

**Minutes for St. Monica Home and School Association Meeting
November 3rd, 2011**

Attendance: Amy Strother, Maria VanDyke, Joyce Swietlik, Jennifer Deslongchamps, Norma Herbers, Maurita Jasper, Sally Branigan, Natalie Nolan, Maureen Tarantino, Tanya Chick, Holly Strimaitis, Martha Cushman, Betsie Berrien, Ann Pencak, Maureen Tarantino, Julie Spadafora, Tom Mlada, Julie Robinson, Karen Potter

Principal's Report: Julie let us know that report cards are in the process of being printed. Report cards will reflect a rounding up of grades. Anything that is .5 or above will be bumped up to the nearest solid grade. Third grade will now be joining the upper grading scale of ABCDF. Most conference slips have been sent home. There is an issue with upper grade families not participating in the conferences during the two days given. If families cannot come during the slotted times, it is possible that they won't be able to have a conference. It's too difficult for the middle school teachers to all be available for that amount of time. It will be up to the parents to try and work out another time. There will be a meeting with the 7th grade parents to discuss class trip ideas as well as fundraising responsibilities. This will be the last year that St. Monica's 8th grade will be going to South Dakota. A concern about water bottles in the classroom is being discussed. Some teachers allow water bottles and some don't. Julie will follow up and come to a decision on whether students should be able to have them. Finally, accreditation is very much on the front burner. We have teachers visiting other schools to see what is happening in their schools as well.

Treasurer's Report: See separate report submitted by Julie Spadafora

Development Report: Tom reports that now is the big push for Annual Fund. A Thanksgiving card will be going out to all of the babies baptized in the last 4 years at St. Monica's, just to help keep St. Monica's in mind when it's time to choose schools next fall. His office is also working on gathering the information for the Gratitude Report. Tom noted that our enrollment is at about 415.

Home and School Activities:

- a. Scrip: Norma reports that Scrip is 15% ahead of where we were last year at this time. We also welcomed a new family to Scrip this week—never too late ☺
Norma and Jennifer are starting to talk about how the program will be running in the years to come.
- b. Magazine Sales: Martha and Betsie have agreed to run the magazines sales again next year. Yeah! We are looking at figures of \$28,000 gross, \$4000 for online sales with a profit of \$11,800. The Kopp's treats will be done during school time.
- c. Multicultural Arts: The gelato lunch treat was a huge success. The younger grades will be seeing the Skylight Opera performance tomorrow.
- d. School Board: exploring the possibility of using something other than ITBS for mapping our students skills; a new laminator is on the docket for the school; Andrew DeGuire is spearheading the technology committee and they are looking

in to what can be done to bring St. Monica's up to speed with the new technology available for students

e. Christian Formation: There are some changes on the horizon for this committee. We are breaking into new committee positions, some possibilities are hospitality, outreach, small groups and publicity. There is a question on the table as to whether a representative from this group even needs to be on the home and school board.

f. Enrichment: Chess is up and running with 18 members. Tae Kwon Do also starts this month.

g. Athletic Committee: Our prayers are going out to Mark as he recovers from a health scare at the volleyball game last night.

Current/Upcoming Events

a. Auction Dinner Dance: volunteers have all been notified, RSVPs are steadily coming in. Decorations is hard at work planning the space. We're getting ready!

b. Advent Breakfast: invitations have been sent out. Miss Mullaney is creating a new play for this year's breakfast. We have a new caterer this year as well. We'll be planning on lots of middle school students to help with the serving.

c. Christmas Eve Liturgy: We are getting set for this year's Liturgy. Costumes from last year were all stored and are in good shape for this year. Look from more information after these ladies finish the Advent Breakfast!

New Business

a. Schoola-Moola: We were fortunate to have representatives from Schoola-Moola come to our meeting this morning. They reminded us that up to 40% of your order could be donated back to St. Monica's. They are a locally owned and operated company. Please support them! For more info contact Sally Branigan.

Meeting adjourned 9:30 am

Minutes submitted by Joanne Boettinger H&S secretary