

SPS Home & School Association – General Meeting Minutes (REVISED)

January 17, 2019

9 parents in attendance

Call to order and prayer by Tricia Dever, H&S President, at 7:02 pm.

Review and approval of November 2018 meeting minutes. Renee Murphy made a motion to approve; Abby DeVore seconded. All in favor; motion carries.

Officer Reports

1. President - Mrs. Tricia Dever

The Auction Committee received the following Thank You message from Bill and Pat Peters, our 2018 Auction Honorees.

Dear Christmas Auction Committee,

We thank you so much for choosing us to be your honored guests at the Christmas Auction. It was a beautiful and unforgettable evening!

We were overwhelmed by the gift of the beautiful framed “Papal Blessing”! It is hung in a special place in our home.

Our school and church are truly blessed to have the support of all who worked so hard to make the evening a huge success. Kudos to you!

Thanks again for the special honor. It was a night we will never forget!

Sincerely,

Bill and Pat Peters

Catholic Schools’ Week is coming up, January 27th – February 2nd. There are many recruitment activities during this week. The Preschool & Kindergarten Fair will be held on Tuesday, January 29th. Holy Cross requires one “big” recruitment event per year. This fair does not qualify. There will be an additional event planned for the spring.

EdChoice vouchers are not currently accepted at St. Paul’s. We are the only school within Holy Cross that doesn’t accept vouchers and we will not be accepting them in the 2019-2020 school year. We do provide financial aid through scholarships.

It was announced that St. Louis School is closing (they accept vouchers). **CORRECTION: North Canton/Greentown Intermediate School students are now eligible for EdChoice vouchers. The original minutes erroneously stated that Greentown Intermediate was at risk of closing.**

St. Paul School’s 100th Anniversary – The first day of school at SPS was September 8, 1919. A committee is being formed including parishioners, school families and alumni. **If you are interested in helping, please contact Tricia Dever.** The committee would like to have at least 12 members. It will be a year of celebration!

Father Jay Clarke will be retiring in June 2019. We don't expect to have a new priest until that time. Father King from St. Michael's church is also retiring this year.

Mrs. Dever reviewed **Teacher Wish List Items** for the preschool, kindergarten classrooms and music room. A vote was held later in the meeting approving all requests.

Family Science Night will be held on Thursday, January 31st. **We are still looking for volunteers!**

2018 Auction update – Amazing results! We earned \$105,000! Thank you to everyone that helped with this wonderful event to fund the “extras” that our children enjoy at St. Paul's.

Mrs. Dever shared an email from a grateful parent:

As an extremely grateful parent of St. Paul's, I would like to give a very heartfelt thank you once again to our auction committee for pulling together another unbelievably fabulous night this past November, and for raising \$105,000!!! In addition to that, a very special shout-out goes to our auction chairs. Your countless hours and sleepless nights do not go unnoticed. Your devotion to this event and this school is unparalleled by many. Yet you still carry on with the endless tiny (and not-so-tiny) tasks and details and decisions, because you know in the end that ALL of our kids will reap the benefits. Every student, every parent, every teacher, every volunteer, is a beneficiary of the work you put into this auction, and you deserve a THANK YOU much bigger than we could ever give. But on behalf of everyone who walks through the doors of this school, THANK YOU for making us so proud to call St. Paul's our family.

2. Treasurer – Alan Michel

Mr. Michel reviewed the Home & School Association budget. We have \$58k - \$62k in new project money as a result of our successful auction.

The new **St. Nicholas Shop**, held by the Catholic Identity Committee, was also profitable. Many parents at the meeting commented as to how much their kids enjoyed it.

Old Business

Mrs. Dever mentioned **potential projects using auction funds**, including C Building painting and chairs, fencing by playground, office updates, completion of B Building carpeting, preschool painting, preschool front windows, and bathrooms.

It is unclear as to how certain projects should be funded. It is not Home & School's responsibility to fund capital improvements. The Parish has limited funds for capital improvements. The preschool is a separate entity with its own budget. It would be helpful if the Parish Finance Council could better define funding across the St. Paul entities. We also need to keep school marketing in mind to attract families in the future.

A suggestion was made for new water fountains that have water bottle fillers.

Mrs. Dever suggested quotes be obtained for all suggestions and then we can review and prioritize.

A question was raised about the quality of the sound system in the gymnasium. It is often hard to hear the children. Mrs. Dever explained that the system itself is very good. We could add more ceiling slats to improve the sound. We could also use more microphones. The children may not be using the

microphones properly and the sound board may not be used or not used properly. It would be helpful to train more people to operate the sound board.

“Lock down buckets” in classrooms – Snacks and batteries need to be replaced periodically. Mrs. Giorgia Remark will pursue.

Mrs. Dever shared that she is reviewing various school activity fees & funding from Home & School.

Voting – Renee Murphy made a motion to approve the teacher wish list requests. Giorgia Remark seconded. All in favor; motion carries. Tricia Dever to follow up with teachers.

With no further business, Mrs. Dever adjourned the meeting at 8:15 pm.

Next H&S General Membership Meeting: Wednesday, February 20, 2019 at 7pm