

HSA meeting minutes -2/12/2008

Present: 30 parents and staff

1. Opening prayer by Janet Voss.
2. Treasurer's report approved.
3. Minutes of the 11/13/07 meeting were approved. Suggestion was made to get the minutes out to parents sooner than just before the next meeting.
4. Committee reports
 - Kay Blatz reported that the St. Nicholas costume is missing. She asked that we consider setting aside money to purchase one next year if it is not found.
 - Cheryl Ott reported that the Christmas social went well.
 - Apparel committee reported that there were two orders placed this year. There are no plans for another order at this time. We may need someone to help with this committee next year. Interested persons can sign up at the next HSA meeting in April.
 - Mr. Konezke reported that Catholic Schools Week went well. Thank you to all who helped with the activities. There was a comment that the Kiel campus lunch on Friday was not impressive. Friday was not supposed to be the main day, but turned out to be the most popular due to the talent show on the same day. There was also a funeral that day. A quick show of hands determined that most of the parents in attendance would like to have just one special person's day, with one lunch, at one place, along with the mass and talent show. Consider alternating campuses.
 - The winter dance in NH is being planned. There is not a large budget, and most of that was taken up by the DJ. Pizza, orange drink, popcorn and water will be served. Some of these have been donated. HSA will provide a fruit and veggie platter. It will be a family dance. There will be some door prizes. A comment was made that we should be sure the music is appropriate. There is a girls basketball tournament the same day which may hurt attendance. May consider moving it up next year.
 - A question was asked about what to do if the budget will not cover an event. The budget this year was just an estimate. There is some flexibility. Committee members should contact the HSA officers if expenses will go beyond the budget. If an item is within reason it should be OK. Karin Wille noted that some committee members have donated items for events. She asked that these members try to document their expenses so that the correct amount can be budgeted for subsequent years so that future committees will have enough money for their events.
 - Athletic committee brought along sign up sheets for the NH campus basketball tournament. Please sign up for one spot per family. If not enough volunteers, slots will be assigned.
 - Packers fundraising brought in \$25,817.76. Kim and Keith Price will be resigning as coordinators. Replacements are needed ASAP. Info will come home in the white envelope.
 - Kringle sale goes on until the end of the month. There is a \$5,000 goal for this fundraiser. Each family is asked to sell 25 items or donate \$60 per family. Apple pie fundraiser is set for October 10th and 11th, 2008. We will possibly be participating in an in-store pizza sale in spring. Hopefully both the NH and Kiel stores will participate. We would get a percentage of Orv's pizza sales.
 - There was a suggestion to have someone from the diocese help us address the issue of programs to opt out of fundraising. Karin will contact the diocese to see if someone can come to our next meeting. Mr. K does not believe there is anyone who can help us with this specifically. The diocese just makes general recommendations such as doing bigger and fewer fundraisers.

-There was a question as to the forecast of the amount of money needed from next year's fundraisers. Barry Blatz reported that it would be the same or possibly more. \$59,000 is needed from magazine sales, Packers, apple pies, candy bar, pizza, spring carnival and kringle sales. There was a request that the board do some calculations to figure out how much tuition would go up if we did no fundraisers, or fewer fundraisers.

5. There are four home and school association officer positions. Next year Janet Voss will be president, Angie Feider will be past president, Cheryl Ott will continue as secretary/treasurer. The vice president slot will be vacant. We would like nominations to fill this position. Vice president does opening and closing prayer at the meetings, is the contact for committee events and is on the Back to School Bash committee. There are four HSA meetings each year. There are also "pre-meetings" to get ready for them.
6. Until now there has been no formal dress code for Divine Savior. Per Mr. Konetzke, each campus has been operating under its own former dress code. They are similar in that there are no jeans for church, no open toe shoes, nothing sleeveless, etc. Mr Konetzke made the comment that if uniforms are adopted, if we don't have 100% of parents enforcing it, it will become a problem. Another comment was made that children shouldn't be punished for what parents choose to do. "Ballots" were passed out to get a feel for what parents would like for a dress code.
 - First choice – I am in favor of adopting a standardized dress code (uniform) for all students and teachers at Divine Savior.
 - Second choice – I am in favor of a dress code, but would like to see a handbook that clearly defines the appropriate attire for students and teachers.
 - Third choice – I feel that students and teachers should be permitted to wear what they choose.
7. Principal's Report
 - Mr. Konetzke reported that 2/3 of the preregistration forms have been returned. As of right now, 80 students are scheduled to return next year. This information helps for budgeting.
 - Mid quarter reports will be going home this week.
 - Conference slips are due tomorrow. Conferences will take place on 2/27 and 2/28 at the Kiel campus.
 - Grades K-3 will have DIBBLES testing 2/25-2/26.
 - Next year's budget and school calendar are being worked on.
 - Hot lunch ordering for next year has started. Items "left over" from each campus were used up this year, and now the campuses can order as one unit. Therefore, menus should be generally the same for each campus next year.
 - The Divine Savior handbook will go home next Wednesday in the envelope. Parents are asked to sign and return two sheets – a parent agreement form and a technology form. Families will keep their handbooks until their children are done at Divine Savior. They will be updated occasionally by removing old policies and adding new sheets.
 - Building security will be required in order for the school to be accredited. Each building will need to have a secure entrance. When the school day starts, the building will be locked. There will be one visitor's entrance. It will have a camera and electronically controlled buzzer. All other entrances will be locked. Interior cameras will be installed in Kiel. NH already has interior cameras. Quotes are being obtained.
 - A Spanish/art instructor is being considered for one day a week next year.

- Mr. K has asked the bus service to give us a quote to consider our own bus to take our kids home. This would help with organizing dismissal times.
- Tuition assistance will be run through the school next year rather than the parishes.
- There are plans for a new and improved Catholic Schools Week next year.
- Evening appointments were the most popular for first quarter parent-teacher conferences this year. Tuesday and Thursday evenings are being considered for next year – avoiding religious ed on Wednesday night. Book fair will continue.

8. There was a comment that maybe the preschool could be more involved in school activities. They were not involved in the Christmas program this year. They had their own. This led to a long discussion regarding marketing the school. Many good suggestions were made and Karin

Wille, who is on the marketing committee will take these ideas to the committee meeting on Thursday. These included:

- A school brochure – there is one, but limited quantities were printed due to cost, and because we need better pictures of activities for the combined schools – for example –

First Communion. The brochure was available at CSW opening and closing masses. It is also put into baskets given to new parish families. A suggestion was made to put them at city hall and the library. We are all ambassadors. Call a marketing committee member if you want to help distribute brochures.

- ”The Scroll” was put into the bulletins during Catholic Schools Week.

-Letters have been sent to the families of all the religious ed kids and to those baptized at all three parishes.

-There was an ad for Kindergarten screening in the paper last week. A suggestion was made that we get that information to the kids at Chatterbox and KCP.

-There will be a booth at the public school screening in Kiel on 3/11 and 3/12. Mrs. Leschke will be there at least part of the time. Suggestions were made to have a Power Point presentation there, as well as Church directories and pictures of students, so that parents might recognize someone and consider sending their children to DS as well.

-Catholic Schools Week activities were written up in the paper.

-A suggestion was made to send home a note to parents to ask if they would be willing to be ambassadors – someone that a parent could call with questions regarding DS.

-A suggestion was made to have information at the pie stand at the community picnic.

-KCP started a 2 ½ year old preschool. Is this something we could consider to get children into our school earlier?

-The marketing committee is always looking for members. Karin asked that anyone who would like to help out attend the meeting.

9. There was a question regarding music lessons in NH, since the middle school will be moving next year. Mr. K said that we are at the mercy of the public school schedule.

10. Ron Reese gave the BOT report. His outline is attached.

11. Results of the ballot were announced:

- Choice 1 – 2 votes
- Choice 2 – 20 votes
- Choice 3 – 5 votes

12. A suggestion was made that we consider some type of “prize” to get parents to attend HSA meetings – maybe a “traveling trophy” kept by the class with the most parents participating and/or a cash reward for the class to buy a treat.

13. Closing reflection by Janet Voss.

14. Next meeting 4/8/08 in New Holstein, 6:30 pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Cheryl Ott.