



SMCS PTO Meeting Minutes

September 6, 2024

The HUB

1. Call to Order - President started the meeting at 8:09am
 - a. Welcomed 16 members in attendance and one call in
 - b. Open with prayer
 - c. School Mission Statement
2. Minutes
 - a. Review/Approve meeting minutes from 08/13/2024 - Motioned: Theresa Seconded: Kathryn Amended 0 Pass 6 Fail 0 Abstain 0
3. Principal's Report
 - a. Personnel updates/Admin changes: Mrs. Parker Asst Principal and Mrs. Cantu Catholic religion immersion have both been amazing. SMCS hired 10 new faculty employees and currently has 406 students enrolled.
 - b. Fundraising: Saint Mary Impact is well on their way with 62 members, raised \$75K so far with 1 matching donor of up to \$100K, currently sitting at \$150K for future projects.
 - i. current generated ideas for future projects
 1. building maintenance/renovations updates
 2. new campus fence - estimated cost \$180K
 3. new storm windows - estimated cost \$212K
 4. new bus - the 2 older buses will need replacement within 3-5 years
 5. regulation size soccer field
 - ii. Saint Mary Impact's goal is to raise \$250K, if you'd like to become a member please contact Mr. Rodgers, Mrs. White, or Mr. Ryan Montalto. If you have any possible ideas to make SMCS campus better, please share with Mr. Rodgers.
 - c. Liturgical Updates: SMCS will be integrating Spanish in the all school mass. The goal is to have the students recite the Lord's Prayer in Spanish by Oct - they've been practicing after every mass for about 5-10 minutes!
 - d. Future Site Plan: on Thursday, Sep 5th, Mr. Rodgers met with an architect to create a master site plan to ensure SMCS is maximizing utilization space.. The cost will run \$5-10K for the plan, timeline TBD.
 - e. Accreditation visit:: every 7 years, an accreditation team visits the campus to ensure SMCS is meeting past set goals and to set new ones. This year's visit is set for Feb 2025.
 - f. New program/curricular updates:
 - i. K-8 utilizes Sophia Press for Religion
 - ii. Middle School History utilizes Catholic Textbook Project
 - iii. New Reading Program: Read Side by Side
 - g. Enrichment programs:
 - i. Field trip: 8th grade will be heading to Saint Paul Catholic Church in Pensacola on Monday, Sept 9th to listen to Fr. Robert Spitzer's talk *"Why the majority of modern day scientists believe in God."*

- ii. Studio 6twenty5 owner, SMCS Alumni and current parent, has offered to do the Nutcracker Performance in the FWB Auditorium in December for K-8, cost is \$5 per child.
- h. Announcements:
 - i. Monday, Sept 9th early dismissal; Faculty will be working on accreditation
 - ii. Open House is scheduled for Oct. 3rd
- 4. Officers' Reports
 - a. President's Report
 - i. [Teacher Survey results](#) - received 25 responses - thank you teachers!; a link to the results will be posted in the newsletter
 - ii. [Parent Survey ongoing](#) - calling all parents - need more participation. Let your voice be heard!
 - iii. 2024-2025 Proposed Budget - no change
 - b. Vice President's Report
 - i. Ambassador's program
 - c. Treasurer's Report
 - i. The 3rd party risk assessment is a go, the \$3,600 PTO allotted/voted for in May has been taken out
 - ii. IT is working the camera situation - more info to come if funding required
 - d. Secretary's Report
 - i. Childcare - thank you to Ms. Sara and the Saint Mary Parish for working with us. If you plan on attending a monthly meeting and will need childcare during the meeting, please notify a board member at least 3 days in advance so we can ensure proper teacher/child ratio.
 - e. Past President's Report
 - i. Sep Family Spirit Night - still looking for a vendor for Sept
 - 1. future events:
 - a. Oct - looking at Suds N Cinema
 - b. Nov - Fort Sk8 scheduled for Nov 7th; SMCS received notification from Tijuana Flats that we were selected for Nov 6th, looking to push the date to Dec - more details to come
- 5. Committee Reports
 - a. SAC Security Subcommittee – Katie Ryan
 - i. 3rd party risk assessment contract signed, no scheduled date, requested ASAP - total cost \$5,700, PTO paid \$3,600
 - ii. Committee actively working on applying for more security grants
 - iii. Window grant is still pending
 - iv. The school is looking into a Security Officer program to help monitor the campus during school hours, NOT to be confused with the SRO program.
 - v. If you'd like to make a monetary contribution to the school's security efforts, please make sure your donation states for SMCS Security Objectives and 100% will go directly into those funds

Dedicated to Catholic values, Saint Mary Catholic School is a Christ-centered educational community committed to academic excellence, spiritual growth, individual responsibility, and service to others.

- vi. If you have any focus areas/security priorities or ideas you'd like to highlight, please contact Mrs. Katie Ryan
 - b. Spaghetti Dinner – will be on Oct 3rd prior to the Open House.
 - i. the event will take place in the gym, to-go orders will be an option again this year - presale tickets coming soon
 - ii. PTO will be looking for volunteers for Art to Remember options and School merch booth during the event
 - c. Art to Remember - Students are working on their art and will be sent back to the company on Sept 24th
 - d. Teacher workday Oct 14th - Cindy is working a game plan to show how much we appreciate our teachers - more details to come soon
 - e. Halloween & All Souls Day - Brandee & Ruby this year's event will be Track or Treat with a twist! Looking to tie in all 3 holidays - All Hallow's Eve, All Saints Day and All Souls Day with some Saint centric/Catholic theme tables and activities, PTO is also going to request event take place in the gym - be on the lookout for the volunteer sign up list!
6. Unfinished (old) Business
- a. Bylaw review - link will be sent out for review, please submit comments to PTO or bring them to October's meeting – will vote for approval then.
 - b. School merch website sale - expect a link to be sent out soon!
7. New Business
- a. In need of Class Reps - all classes, but 6th grade & Kinder needed - PTO plans to ask teachers to send out a request on Dojo, if you're interested please contact your child's teacher!
 - i. Committee Chairs - still looking for a lead for the Holiday Bazaar/Breakfast with Saint Nick event tentatively scheduled for the first weekend in Dec - please contact any PTO board member if interested.
 - ii. Ambassador Family Volunteers - please contact Miranda if interested
 - b. Volunteers for Merchandise booth on Sep 11 - if you'd like to help out, please meet near the tennis courts at 4pm
 - c. Action items for vote
 - i. Next quarter's family night - pending parent survey results, voting moved to Oct meeting
 - ii. Funding Request: PTO Marketing Items - \$310 Motioned: Brandee Seconded: April Yes 13 No 1 Abstain 0
 - iii. Funding Request: New Water Bottle Filler in Lower Wing - \$2,000 - voting did not take place, it was highlighted that the school will more than likely need to replace plumbing at all water stations on campus. Kristin White suggested this may be a great idea for Saint Mary Impact future project
8. Announcements
- a. Cafeteria Volunteers are needed, please use signup link emailed out Sept 3rd
 - b. Saint Mary's Children & Youth Ministries starts Sept 8th
 - c. Walking With Purpose kicks off Sept 14th

Dedicated to Catholic values, Saint Mary Catholic School is a Christ-centered educational community committed to academic excellence, spiritual growth, individual responsibility, and service to others.

9. Last call/re-attacks

- a. Bake sale during Spaghetti Dinner - years past the 8th grade hosted a dessert table as a fundraiser for their end-of-year class trip; Discussed PTO hosting the bake sale to help fund the Nutcracker performance in Dec.
- b. Breakfast with Saint Nick - last year's chairs mentioned it may not be worth the hassle, pending parent survey results
- c. ****HOT**** Diocese Policy for parent volunteers on campus - Brought forward by Teresa Amato. Ms. Kristin White mentioned that in the Diocesan volunteer policy, to volunteer on campus guardians must have been background checked, submitted fingerprints (cost is \$65), and completed online training courses provided by the Diocese. This impacts all PTO events. More information to come from the school admin.

10. Adjournment - meeting ended at 9:49am