

# ST. CATHERINE'S MONTESSORI PSO

## MINUTES FOR JANUARY 21, 2012

- I. The meeting was called to order at 9:18 am in the school library by Sarah Scherschel, PSO President. Attending the meeting were Rachel Marino, Tanya Massouh, Patty Thessen, Sarah Scherschel, Elaine Wendt, Edith Segovia, Adrian Segovia, Claudia Schnelle, Miguel Contreras, Maria Fajardo, Cory Chavez, and Heather Kendall.

The invocation was given by Sarah Scherschel.

- II. **Treasurer's Report:** Tanya Massouh submitted a report for the period ending January 20, 2012. Her report showed a total of \$10,076.43 in current assets for the PSO, including both the money market and operating accounts. The profit and loss for the period of 9/10/11 – 01/21/12 is \$743.43. Rachel Marino motioned that we accept this report, it was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Claudia Schnelle, and the vote was unanimous to accept.

### III. Committee Reports:

- A. **Garden Guild:** Lucy Randel submitted the report that the AC students dug a swale to spread out some of the very large puddles in the orchard. We will probably dig out a little more in the coming weeks. If you have bags of leaves from your home without lots of other debris and no chemical treated lawn clippings, you can bring them to school and leave near the storage container on the other side of the fence from recycling bin.

Anticipated Saturday planting days for the courtyard are:

Feb. 4 --building 12 garden beds and planting trees and shrubs.

March 3--planting flowers and rain garden plants

Families are welcome for these. If people want to get a reminder or notice of any changes, have them contact Lucy at [gardengirl271@earthlink.net](mailto:gardengirl271@earthlink.net)

Fruit trees need pruning and we are starting this week. Anyone interested should contact Lucy. Experience is helpful, but not required. The schedule is not set yet, but most likely will be Tuesdays and Fridays. We may also have a weekend day for those with experience but unable to come during the week.

We have some citrus that we will plant in late March.

Garden Guild can use more volunteers and someone to help with volunteer coordination. If you have not been getting e-mails, then you are not on garden guild distribution. Contact Lucy to be added.

- B. **Book Club:** Sarah Lewis submitted the report that the next Book Club book is "Playful Parenting" by Lawrence Cohen is the next book up for discussion. Book Club will be held on Tuesday, February 7 at 8:30am at school and at 7 pm at the Lewis home, 12 Pin Oak Estates Drive.

- C. **Parent Speaker Series** Patty Thessen reported the next speaker is Lynn McLean who will discuss “Connecting to your child through play” on Friday, February 10 at 9:00am after the PSO Coffee Social.

#### IV. New Business

- A. **Casa D’Esperanza PJ Tree:** This annual project collects PJs and needed items for the children at Casa D’Esperanza. In past years, there was a parent who coordinated the project. The past two years it was coordinated by Laurie Farris, Director of Admissions. As it really is a family project with parents and children contributing and helping, Rachel Marino motioned that it be added to the PSO committee list and be coordinated by a parent volunteer. Tanya Massouh 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. The vote was unanimous to accept.
- B. **PSO Officers & Chairs for 2012-13:** Sarah Scherschel went through the list of Officer and Committee Chair positions that need to be filled for the 2012-13 school year. Currently the positions that are open are Secretary, Book Club, New Parent Liaison, Garden Guild, Outside Education (need a co-chair), Primary Splash Day, Scholastics, Spring Fling, and Teacher & Staff Appreciation Luncheon. There maybe be some other openings as some current position holders are still discerning whether or not to continue in their role next year. Sarah’s goal is to have the positions for the next school year filled by the end of April. The list is attached to the minutes. Anyone who is interested in filling a position, please contact Sarah.
- C. **Third Speaker & Funding Request for Parent Speaker Series:** Patty Thessen is planning to have a 3<sup>rd</sup> speaker come to the school before the end of the year. She is hoping to book a speaker who can address a topic of interest for parents of older students (LE-AC). She noted that there has been some interest in the topic of how to talk with your children about sex. She is hoping to find a speaker that would be able to have spiritual perspective. She is open to hearing what parents are interested in and recommendations of any speakers that would be of interest. She is seriously looking at booking Susan Blanchard who wrote the book “Say What You See”. She lives in Austin and her presentation would be in line with the final book club selection about staying connected to your child in adolescence. Her speaking fee is \$150 and she would not charge us for travel or lodging.  
  
Patty motioned that we approve an additional \$50 to the Speaker Series budget so that she can approach and book Susan Blanchard. The motion was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Elaine Wendt. The vote was unanimous to approve.
- D. **New Parent Liaison:** Edith Segovia expressed interest in being the New Parent Liaison for 2012-13.

- V. **Meeting Adjournment:** Rachel Marino made a motion to adjourn the meeting, and it was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Claudia Schnelle. The meeting was adjourned at 10:20 am.

**PSO Officers & Committee Chairs (as of 21 Jan 12):**

| <b>Position</b>                 | <b>Current (2011-12)</b>                                  | <b>Incoming (2012-13)</b>      |
|---------------------------------|---|--------------------------------|
| <b>President</b>                | Sarah Scherschel  | TBA                            |
| <b>Vice President</b>           | Cynthia Wilson  | Cynthia Wilson                 |
| <b>Secretary</b>                | Angela Henry  | <b>OPEN</b>                    |
| <b>Treasurer</b>                | Tanya Massouh   | Tanya Massouh                  |
| <b>Room Parent Coordinator</b>  | Rachel Marino   | Rachel Marino                  |
| <b>New Parent Liaison</b>       | Michelle Vinson   | Edith Segovia                  |
| <b>Book Club</b>                | Sarah Lewis   | <b>OPEN</b>                    |
| <b>By-Laws</b>                  | Elizabeth Detweiler                                       | Elizabeth Detweiler            |
| <b>Casa D'Esperanza PJ Tree</b> | N/A   | Rachel Marino                  |
| <b>Fall Festival</b>            | Patricia Esqueda & Martha Reid                            | Martha Reid & Patricia Esqueda |
| <b>Garden Guild</b>             | Lucy Randel   | <b>OPEN</b>                    |
| <b>Magazine Drive</b>           | Darcey Baron  | Darcey Baron                   |
| <b>Newsletter</b>               | Carmen Watrin   | Carmen Watrin                  |
| <b>Outside Education</b>        | Melissa Lopez   | Melissa Lopez & <b>OPEN</b>    |
| <b>Parent Speaker Series</b>    | Patty Thessen   | Patty Thessen                  |
| <b>Primary Splash Day</b>       | Kellye Burke  | <b>OPEN</b>                    |
| <b>Rebates</b>                  | Missy Nichols   | Missy Nichols                  |
| <b>Scholastics</b>              | Claudia Schnelle & Leisa Novak                            | <b>OPEN</b>                    |
| <b>Spring Fling</b>             | Sarah Scherschel & Rachel Marino<br>Leisa Novak (Tie-Dye) | <b>OPEN</b>                    |
| <b>Teacher Appreciation</b>     | Rachel Marino & Michelle Vinson                           | <b>OPEN</b>                    |

If you are interested in volunteering for one of the open slots or would like more information about the position contact Sarah Scherschel at [smootx@sbcglobal.net](mailto:smootx@sbcglobal.net).