

Parents' Council Meeting Minutes
September 9, 2009

Attendees: Jayme Hansen, Katie Franks, Gillian Lederman, Melissa Sears, Amy Lucas, Drew Boster, Richard St. Laurent, Cindy Murray, Kathy Brindle, Anne Goodman, Bindu Alla, Debra Ryan, Stacy Chambers, Beth Heaney, Jacqueline Tome. (apologies for any omissions!)

- Anne Goodman and Kathy Brindle opened the meeting, welcomed everyone and introduced this year's Parents' Council officers. They discussed resources available to parents, including the Parents' Council board in Becherer Hall, the website, and contacts listed in the student-parent handbook. Rick St. Laurent, Headmaster, and Drew Boster, Development Director, both thanked Parents' Council for what we do for the school and the kids.
- The May meeting minutes were approved.
- The budget and treasurers report were discussed and approved. Gillian Lederman asked about the budgeted number for International Food Festival...in the past it was budgeted as an enrichment/break event activity and monies made only covered expenses. Magazine Drive will be reflecting expenses next month, including the payout to QSP, prizes, etc. Jayme Hansen asked for clarification on Fall Funding-Anne Goodman explained that it is an opportunity for our teachers to requests "extras" from Parents' Council that they would like to have in the classrooms.
- The 2009-2010 calendar was discussed with regards to fundraising efforts. The calendar of Parent's Council events was changed from last year to try and spread out events, rather than have so much in the fall semester. It was decided last year meetings will alternate between morning and evening to involve more parents and guardians.
- The summer Art Special Project and Back to School Night updates were given by Kathy Brindle—Martha Licea, who was in charge of these projects, was absent.
 - Art was selected as the recipient department of a \$1000.00 grant from Parents' Council. Mrs. Fellini will use the money for a special silk painting project with the students and wrote a really nice thank you note to P.C.
 - The Back to School Night/BBQ was discussed at length. The format was new this year—in the past these have been two separate events. The general discussion of the event was positive. Some changes need to be put in place for next year. For example, tailoring presentations to the audience at hand, the Parents' Council role needs to be better defined—we need to serve and help more, possibly wear P.C. Volunteer T-Shirts, an agenda needs to be passed out at the beginning-similar to a program, PS-K should be moved to daycare at a specified time. New alums or seniors would be a welcome addition to the speakers for Back to School Night. The format of going to classrooms and open house visits worked out well.
- Stacy Chambers discussed the Magazine Drive which is running until September 15. The grades of Pre-K, sixth and seventh parents are responsible for this event.

As of today, 125 orders have been sold, 20 families have participated equaling \$2900.00 in sales. 98% of the orders are internet, not paper. Stacy has been doing a great job with the e-mail reminders. There will be a drawing at the 9/22/09 assembly where the children can win either a Toys R Us or a Best Buy gift card. Every order placed is a chance to win prizes and online orders equal an entry in the drawing for the kids.

- Book Fair is the next major fundraiser for Parents' Council and will run from October 19-23. The grades responsible for this event are Pre-School, Kindergarten, first and second. The parent organizers for this event are Katie Franks, Kristel Ersan, and Lynn McLaughlin. Katie reported that last fall's sale was super successful, selling almost \$7000.00 in books. One for Books is going to be underwritten by Happy Joes again this year at no charge which benefits Toys for Tots as Scholastic will make a donation to the charity based on our One for Books earnings. Last year we raised \$1800.00 from One for Books, the library gained an additional \$1800.00 in books, and Parents' Council got \$1800.00 more in Scholastic promotions. One for Books starts October 1. There will not be a spring book fair this year.
- Beth Heaney discussed and distributed the new Scrip order forms. Dora Gullickson is the coordinator for Scrip this year. The forms are available on the Rivermont website, on the Parents' Council board, and in front of Becherer Hall and the Mansion. It was discussed that it would be more convenient if parents could use their credit cards for purchases rather than writing a check, especially for vendors that offer larger percentages. This will be discussed with Dora to see if it is logistically possible. Currently, the P.C. treasurer gets billed directly for purchases from GL Scrip.
- Kathy Brindle discussed the Sally Foster gift wrap fundraiser. Lisa Panozzo will be the coordinator for this event again—the date is TBA, but will happen early November and will be online only.
- Kathy discussed Rivermont Wear. She is placing another order today. The order forms are available in the same places as Scrip. Vicki Wallace will be helping Kathy with Rivermont Wear this year.
- The next Parents' Council meeting is scheduled for October 14 at 5:00 p.m. in the cafeteria. Child care will be available.