

St. Albert the Great PTO Meeting Minutes September 1, 2020

In attendance: Katie Duckro, Lisa Schlater, Tara Cavo, Jacqueline Reeves, Sara Anderson, Paige Spangler, Liz McCormick, Sherry Gabert, Julie Beck, Ryan Wineberg, Emily Collura

Opening Prayer: Hail Mary

Welcome and Introductions

School Report – Sherry Gabert

- Orientation the week before school started went well and was helpful for the students. Students have all done well for the first several days of school wearing their masks and following the precautions and safety measures in place. Mrs. Gabert reported the students wanted to be safe. Mrs. Spangler reported the second graders had a shaving cream party, which they enjoyed, and the bonus was the shaving cream helped clean the tables!
- The PTO was thanked for the air spaces painted on the playground for mask breaks and other activities. In the cafeteria, students sit every other seat and must wear masks anytime they stand up. Students in preschool and kindergarten eat in their classrooms.
- There are approximately 25 students learning exclusively online. Mrs. Gabert is teaching students in grades 4+, and Mrs. Hankey is teaching students in preschool-4th grade who have chosen this option.
- There are about ten new families enrolled this year. Some potential families who inquired about enrollment were declined for safety reasons. The focus of Fr. Chris and Mrs. Gabert was the safety of students, and there was concern this would be compromised with additional students resulting in larger class sizes.
- The first school Mass of the year is tomorrow. Students will sit in assigned seats with proper spacing, and parents are welcome to attend and sit on the chapel side. Grades 4+ and grades 3 and younger will attend alternating weeks to maximize spacing.
- Julie Beck reported her son enjoyed the orientation this year, and that it made him feel more comfortable with returning to school. A suggestion was to hold orientation every year if possible.
- Mrs. Spangler spoke about the after school program, which is continuing this year. It is held in the church basement and cafeteria, instead of her classroom, to allow for a bigger space. Students sit in every other seat when in the cafeteria, and spend as much time as possible outside. There are around 60 total students, with some being drop-offs on inconsistent days. Each student has his/her own bag of Legos.

Finance Report

- Current balance is \$44,089.79 per the Treasurer's Report.
- The recently approved modified budget (due to Covid) was shared.
- Kroger rewards no longer need to be renewed each year.
- Box Tops is now an app where people can scan their box tops through their phone. Paper Box Tops will no longer be accepted due to Covid.

- A suggestion was given to place the link for Lands End and Amazon Smile fundraisers in the Stag Scene and on social media. The ability to simply click on the link may help streamline the process for enrolling in these programs.

Discussion Items

- *Committee Signups*
The signup list is on the corner of the table. Please sign up to chair a committee or event if you are interested.
- *Gates for Playground*
The cost for installing three gates for the small openings of the playground. Monies for this (\$2000) were allocated for and approved in the 2019-2020 budget.
- *Playground Cleaning*
Lauren Schierlohasked PTO to assist the Parish in paying for cleaning the playground equipment. The cost to have PlayCare clean it is \$525/month, so the Parish decided to keep the cleaning in house, with the custodial staff cleaning the equipment. A question was raised of whether this would need to be paid during the winter months, when the equipment is not used. Lauren will find out the total cost from Tom Hutchinson, the business manager, and the PTO will vote on helping pay a percentage of this total cost instead of a monthly amount.
- *Water Bottle Refill Station*
Discussion was held around helping to cover the cost of installing three touchless water bottle refill stations (one for each floor in the school). These would replace the current drinking fountains, since they are not currently usable. The cost for each is \$1000-1500 per station, not including installation. This would be an involved process, as current pipes do not support these stations. Another option is to have the maintenance staff install less expensive stations, but we need to ensure they are touchless. A question was asked if one station could be installed on a trial basis before installing the others. Lauren will provide information on the model of the proposed station, and PTO will determine whether to cover or supplement the cost.
- *Additional Playground Activities*
Lauren is finishing the play station on the playground Monday. This will include an obstacle course, etc. for additional recess activities.
- *Fall Fundraisers and Events*
 - ✓ **Christmas Tree Sales** – We will need to purchase the trees soon.
 - ✓ **Pie Sales** – Julie will reach out to Lauren Simpson for her contact information for the sales. A suggestion was given to have the pies on the Facebook page, etc. We will need jpgs of each pie for this.
 - ✓ **Fall Walkathon** – We will have the walkathon on October 7 and October 14. These are Wednesdays, so half the school will have Mass and the other half will have their Walkathon. Information for donations to the raffle baskets will be put into the Stag Scene. Students will earn raffle tickets for the baskets based upon the amount of money they raise.

Other Business

- *Spirit Days*

Dates for spirit days will be shared. Some of these will have a \$2 cost which will go to PTO, and the other days students will be asked to bring a canned good.

- *Spirit Wear*

A suggestion was held to purchase sportswear through Deuce in Kettering. They have our logo.

Meeting adjourned at 8:32p.m.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, October 6, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. in the Spirit Center

Respectfully submitted,
Emily Collura