summary to be submitted at a later date.

Baskets are still available for purchase. They were set up in the gym at 50% off prices or less. If interested in purchasing a basket, please see Tina Targy.

**2. 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Weekend Recap:**

Becky Feagan summarized what a wonderful weekend the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Weekend was with so many in attendance. Sister Joan Miriam was gracious of her time spent back at St. Mary's. Thank you to Mrs. Leister for making sure she was taken care of throughout the weekend. The 12:30 Mass was quite crowded and one of the highlights of the weekend was the play presented by Mrs. Feagan's 4<sup>th</sup> grade class in the gym. Several people are interested in getting copies of the DVD. Would it be possible to sell them as a DVD? Mr. Huben read a thank you card from Sister Joan Miriam.

The Alumni Committee will remain active and is looking to produce a biannual newsletter. They will research future times to have the alumni return to the school such as during Catholic School's Week or keep it the Sunday following the Benefit Auction. Still need to try to capture any past alumni and keep the list up-to-date. For any updates, please contact Susanne Hasiak.

### **3. Jelly Bean Fun Night:**

Jelly Bean Fun Night will be held Monday, May 4<sup>th</sup> from 6:15-8pm in the St. Mary's School gym. Randy Schmitz is still looking for volunteers. A sign up sheet was passed around to obtain parent volunteers. Donations will be collected for the Bellevue Food Pantry.

### **4. Parish Walk in the Park Fundraiser:**

The first all parish fundraiser will be held on Saturday, May 9<sup>th</sup> from 9-11am at Haworth Park. The forms are on the website and were sent in the Wednesday letter. Please consider participating in this healthy all parish event. Obtain sponsors and the money will be dispersed as Father Denny deems necessary.

### **5. Summer Fireworks Stand:**

Kellie Kouba has been working with Regal Fireworks to research the possibility of St. Mary's having a fireworks stand in Bellevue. Stand would run from June 25<sup>th</sup> 2009-July 4<sup>th</sup> 2009. There are different options for the size of the stand. It must be 25 feet from the road, 75 feet from a building and 100 feet from a residential home. We are asking for volunteers to sign up for 3 shifts. Those who sign up and work 3 shifts (at least one of the shifts must be an opening or closing shift) will be exempt from participating in the Fall Fundraiser. Those working the stand must be 16 years of age or older. Kellie is still looking for a location for the stand if anyone has contacts, please let her know. Dean Jungers has land off of Galvin, but there is no cement and if it rains, it could get muddy. Suggested locations: Bellevue University, Leopard Lanes, White House Inn, Skate City, VFW, S.E.S, Computer Cable Connection, La Mesa, Hampton Inn, and Bellevue Memorial Chapel. These places will be contacted for feasibility.

In 2006 and 2007 St. Mary's had worked with Brad Thomas of Hometown Fireworks. Melissa Renner, Melissa McClane and Mr. Huben had worked on this project. In 2007, the profit from the firework stand was \$4,532.48. Mr. Huben thanked Melissa Renner and Melissa McClane for their ground work on the project during the initial years.

### **6. New Principal Search Status:**

Mrs. Sobilo stated that there were nine original applicants. The search committee will be meeting April 18<sup>th</sup> all day to interview the three best candidates. The search committee had the teachers and staff each complete a survey to help direct the search committee on interview questions.

The New Principal Search Committee consisted of the following people: Father Dennis Hanneman, Nyla Cook-co-chairperson, Bob Hasiak (Board of Education), Lynn Trimpey (Finance Committee), Cheryl Shanker (teacher), Randy Schmitz (parent), Maureen Sobilo (teacher), Elizabeth Tomaso (Director of Religious Education) and Dr. Barbara Schweiger (Archdiocesan Catholic School Office).

Hopefully, an announcement will be made by May 1, 2009.

Special thanks to Mr. Huben for his 5 years of service to St. Mary's school. He has done so many wonderful things for St. Mary's school and he will be greatly missed.

### **7. Election of New Officers:**

Mary Jo Navarra read intent to serve statements from the following candidates:

Cheryl Stover-President  
Kellie Kouba-Vice president  
Karen Medrano-Treasurer  
Melissa O'Neill-Secretary

Jennifer Kreps also volunteered to run for president. Elections were held and the following were elected as new officers for the St. Mary's Home and School Association:

Jennifer Kreps: President  
Kellie Kouba: Vice President  
Karen Medrano: Treasurer  
Melissa O'Neill: Secretary  
Cheryl Stover: Grant Coordinator

There was a discussion about adding a position of Volunteer Coordinator. This is still in the consideration process.

A huge thank you to last year's officers who are coming off the board:

John Evans: President  
Mary Jo Navarra: Vice-President  
Frans Lang: Secretary  
Angela Bennett: Treasurer

### **8. Promotion of St. Mary's by Suburban Newspaper:**

Mrs. Feagan has been working with Suburban Newspapers on proofing information for a 12-page supplement all about St. Mary's. This supplement will be distributed to approximately 47,000 households in Gretna, Papillion, LaVista, Bellevue and Offutt. A special thanks to Mrs. Feagan for her work in getting the history of St. Mary's in order. Please save copies of the supplement for the St. Mary's archives.

There is still work to do on the history of St. Mary's. Several previous albums are in the old magnetic albums and the photos need to be removed and placed in photo-safe albums. Need volunteers to go through the albums and try to identify individuals in the photos. Could set up a date/time to do this and involve members of the parish community. Consider a school historian to coordinate these efforts to ensure the past and future of St. Mary's school is documented and archived. Several past 8<sup>th</sup> grade class photos are still missing. We may need to work with the Alumni committee to contact individuals in those classes to try to obtain those portraits or borrow them for scanning.

### **9. Possible Grant Opportunities**

St. Mary's will be submitting a grant to the Midland's Community Foundation for grant monies for a new gym floor, bleachers, new lunchroom tables, updated sound system and

completion of the riser set. The deadline is May 1<sup>st</sup> and award recipients will be notified by May 21<sup>st</sup>. If St. Mary's is chosen this project could be completed over the summer months.

St. Mary's may need to look for other grant opportunities in the community down the road.

**Meeting adjourned**

Minutes respectfully submitted by Melissa O'Neill  
April 22, 2009