

# St John the Apostle PTO General Meeting

## MINUTES

NOV 5, 2008 7:00 PM

SJA Gym

MEETING CALLED BY	PTO Executive Board
TYPE OF MEETING	General meeting
FACILITATOR	Karen Fittler, PTO Co-President
NOTE TAKER	Jean Escobar, PTO Secretary
TIMEKEEPER	Jean Escobar, PTO Secretary

All attendees were greeted with a table offering meeting agenda and tickets for the door prize.

### Meeting started at 7:02pm

Opening Prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance were led by 4<sup>th</sup> grader, Nicholas Arnold.

### Agenda topics

WELCOME	Mrs. Fittler welcomed the group and presented the night's agenda.
REVIEW OF MINUTES	Mrs. Escobar offered to read the minutes from the Sept. 2008 meeting. However, a motion to waive the minutes reading was offered by Mrs. Wood and second by Mrs. Rizzo. All in attendance were in favor.
TREASURY REPORT	Mrs. York read the treasury report.
PRINCIPALS'S MESSAGE	<p>Mr. Badali addressed the group with the following updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Two companies have shown an interest in running the program for a school band. However, neither seems to be a good fit and we are still shopping.</li><li>Everyone was reminded that during morning drop off it is important for parents to pull up all the way, drop their child(ren) off, and leave. There is a small window of opportunity to have all students dropped off on time, and following these guidelines will help avoid unnecessary delays. Beginning on 11/06/08, in addition to the main doors, the door on the left side of the building will be open during morning drop off.</li><li>Student enrollment has dropped to 218, but there are a few families showing interest. The best thing that parents can do to help market SJA is to "talk it up" and get the word out that we are here.</li><li>There is a school "report card" available on the school website and in the main office that all families are encouraged to fill out.</li><li>Lastly, Wednesday, November 12<sup>th</sup> there will be an open house held for prospective students.</li></ul>

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS	<p>Mrs. Fittler introduced Vince Kapral and Tony Reade from the Knights of Columbus council which is dedicated to St. John's parish. Mr. Kapral, the Grand Knight of this council, addressed the group and talked a little about what the Knights do for us. Each dollar that the Knights raise goes back to the parish. They stay involved with our school functions (Harvest Fest, Spaghetti Dinner), the Boy Scouts, run the monthly parish breakfasts, and contribute to scholarships for SJA students. They give us an extraordinary amount of their time, and in return ask for our support. In order to continue to be involved at this level, they need the energy and growth of new memberships. If anyone is interested in joining, information is available on the website.</p>
PTO MEMBERSHIP DRIVE	<p>Mrs. York updated everyone on the PTO membership drive. 2<sup>nd</sup> grade was the first class to achieve 100% membership, shortly followed by 6<sup>th</sup> grade. There are many classes that are very close.</p>
HARVEST FEST WRAP UP	<p>Mrs. Thomas told the group about what a great Harvest Fest we had this year. It brought in good money, had great weather, and the inflatables were a big hit. She couldn't say enough about all of the wonderful volunteers that we had, including several confirmations kids. She thanked everyone for all of their help with the class baskets, and advised that baskets raffle tickets sales raised \$1400, just from sales at masses in the weekends before Harvest Fest.</p> <p>Mrs. Thomas also gave everyone a heads up regarding the Holiday Parade at the Beach, which will be held on Saturday, Dec 6<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm. SJA will participate again this year with the support and sponsorship of the Stankus Family. This year's theme is Christmas around the world. More info will be coming home in the communication folders.</p>
FINANCIAL AID	<p>Mr. Sorrentino advised that financial aid applications for next school year must be received by 04/30/09.</p>
MONTE CARLO NIGHT	<p>Mrs. Escobar spoke about Monte Carlo Night, scheduled for Saturday, Feb. 21, 2009. It is a fun filled evening of casino games with "funny money" to gamble with, food, drinks and prizes. More info to following in upcoming months</p>
YEARBOOK PHOTOS	<p>Mrs. Fittler explained that we all have the opportunity to get some of our photos of school events, students, etc.. into the yearbook this year. There is a link on the school website with additional information and instructions.</p>
SCHOOL "REPORT CARD"	<p>Mrs. Fittler advised everyone that the "report cards" are due by Nov. 10<sup>th</sup>.</p>
CRAFT SHOW	<p>Mrs. Diedrich advised everyone that the craft show scheduled for Dec. 6<sup>th</sup> has been tabled for this year. There is the possibility or rescheduling for the spring, or finding another fundraising alternative. Mr. Lombardo suggested that we could combine the craft show with the parish picnic in June.</p>

TALENT/VARIETY SHOW Mrs. Thomas spoke to everyone about the student Variety Show which will be held on Friday, March 6, 2009 at 7:30pm immediately following the 7pm PTO meeting. The great thing about the variety show is that it's all about the kids, and there is lots of great talent in the school. About 4 – 5 volunteers are needed for help behind the scenes. More info to following in upcoming months.

SOUP LABELS / BOX TOPS / FARM FRESH RECEIPTS Mrs. Fittler advised everyone that only the UPC, not the whole label, is needed for the Campbell soup labels. It was also mentioned that Farm Fresh no longer provides the additional receipt (showing the total only) to turn in to the school. The original, detailed receipt can be turned in instead.

DOOR PRIZE Gerald Foster was the winner of a \$50 Toys R Us gift card.

Meeting adjourned at 7:42pm		
NEXT MEETING	January 7, 2009	