

## PTO Meeting December 10, 2014

The Little Flower School PTO meeting was held in the music room at 5:30 with a pizza lunch provided. Opening prayer was led by Sr. Jean Louise with the meeting conducted by co-presidents, Karla Deplazes and Renae Arnston. Tonia Dosch reviewed the treasurer's report, noting income and expenses for the fundraisers.

### Old Business:

Committee binders will be in the school office for check out. Binders for each committee are asked to have an updated to do list, and an estimated budget. This is very helpful for new committee chair persons and members as a guide for each committee.

Cleaning of the convent was discussed. This spring the sisters will have a list of things that need to be to be done. Sign-ups and work delegation will be determined in the spring.

Tonia Dosch and Mr. Knudson have been working on ideas for the Little Flower School logo. The stationary and donation envelopes will reflect the update. Also donation envelopes will be available in memory or in honor of someone. The envelopes will also be available at the funeral homes.

PTO has contacted the Knights of Columbus about the option of LFS students working together with them a few times a year to serve the pancake breakfast. A letter has been sent to Randy Malo regarding the possibility of working together. PTO will discuss this further as more information is available.

The Silent Auction and supper committee reports that the event went very well. Approximately 300 people attended the Teresa's chicken supper. The silent auction was very successful and raised over \$6000.00 which is almost double from last year. Many good comments were made, as there were some new ideas used this year for the auction layout and the serving line that seemed to work better. Thank you to all for their donations and to those that helped with the event.

The candy sales are going well. Please contact the school office if you want to sell more candy.

The raffle tickets have been sent out to each family. Please work on selling the tickets. There are nice prizes and they are \$10.00 each or 11 tickets for \$100.00. The raffle committee is planning a night to go around and sell. Ideas were discussed for next year, including having the tickets printed earlier and available for community events such as the local craft fair.

### New Business:

The yearbook committee reports that they are using an online option this year as it makes it much more convenient for them to work on the yearbook. Order forms will be sent home and the cost is \$15.00 per yearbook and it will have a laminated cover. Please get the order forms and payment in as soon as possible. A website will be available for teachers, staff, and parents to upload photos. (Please remember to still send photos to Sr. Mary Ruth for the LFS website).

Chromebooks was discussed as a form of web-based learning option for students. More information will be gathered regarding cost, accessibility, and the benefits of use. Further discussion will be had regarding this.

The Boxtops Drive went well and the 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> graders were rewarded with a blizzard treat for the most collected. There are plans to continue with another drive this school year. PTO will be checking into others including My Coke Rewards. Other labels to save include Our Family brand, and Campbell's labels.

The Carnival committee reports that they are planning the event during Catholic Schools Week in January. Many fun games are being planned. Donations are coming in and workers are needed. A signup sheet will be sent out and the committee plans to contact CYO.

There is a charge account at Leever's and should be under PTO committee. Fr. Tom reminded PTO to check what is available at the church first as there is a supply of coffee, lemonade, and paper products that are to be used for church, religious education, and school events.

There will be a committee file box with an assortment of things needed for the fundraisers including tape and scissors. It is planned to keep the banner with the file box. This can be checked out of the school office when needed.

Catholic Schools' week will be in January. A dance is planned for January 30, 2015. Themes and activities are being planned. Further information will be sent home.

Plans for the school Christmas party were discussed as last year they had popcorn and a movie all together in the church basement. Teachers report that they would prefer to have each classroom to have their own Christmas party this year as it works better for the gift exchange. The popcorn and movie may be an activity used at a later time.

The LFS bike marathon was discussed. PTO has decided to no longer provide a percent back to those students that collect money for the school and that it would benefit the school to now eliminate this particular incentive. It was discussed that the children and families would likely still work on pledges and donations as they are rewarded in other ways. Changes will be noted on the updated marathon newsletters.

A Committee member phone list was discussed as some people use their cell phones as their main contact and it is not always available to committee members.

School Board Report: Dr. Smith presented to the board on future strategic planning with vision/goals for the school, and marketing strategies. A survey is being planned.

Fr. Tom reports that Bishop Fulda has marked this as the Year of Marriage and Family. There will be a committee and would like a few people from LFS PTO to work on ideas and events for family oriented activities. The K of C have booklet was sent around with many ideas for these activities and events. Those interested please contact Fr. Tom.

It was discussed that Herberger's has community days and the option of helping sell coupon booklets would be another option as a fund raiser for the school.

Thank you to Mrs. Brossart for teaching the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade class this semester!

The meeting was closed with a prayer.

Thank you for your dedication to Little Lower School!

Respectfully submitted,  
Becky Kraft, LFS PTO Secretary