



ORGANIZATION: St. Mary Hyde Park UNIT: St. Mary PTO		
CONTACT DATE: February 24, 2025		REPORT DATE: 2/24/2025
PARTICIPANTS: Rachael Palermo, Nicole Byerly, Ryan Butt, Kate Harold, Julie Jackson, Jennifer Reed, Maggie Schapman, Katie Barnes, Julie Dorr, Jen Reker-Murphy Megan Martin, Kathryn Balnes, Stephanie Murphy, Sarah Larsen, Kate DeNicola, Molly Painter		CC:
NEXT MEETING: March 31, 2025 @12:15p.m.		REPORT BY: Maggie Schapman
SUBJECT MATTER	ACTION	WHO
President's Report	<p>January Meeting Minutes – Approved (Motion to approve: Nicole Byerly, Second motion: Monica Bowen)</p> <p>Update to January minutes: Nada did not cater the Catholic Schools Week luncheon – Mazunte was used</p> <p>Brief Discussion about Committee Volunteers/Committee General Info.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volunteers sign up to be on PTO committees in the spring; Committee Chairs must be reaching out to all individuals that signed up to be sure volunteers have opportunities to be included and involved • Social events are not fundraisers • Julie Jackson provides homeroom liaisons with clear, consistent information to distribute to families; any PTO asks should go through her <p>Reminder about Post Event Summary</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Committees should be completing these after every event to help with transition planning, volunteer needs, budgeting, etc. • For committees with more than one event per month, one sheet can suffice (TSA Committee) • Template is posted on the PTO page of the school website 	Rachael Palermo

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Treasurer's Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Treasurer and Incoming President will continue to co-sign checks. Ideas for streamlining this process are not feasible at this time. We are at midpoint of fiscal year – if budget updates are needed for committees, please reach out to Ryan, including Room Liaisons 	Ryan Butt
Principal's Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Several interviews currently happening for job openings ○ Finance committee did not approve earlier mentioned job asks; another route is being taken to fill those positions ○ Winter Break was a necessary break for our hardworking teachers and a great way to refresh as we move into the 3rd trimester of school 	Jen Reker-Murphy
Faculty Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Grandparents Day is coming up – Parent Volunteers and 8th graders (Student Council and Tour Guides) are needed to help guide grandparents to homerooms <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Julie will connect with teachers to have student volunteers prepared to help ○ Parent volunteers need class lists to guide grandparents to correct homeroom; Lisa K. provides alphabetical student list <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Rachael made a list of PTO volunteers to be on site to help ○ Grandparents will come to cafeteria and then proceed to homerooms to meet students ○ Attendance for recess monitors has been consistent ○ Thank you TSA for delicious Catholic Schools Week lunch ○ Questions about reimbursement/beginning of the year stipend: PTO will ensure teachers continue to receive reimbursement for supplemental classroom needs (amount not yet determined) and will plan ahead to cover tax issue 	Julie Dorr
Committee Report: Campus Beautification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Natalia is gathering information for a project proposal for the Outdoor Learning space and should have information to share in the next 2-3 weeks. 	Maggie Schapman
Committee Report: Family Art Night	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Theme is “We Are All God’s Children”; projects will be portraits ○ Natalia reported a low count of Art Night volunteers thus far ○ Information to sign up to volunteer will be in the Newsletter this week, as well as emailed via homeroom liaisons ○ Maggie will check in with Natalia after the meeting and email blasts 	Maggie Schapman

Please advise of errors or omissions within 48 hours

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	<p>to be sure the event has adequate volunteers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Family Art Night is Friday, March 28; this year it will not conflict with Little Spikers as volleyball has been moved to Thursdays 	
Committee Report: Passive Fundraisers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Give Back Night at Currito raised \$150 ○ Give Back Night at Skyline Norwood happened over winter break; total money raised has not been determined yet ○ Give back night at Dewey's will be this spring ○ Next year: reach out to Khakis, Buff City Soap for Give Back shopping 	Monica Bowen Nicole Byerly
Committee Report: Gala	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 133 tickets sold to the Gala thus far ○ Please purchase tickets ahead of the event to ensure the committee can properly plan for food and beverages ○ We are in the same ticket purchasing position as last year ○ Helene Sontag spearheading the Sponsorship committee has raised \$23,500 so far ○ Title Sponsorship is still available (5 families can team up! Includes 10 tickets among other incentives) ○ 27 bottles of bourbon collected at Drive By Donation – 50 was the goal; still accepting donations ○ 19 gift cards collected as well as many Silent Raffle Donations – more donations for both wanted! ○ Coozies will be given out for split the pot purchase; drinks will be served in custom cups ○ Spiritwear will be in Claw Game ○ There will be a DJ and dance floor as well as 360 Photo Booth ○ Bowling will be part of one raffle game; the Gala is not a bowling event ○ Parent Liaisons have sent an email to collect items for grade level raffle basket ○ Katie Barnes is organizing Gala volunteers – contact her to help during the event ○ Approx.. \$35k in total donations so far ○ New Families (2025-2026) will be also be invited to attend ○ Event will be listed in the bulletin, social pages, alumni page ○ Auction items can be accessed even if you are not attending via online platform 	Kate Desmond



<p>Committee Report:</p> <p>Evening of Reflection</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Mike Keefe and Kate Harold are co-charing the Evening of Reflection ○ Kate, Rachael, Mike pre-screened “Screenagers” movie over break ○ Event will take place in the Spring as a follow-up to the fall parent book discussion 	<p>Kate Harold</p>
<p>Committee Report:</p> <p>New Family Mentoring and Meetups</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Kathryn is passing her position to Megan Martin ○ Megan is a new SMS parent this year and has perspective of being “new” at our school ○ There will be a new focus on preparing parents for Junior High and for families who enter SMS in grades other than Kindergarten, as well as continued programming for new Kindergarten families ○ The school will be making New Family videos and has asked PTO to partner in development <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Jennifer Reed has been selected by PTO to head this project <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ One video for incoming Kindergarten families and another for new families entering in grades other than Kindergarten ○ PTO will be compiling FAQ pages for kindergarten families, new/transfer families, and junior high families <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Hard copies of this information will be mailed to families for easy reference ○ If you have an FAQ item to address, please contact Jennifer Reed so she can add it to the document ○ There may be an in-person FAQ night; decisions are still being made 	<p>Kathryn Balnes/Megan Martin</p> <p>Jennifer Reed Rachael Palermo</p>

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Committee Report: Playground Monitors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There were more recess slots to fill this year based on addition of new playground and more space to cover during recess • Junior High spots more difficult to find volunteers • This year had a more consistent schedule and schedule changes were well communicated amongst volunteers 	Molly Painter
Committee Report: Public Relations & Social Media	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Nicole will continue to post Gala ticket reminders on social platforms to encourage attendance as well as sponsorship/donations 	Nicole Byerly
Committee Report: Room Parent Liaisons	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ When Committees have items to be included in Parent Liaison email, please send to Julie Jackson ○ Topics included this month: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Junior High Mixer • Mother/Son Bowling • Family Art Night • Gala reminders 	Julie Jackson

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Committee Report: Social	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Events have been well-attended, smooth ○ FDD raised \$5,280 from ticket sales, baskets <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Money raised at social events comes directly back to PTO ○ Fowling Event went well; great feedback from families ○ Mother-Son Bowling 3/30/25 @ Madison Bowl ○ Mother-Daughter event possibly in the works 	Kate DeNicola
Committee Report: Spiritwear	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Megan is planning to have a May Spiritwear sale with uniform items and new Spiritwear items to end out the school year ○ New Spiritwear items will be in the claw machine to win at the Gala ○ Spiritwear website is being updated with new items and new designs for the summer ○ New items will be sold at the Festival in August ○ A Regina Rose t shirt is being designed and will be available on the website 	Jennifer Reed via email update from Megan Schmutte
Committee Report: Teacher & Staff Appreciation (5)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Sarah/Stephanie asked Julie D. for feedback on Amazon Teacher Wishlists; it may be beneficial for Junior High and Elementary to have a different process <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parent feedback in K-3 was positive ○ TSA Recap for Trimesters 1 and 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • September: Welcome Back Breakfast • October: Conference Dinner Catering • November: Thanksgiving Supply Drive • December: Christmas Coffee/Hot Chocolate Bar • January: Catholic Schools Week Lunch Catering • February: "Lucky to Have You" Coffee Truck 	Sarah Larsen & Stephanie Murphy
Committee Report: Walkathon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Date of event is May 16th ○ Maggie has list of required stop signs, vests, water coolers, etc. to be purchased for event ○ Same day as Field Day: how does this change event timing, number of volunteers needs, and logistics? ○ Maggie will connect with JRM to discuss details 	Maggie Schapman

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Upcoming PTO Events

- Friday, Feb 28 Spiritwear Day
- Friday March 7 @ 7 pm: Studio SMS Fundraiser @ Madison Bowl
- Friday, March 14 No School - Teacher In Service
- Tuesday, March 18 Author Sean Cahill visits SMS
- Friday, March 21 Grandparents Day for K-4
- Friday, March 28 Family Art Night
- Next Meeting March 31, 2025