



PTO MEETING MINUTES  
School PTO Monthly Meeting - Online  
Tuesday October 12, 2021 at 8:30 AM

Attendees (virtual): Kerrie Grover, Yue Zhang, Kellye O'Brien, Bryan Belton, Tom Cronin, Katie Smith, Liz Drews, Meredith Mitchell, Mark Sulham, Julie Garcia, Christine Farley, Carrie Powers, Andrea Belton, Angela DeProspo, Mary Marie Barrett, Jennifer Zammit, Pam Baxter, Jenn McGonagle, Maureen Achebe, Holly Hamel, Tom Civitenga, Jill Murphy, Idioma Adeyinka, Lynn's iphone

Meeting was recorded

Secretary – Christine Farley

- Motion to approve minutes from September 2021 PTO meeting – Kellye O'Brien in favor and Tom Cronin seconded the motion.
- 

**Monthly Reports**

EXECUTIVE REPORT – Kellye O'Brien

- *Room parent* lists were finalized and have connected with teachers. Some parent get-togethers are already being planned. The room parents will also help with teacher gifting for Christmas and birthdays.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Bryan Belton

- PTO generated a net income of nearly \$2,300 in September. The highlight was a robust Recycled Uniform sale of \$1450. Since these uniforms are donated, all revenue from these sales flows right to the bottom line. A huge thank you to Jennifer Zammit who has done such a great job organizing this effort.
- Spirit Wear also booked nearly \$1,000 in sales during the month of September. Typically, the proceeds from sales are netted against the cost of inventory, but a lot of the sales so far this year are from selling off inventory from last year that has already been paid for. Thank you to Marie Carroll and Sarah Williams for running such a great operation.
- We have already exceeded our budgeted goals for both Recycled Uniforms and Spirit Wear so we are off to a great start.
- Some additional money for class dues of \$400 trickled in.
- For Athletics, the PTO is subsidizing the expense for an additional coach for the golf program. The Wednesday practice is split between on the course and the practice range. An additional coach was needed to provide on course supervision/instruction. The additional cost was \$575.

- Trunk or Treat chairs had asked for a budget to purchase some supplies and prizes for the games at the event. \$750 was added to the Trunk or Treat Budget.
- A formal vote of the budget for 2021/2022 will occur at the November meeting. Please reach out with any request for any last-minute adjustments.

#### COMMUNICATIONS AND VOLUNTEER FORMS – Yue Zhang and Liz Drews

- 1<sup>st</sup> Newsletter was sent out in September
- Please let us know of any useful information that should be in the next Newsletter.
- Hoping to get the next one out by the end of this week.
- A google form was created to capture a list of people interested in different volunteer opportunities. The form captures email, name, cell phone number, grade of your children, and a list of activities that you would be interested in volunteering for.
- We will ask the room parents to send the link of the google form. It will be in the next newsletter and maybe we can add it to the school's website.

#### Committee Reports

##### TRUNK OR TREAT – Jenn McGonagle, Holly Hamel

- The event will be on Tuesday, October 26<sup>th</sup> from 11:30am to 2:30pm.
- 25 of the 30 Trunk decorating slots have been filled. Two additional game parent volunteer slots have been added to the SignUp Genius. [Sign Up for Trunk or Treat](#)
- A DJ will be there to play music and games.
- Only parents that have volunteered to decorate their trunks or help with the games are allowed on campus.

##### WELLESLEY WONDERFUL PARADE – Kerrie Grover

- The parade was on Sunday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>. The kids wore their SJS uniforms, spirit wear or sports outfits. Great participation and everyone had fun.
- We should do more marketing of SJS with a banner, candy goodie bags with our logo on it.
- Cheer squad should have been with us!
- Kerrie will compile a list of suggestions from other parents so we can have an even better float for the Spring Parade.

##### TREES AND TRIMMINGS – Andrea Belton

- Trees and Trimmings is Saint John School's main annual fundraiser and will be held on December 4<sup>th</sup>, 8:00am-2:00pm
- Request for toy donations or monetary donation to help purchase toys.
  - Need to collect sooner rather than later due to supply this year.
  - An Amazon Wish List will be created
  - A Sign-Up Genius or Google Form will also be created
- Online sales will be available (mid-November) selling greens & mantle pieces, semi-custom wreaths and boxwoods.
- We ordered 150 trees. There will be no pre-sales for the trees.
- Babysitting by the 6<sup>th</sup> graders is still be discussed.
- Need volunteer support for the following areas:
  - Decorating
    - Pick & bow creation pre-event
    - Presale & at event

- Presale staging/fulfillment
- Marketing support
- Onsite logistical planning
- All areas have chairs, so it is a great way to ease in and meet other members of the SJS community.
- An email push will be sent next week highlighting the areas of need.

#### ATHLETICS – Tom Cronin

- Golf
  - Grades 4-6 have had 7 weeks of golf with over 32 hours of golf play each week.
  - Last match will be this Sunday, October 17, 2021. There will be a shotgun start where all groups will tee off at the same time and will finish at the same time. Everyone will congregate by the picnic tables. Snacks and drinks will be provided. Gift card awards for several contests will be provided (closest to the pin, longest drive, etc.)
- Cross Country
  - Last Meet will be this Friday, October 15, 2021 at Elm Bank Reservation, 900 Washington Street, Wellesley, MA.
- Basketball
  - Enrollment has already begun and is up 30%.
  - Five Teams: Grades 1-2 combined, Grade 3-4 Girls, Grade 3-4 Boys, Grade 5-6 Girls, Grade 5-6 Boys.
  - Grade 1-2 team play in the Mount Alvernia League, all other teams in the South Shore CYO League.
  - Ursuline Academy's Varsity Basketball team is hosting a Basketball Clinic for our SJS girls' basketball players in grades 1-6 on 11/13/2021 from 3:30-5pm.
  - Practices have been established:
    - Late Nov-early Dec: first three practices are on Sundays at Wellesley recreation. First practice will be on 11/21, Sunday.
    - Early Dec- mid Feb: Grade 1-2 team- Friday 5-7pm (1st graders 5-6pm, 2nd graders 6-7pm) at St Paul Parish Center.
    - 3-4G Team: Tuesday night 6:15-7:15pm at East Middle School in Natick
    - 3-4B Team: Friday night 4-5pm at Saint Demetrios Church
    - 5-6B Team: Friday night 5-6pm Saint Demetrios Church
    - 5-6G Team: Friday night 6-7pm Saint Demetrios Church
  - On February 6, 2022 there will be a Jamboree for all 5 teams.
  - Masks must be worn by players, coaches and spectators at all times.

#### FAITH ENRICHMENT and COMMUNITY SERVICE – Angela DeProspo

##### *Faith Enrichment* SJS School Liturgies

- Liturgies are calendared for each month this year and are expected to be hosted by different grades as in the past. Families are permitted to attend this year.
- Grades K-6 attend in person, also livestreamed to classrooms and for any families or remote students.
- SJS choir performed at October liturgy and plan to continue in future months.

## SJS-Hosted Sunday Masses

- First SJS-hosted Mass was October 3. Many SJS students attended in uniform and students filled roles as greeters, altar servers and readers. Have been asked to bring up gifts and pass collection baskets at the remaining Masses as well (initially had planned to have any children from the Collaborative for gifts and baskets to keep them involved, but feeling is there are adequate opportunities other weeks and it is a nice way to highlight the school.)
- There is a SignUp Genius for remaining 2021 Masses: [Sign Up for 9am Family Mass](#)
  - November 7
  - December 5
- Plan to circulate via RenWeb and Room Parent/PTO emails, but other ideas for getting the word out? Touch base with grade that is leading that month's Liturgy to keep momentum and encourage those students to participate?

## Reconciliation

- Working with Collaborative staff and Principal Mahoney to offer more opportunities for reconciliation as part of school day (once/month as part of religion class? After Mass?).

## *Community Service*

- Ms. MacDonald is leading Community Service this year. They are keeping it in-house but will need families to help with deliveries, etc., like last year, and appreciate our help communicating initiatives to families via Room Parents.
- Grades are not “owning” projects this year, but Grade 5 and 6 students will be Community Service liaisons, going to each classroom to give info about organizations and why we are supporting them. Flyers created in-house will include ideas to have students more invested, like article and video re: Hurricane Ida and QR codes to video and C2C website.
- First project was dress down day fundraiser for Hurricane Ida relief - raised \$1200.
- This week collecting winter coats and other winter clothes for Cradles 2 Crayons. Schedule for the year was sent in last Friday's Principal Update and is on social media.

## HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE – Katie Smith

- Hospitality had the first *Morning Mingle* on Friday, October 1, which was an opportunity to chat with other parents. *Morning Mingles* will be the First Friday of every month and held outside for as long as possible.
- *Parent Social* – We could not find an outdoor venue for our Fall social so our plan is to help out with the class socials and plan for a Spring Social.
- *New England Catholic Schools Week* – in November.
  - Looking for volunteers to help with a teacher breakfast/lunch. Also, something small for the children (lemon ices were handed out in the past).
- *National Catholic Schools Week* - in February.
  - Looking for volunteers to help plan breakfast items for the week and a teacher lunch. Historically, a pancake breakfast was served to the kids before school started. We need to ask administration on how they feel about that.
- If interested in being part of the Catholic Schools Week Committee please reach out to [pto@saintjohnschool.net](mailto:pto@saintjohnschool.net)

## SPIRIT WEAR – Marie Carroll, Sarah Williams (Kellye reporting)

- Currently selling off remaining inventory at very low prices. Most of the inventory is in smaller sizes.
- Fall order items are out and pre-orders are available. Hoping to have items in by the end of the month.
- Deadline for Spirit Wear for Basketball players is on 10/13/2021.

## RECYCLED UNIFORMS – Jennifer Zammit

- This year there is a permanent collection bin outside Ledyard Street entrance.
- We've had some donations this month, but not a ton. Desperately need Sizes 5-8 (both girls/boys)
- Parents can use the 'back pack system' for deliveries and payment, and can get in touch with Jennifer Zammit via email [jetracy1213@gmail.com](mailto:jetracy1213@gmail.com).

## New Business

### SKI TRIP – Mary Marie Barrett

- The ski trip will be March 11-13, 2022 at the Omni Mount Washington Resort, Bretton Woods.
- Reservations are now open. Call direct 603-278-1000 and reference SJS Ski event for special discounted pricing rate of \$299/night for a Deluxe 2 Queen bed room. First come, first served.
  - UPDATE: All rooms in the room block have been reserved. Mary Marie is working on blocking off some more rooms. Hopefully, they will be discounted too. The discount may not be the same as the original room block rate.
- SJS Family Fun Gala function on Saturday, March 12, 2022 in the Presidential Ballroom with a Buffet Dinner & Music for the kids. (\$75/adult and \$42/child). There is an expectation that if you attend the ski weekend that you will attend the gala function as well.
- Discounted Ski Lift Tickets will also be available for advance purchase. Details to come.
- Parents are encouraged to check their spam email folders for correspondence. Some families did not see the first email blast.

## OPEN DISCUSSION

Meeting adjourned: 9:44 AM

Minutes taken by: Christine Farley