



Holy Rosary Catholic School

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PTO Agenda - Tuesday, December 14, 2021.

Attendance:

I. Opening Prayer (From St. Thomas Aquina, patron saint of students):

Give to me, O Lord my God, understanding of You, diligence in seeking You, wisdom in finding You, discourse ever pleasing to You, perseverance in waiting for You, and confidence in finally embracing You. Grant us wisdom and guide our footsteps as we work together to build our school and community.

Amen

- II. Introductions:** Ryan (daughter in pre-k) Sandy Hartenstein, Carina VanPelt, Magali Hernandez, Cheri Grubbe, Hollie Miyasaki, Michelle (Damien in kindergarten)

II. Approval of the Agenda: Cheri motioned that the agenda be approved, Hollie seconded, the motion passed.

III. Principal's Report: (Carina VanPelt)

Kid had a great Advent Live Nativity. Children's Christmas concert will be virtual and posted on Facebook. Emails will be sent for individual classes. Teachers have been given a celebratory Advent calendar with fun activities by the principal to build community. The school has been hosting the second Sunday at the 10 am mass with volunteers running the volunteer positions at school. Children are encouraged to come and wear school uniforms. The next one will be held January 9 at 9:30 am. Non-Catholics are also welcome to join. The school is focusing on making the sacrament of Confession a comfortable experience. Third through sixth graders participate in confession 4 times a year: at the beginning of the year, Advent, Lent, and the end of the school year. Parents are also encouraged to attend Confession with their children and to discuss the importance of this sacrament with their children.

It was suggested that we try to invite others to attend PTO meetings to help increase the number of attendees to help more families feel welcome.

Families will receive the 2022/2023 registration forms in January. Current families have first priority, and open registration begins in February. Many tours have been given, so please register early to make sure you secure your place. Financial assistance is available to families; please reach out to Mrs. VanPelt with questions.

- IV. Treasurer's Report** (Cheryl Grubbe) This month we are up \$400 due to a lag in when fundraisers from the fall are deposited. Panera came in during November, and

withdrawals last month were for school supplies. Mrs. VanPelt asked that when we do a fundraiser, that the amounts be sent to Heather Geib for inclusion in the Panther Pause. Those who run the fundraiser need to be in charge of sending this information to Heather. Thank you information will be sent to Heather to include in the Panther Pause, thanking volunteers and those who went to Barnes and Noble and bought books.

V. Old Business

- A. St Nicholas Day - Children made paper shoes and got a saint card, candy and a stamp. They loved it!
- B. Barnes and Noble- The basket with a teachers wish list was very helpful. Many parents and community members bought books for the teachers. The basket held books that the teachers wanted. The basket emptied, so each teacher got some books. One problem was that the person bought a book for a teacher but didn't know how to get it to the teacher. It would be good to have a clear method of telling others how to donate the books.
- C. Christmas Program - This will be held digitally. Songs will be pre-recorded and posted on Facebook every hour on the day of the event.
- D. Coffee and Donuts - The parish will host celebrations for the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, so the school will not do a social hour on the second Sunday in December.

VII. New Business

- a. Carnival:
 - i. We will celebrate in gym class like last year. We will not hold a larger event during Catholic Schools week as we had in the past. Sandy says we will set up Gaga ball and during PE time the students will have a carnival event that lasts 2-3 weeks. The Preschool and PreK will coordinate with Mrs. Johnson to arrange a time. Gift bags will be held out. Donations will be solicited in the Panther Pause when we return in January.
- b. Valentine breakfast: This has been cancelled.
 - i. The "We love our teachers" potluck lunch will be held on February 14. The last teacher brunch we held was soup and potatoes. If anyone has ideas about what to do that would be great!
- c. Finding speakers for field trip replacement/ extracurricular enrichment: Due to COVID, we are not able to offer as many activities. If anyone can think of someone that might come to the school to offer a presentation that would be great! Magalie has reached out to ISU. Ideally we would offer one per month. Cheri looked into the zoo coming to the school to do an event. The zoo will come, but there is a charge. She will call the zoo to follow up and see what the fee might be. If we don't do the swimming lessons this spring (due to the pool being closed) then that earmarked funds could go there. Carina recommends starting with the free programs. Sandy mentioned that when this was done in the past, Mrs. Johnson organized it for the PreK, Preschool and K. She used her PTO teacher funds to pay for the event. Hollie was asked if Fish and Game do presentations. She answered that yes, they do have some educational programs that she can try to arrange if we are interested. Before the pandemic she was planning on a mountain goat presentation, but that ended up not working out.
- d. Teacher Christmas baskets: The PTO is putting together some Christmas baskets for the teachers Thursday after school. If anyone would like to donate items to help assemble baskets that would be helpful. A note will be put in the Panther Pause.

VIII. Closing Prayer: (Cheryl Grubbe)

During this season of Advent, may we be filled with the wonder of Mary, the obedience of Joseph, the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, the determination of the magi, and the peace of the Christ child. May we, like the shepherds, go forth with joy at the nativity of our Lord.

Amen.