

St. Peter Parent Association Meeting

Wednesday, September 20, 2017

7-8:15pm

St. Peter School Library

Present - Teresa Radcliffe, Krysten Fulcher, Kristi Hanes, Kim Connolly, Jeff Schmidt, Anna Heintz, Robin Oertel, Misty Cooper, Andy Huss, Richelle Peterson, Anna Eberhardt, Rose Carlson, Nadia Roers, Marissa Pitzen, Lori Brandt Hale, Erin Ponsolle, Becky Marquis, Myriam Katty, Patty Harper, Jim Harper, Sharon Abrahamson, Michelle Stark, James Mixon, Michelle Adam, Kateri Trembley, Kim Carroll, Kasi O'Hare, Pam Wagner

Introductions of Parent Association Officers and all the parents

School Year Introduction - Principal Alison Dahlman

New Mission Statement

St. Peter has a new mission statement. It is posted outside all the classroom doors in the school. It is 148 characters so it is not tweetable. Part of the mission statement is on our sign out front of the school. We are creating critical thinkers, virtuous leaders, and living saints.

Critical Thinking example

Critical thinking is to gain wisdom. The 5th-8th grade has a weekly Socratic seminar. The teachers have chosen interesting, challenging texts and it is all printed into a booklet for the students. The students gather and discuss the readings in a group. Principal Dahlman will provide the readings by email for parents to also read and discuss with their children.

Virtuous Leaders example

In the school office, there are forms to nominate others for ROCK (Rock On Character Kids) Awards. At the end of each week, three nominations are drawn. The chosen write their name on the rock and get their picture taken for the school Facebook page. Each month we will focus on a different virtue. This month's virtue is temperance.

Living Saints example

We have added teachers to help at recess. Recess has been understaffed and teachers have been so kind to step up and to help with supervision for the most unstructured (wild, crazy) time of the day. The current recess monitors are thankful for the assistance since teachers have more experience handling larger groups of children.

School Year Theme T-shirts

The year's theme is selected by the current year 8th graders. They are given options and they choose the theme and the school song. This year's theme is "May the Lord Reign forever and ever." It means that God is always in control. Moments of worry can be put into perspective. We are living this theme. We can do simple things to live this theme. All the students were provided with a t-shirt. Each class has a different color. Dark grey T-shirts for adults can be purchased for \$12 if you would like your own. Please see Gina in the office or Principal Dahlman.

More Middle School Students

We would like to see more parents choosing to transfer their middle school children to St. Peter. Please encourage people to come. Ask what kind of environment do you want for your children? We have a good environment here. One family returned to our school because we have such a good environment here. This parish has a gift to offer students and their families. If you are looking for a quick message about our school, Principal Dahlman focuses on the quality of our staff. Our teachers really know how to live the day well together as teachers and students. The teachers all show a great desire to improve things. Mrs. Randall has taught here for 32 years and she is still growing and adapting to changes. Together, our teachers are a good team that works well together with the other teachers and with the students.

New Website

The new website is up, but there are still some issues with it. Some changes that were done early on now have to be redone. Thank you in advance for your patience. If there is something you are unable to find, please contact Gina or Alison and they will help you. The new website was designed with prospective families in mind. It is a tool to encourage people to want to learn more.

A couple of other quick thoughts -

Middle School Pamphlet - possible goal for this year
Mailing list for upcoming middle schoolers - have to pay for

PA Calendar for the upcoming year

We are interested in everyone's ideas for events and/or speakers. Please share your ideas.

Conferences

Conference meals for teachers have been divided up by grades. K-3 will provide meals for the first conferences of the year in October. Grades 4-8 will provide meals at the conferences in March. A sign-up genius email will be sent out to sign up for food and supplies.

Trick or Treat Walk at Casey Lake Park

This is a new event for a few hours (12:30-4:45) on the afternoon of Sat., Oct 21st.. St. Peter will have a table there to hand out candy and small St. Peter flashlights as treats. This is a great opportunity to advertise our great school. We will be looking for people to help with set up, passing out the treats, and clean up. Please consider helping us out by signing up for a shift.

Uniform Exchange in January

This year we are planning to have a mid-year uniform exchange in January. This will be the same day as our school open house during Catholic Schools Week.

Spring Extravaganza is May 4th

More will be planned for this at a later date.

May PA Meeting

We will be creating some plans for summer events like a table at the North St. Paul Car Show.

Gala

This is our largest fundraiser of the year. This event helps pay staff salaries and keeps tuition down besides just being a great time! Dana Alison will be coordinating this event again, but she still needs a lot of help to make this event a success. Specifically, she needs people who are confident and are willing to go places and solicit donations. We are looking for a few big ticket items for the live auction. The Gala will be held Saturday, April 14th. It is a fun community event to raise money for our school. Please plan to come and invite everyone you know!

Chase Away the Snowman 5K

This event is March 10th. The PA does not sponsor this event, but it's still an important community event and another way to help out the school and earn your volunteer hours.

Fall Festival

Any hours spent volunteering at the Fall Festival count as fundraising hours. Every family needs at least 8 of their hours as fundraising hours. Please sign up to help at a shift. Please donate the requested money or bottles. Please do what you can. The church really supports the school a lot so please come to the festival and show your support for the church. It is lots of fun and everyone is invited!

Restaurant Raiders

Our first Restaurant Raiders of the year will be Mon., Oct 16th at Chipotle. Chipotle gives 50% of proceeds back to our school. Increase your participation by purchasing Chipotle gift cards from the Scrip program. The gift cards will be on sale at the All School Mass on Sunday, Oct. 15. You have to get your Scrip gift cards in advance however so plan ahead! We will see you and your family at Chipotle!

Restaurant Raiders is a night that we all have dinner at a restaurant and the restaurant gives a portion of the sales back to our school. It is a great community building event. Kids that come get their names put into a drawing for a Barnes and Noble gift card. We have a goal of one restaurant every month so keep watching for details in the school newsletter.

Scrip Program

Gift cards to various businesses are available in the church office or can be ordered online. The gift cards cost the same amount as what is on the card, but a portion of the money goes to the church. Purchase the gift cards and use them for everyday purchases like groceries and Target (and may other businesses) and help support our church and school. The website for ordering scrip gift cards is shopwithscrip.com. The code is F8E6BF7C75LL

New Priests

Our new priests have a deep love of Christ, our church, and our school. It is unfortunate that they were unable to attend this evening. Please introduce yourselves to them when you see them. None of them has ever been a pastor before so they are adjusting to this new situation. They are all very funny! They will be at the Parent Retreat on Saturday, Sept. 23rd.

School Theme T-shirts for sale

All who attend the meeting were entered into the drawing for a school theme t-shirt. Nadia Roers won the shirt! Hooray Nadia! Those who want a shirt of their own can purchase one for \$12.

Thank you to all who attended the PA Meeting!

It was great to see you all!

We will keep track of your attendance.

Please invite your friends because they are still eligible for the monthly t-shirt/spiritwear drawings!

Next Meeting: Wednesday, November 15, 2017