

St. Catherine's Montessori PSO

Minutes for September 10, 2011

Attendees:

Sarah Scherschel, Darcey Baron, Craig Scherschel, Sarah Lewis, Claudia Schnelle, Michelle Vinson, Tanya Massouh, Rachel Marino, Ann Williams, Jana Blackburn, Leisa Novak, Carla Deavers, LuAnn Sanchez, Katherine Buchanan, Melissa Nichols, Diana Smith, Monique Ledet, Patricia Esqueda, Meghan Freeman, Kellye Burke, Lucy Randel, Birgit Kamps, Mayra Perez, Heather Kendall, Gwen Phan, Brett Perkison, Michelle Perkison, Edith Napoleon Segovia, Sara Flores, Ana Trevino-Godfrey, Martha Reid, Don Reid, Patty Thessen, Jessica Croyle

Meeting:

Sarah Scherschel called the meeting to order at 9:20am and then gave the invocation.

Financial Update - Tanya Massouh

As of September 9th the PSO has a net income of \$354.46.

Currently the PSO has \$9,687.46.

Motion to approve the minutes was made by Carla Deavers. Monique Ledet second the motion.

Magazine Drive - Darcey Baron

The packets will go out September 12th. There will be 1 per family. She gave a reminder to please ask doctors offices. Renewals that begin to come in can be renewed on the QSP website and there is a link to the site on our SCM webpage. QSP returns 40% of the subscription cost to the school. It's the only PSO fundraiser.

Book Club - Sarah Lewis

This year's book club selections are "Unconditional Parenting" by Alfie Kohn, "Playful Parenting" by Lawrence Cohen, and "Hold on to your Kids" by Gordon Newfeld, PhD and Gabor Mate, MD.

The first book club meeting will be Wednesday, October 12th. The morning session will be at 8:30am at school and the evening session will be held at 7:00pm at Sarah's home. The book is "Unconditional Parenting" by Alfie Kohn.

Garden Guild - Lucy Randel

Lucy provided an update about the work she has been doing in the Orchard and with the classes. She provided information on how parents can get involved. Please contact her if you are interested in helping out with any aspect of the garden work here at SCM.

See attached report.

Parent Education - Patty Thessen

Patty talked briefly about the speakers the PSO would like to bring in to talk about issues surrounding parenting. She asked for anyone with community contacts to let her know and there were a few suggestions made. Patty indicated a fall speaker was being finalized, and that we need to find a speaker for the spring.

The group discussed being flexible with the meeting times and looking at allocating PSO funds for speakers once Patty had an idea of what options were available.

Rebates - Missy Nichols

Missy provided an overview of the different rebate programs at SCM. She encouraged everyone to bring Box Tops, use Marketplace and renew the Kroger Card. Through the month of September, Bouquelle Cleaners is offering a 20% return to the school.

Scholastics - Claudia Schnelle

Claudia let everyone know that the first Scholastics order went out this past week. She encouraged parents to order on-line. She has already had requests for books from the school library. She also thanked Leisa Novak for taking on the pull apart meetings where the packets are collated for distribution to the classes. She and Leisa encouraged anyone who would like to come help to let them know.

Fall Fest - Patricia Esqueda and Martha Reid

Fall Fest will be held October 22nd from 4pm-6:30pm. They asked if the PSO Officers & Committee Chairs would consider bringing desserts like last year and those present agreed. For activities for Fall Fest, the plan is to go simple. They will have a bubble station this year and other activities TBD.

Old Business:**Hospitality Committee**

Sarah S. explained that there was not enough interest in the Hospitality Committee from the community for it to be sustainable, so it was decided the Hospitality Committee would not take formation. Sarah S. also thanked Simone Maher for all of her efforts and research.

New Business:**On a Whim Email Group**

SCM On A Whim is a social email group that will allow parents to send out invitations for coffee, play dates, lunch, etc. This is for social functions only. Currently, Sarah S. is finalizing some of the logistics on Google Groups. The hope is to launch it in the next few weeks and that it will go out to the entire school.

SCM Girl Scout Troop

Leisa Novak is having an informational meeting soon inquiring about interest in having a Girl Scout Troop here at SCM. The date and time of the meeting is TBA.

Meeting Adjournment:

Darcey Baron made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Diana Smith second the motion. Meeting was adjourned at 10:25am.

Garden Guild Report

September 10, 2011

We have been assisting primary guides in salvaging plant material from primary courtyard.

We will help coordinate volunteers for planting and other tasks in primary courtyard after construction is complete.

Thursday mornings we guide AC students in community service related to the orchard and grounds. Other volunteers with Virtus certification are encouraged to join us.

We are continuing to maintain irrigation and improve soil through mulch and sheet mulch.

We plan to have an evening meeting later in September. for anyone interested in working in, or supporting in non-gardening way, school gardens and orchard, possibly September 20.

I want to start a new program called "Coffee Underground." Coffee grounds are an economical (i.e. free) mulch/fertilizer for fruit trees. Parents sign up to go to local Starbucks and request a bag of coffee grounds. They will give you a trash bag full, which can be dropped off at SCM inside gate near recycling bins. Thursday mornings are best since that is our work day, but any time will work.

Lucy Randel