

SAINT IGNATIUS COLLEGE PREP
Parents' Organization
Minutes of Board Meeting
October 16, 2007

Meeting called to order by Gini Marziani and Greg Wrobel at 6:05 pm., and opened with the Prayer of Generosity of St. Ignatius of Loyola.

Minutes were approved as written for the meeting on August 28, 2007.

I. New Board Member Introductions & Photographs for Website

Photographs will be taken of each group of class representatives for the Parents' Organization website immediately following this meeting.

II. Recent & Upcoming Events

Mini-Class Night turned out well, reported Mary Ellen Prindiville. With reports of the evening still being compiled to turn in at the next meeting. Mary Ellen encouraged all parent class reps. to consult the Parents' Organization's Operating Guide "before" planning their event as there is very useful information recorded from previous years with most questions already answered! Mary Ellen also suggested getting people involved and to plan this event early, since this is one of the first all parent events of the school year with almost 100% turnout. Some comments for next year – no frosting! It was warm in the dining hall and weather is too unpredictable at that time of year. Having said that, the over all food change to "desserts only" was well received. Perhaps the setup can begin earlier as well.

Frosh/Soph Mass is scheduled for Sunday, November 4, 2007. Invitations were sent out. There are just a few questions of concern regarding menu and beverage charges to be discussed with Quest and volunteers are still being recruited. If anyone is interested in helping at this event, please contact the Junior Class Reps.

Open House plans are to send out mailing in late November. At the November meeting, we may put out another call for volunteers depending on what is reported at that time. It would be nice to have a Junior Class Rep shadow for smooth transition next year. We hope all Board members who can will be present as ambassadors of the Parents' Organization.

Auction Volunteer Recruiting is still a priority even though the event is in March. We will recruit at the general meeting later this evening and Kathy Bliss will be available after that meeting to answer any questions a parent may have in regards to volunteering at the Auction.

III. Old Business

Corresponding Functions - A colored post card was sent out to invite all parents to the general meeting. A glitch was noticed when we needed to send an email notifying change of venue for the meeting - this is being sorted out. Parents who did not receive an announcement via email should contact Carol Zellner as she is working on this situation with the school's IT staff.

Parent Email for School Home Room Announcements will be discussed with Dr. Karl at the general meeting.

Website Maintenance will be further updated with photos taken this evening of parent class reps. This is to encourage communication between parents and board. Parents can put a face with a name and the board in turn will be more recognizable for those parents who may have a question/query regarding the school or an event. Also, the organization is always open to suggestions/ideas.

Event Photos – Mary Ellen Prindiville will send Mini Class Night photos to Carol Zellner for posting to the website, and will check with Anne Baker about posting a school map on the website for new parents. This is still a security issue and is more complicated than we think, but being looked into.

Service Projects of the Parents' Organization collecting non-perishable foods at our meetings will continue for **Holy Family Food Pantry** as well as the successful **Mini Class Night Coat Drive**. It's estimated we received nearly double this year!

IV. New Business

Potential New Service Projects – Elizabeth Frith passed out a handout obtained from the Greater Chicago Food Depository which lists agencies who obtain food and other services from them. The list is a starting point which gives Saint Ignatius parents the opportunity to live out the schools mission of being men and woman of service for others.

Perhaps with other parents in your neighborhood or parents of students in your sons/daughters class or for you alone or as a couple you would like to explore the idea of working on a service project. You are encouraged to review the list or go on the website and choose a project of interest and/or bring an idea of one to the Parents' Org. meeting to discuss.

The list is compiled of agencies in every direction of the city and suburbs with varying times of day for parents who work, a variety of services such as help for seniors, the unemployed, shelters for woman, after school cafes for children, food pantries, soup kitchens, agencies that need 1 volunteer to 21 volunteers. The list's contact names, emails and phone numbers do change and are updated on a yearly basis, but addresses for the most part remain the same and would be enough to get one started.

The idea of parents working on service projects together presents a wonderful opportunity to build on our commonality of raising teenagers as well. Sharing tried and true tips regarding college admissions, being reassured you are a “normal” parent, or learning what our sons and daughters are doing before/after a dance are just a few.

Elizabeth will continue to research the idea of parent service projects – whether it be a project that is ongoing or once a week/month/year etc. She welcomes any input and ideas. For any parents interested but not at the meeting, go to GCFD.org for information regarding agencies you can volunteer at.

Anyone is invited to check out some projects already in action. Mondays at St. Procopius, in Pilsen neighborhood, the West Suburban Woman’s group are in their second year of rebuilding the school’s library. Sign in and parking instructions are necessary - must contact Sara Welch (sarajwelch@aol.com) for information. Also, parents can contact Lois Gates for information regarding volunteering at Misceracordia. There is a candy day on Racine and Roosevelt once a year. This is just a few to name. If you are in a group or work for an agency that needs volunteers, please let Elizabeth know.

October General Meeting to follow this evening in the Dining Hall. Board members are encouraged to talk up the meetings as they are usually very informative.

November General Meeting will expand on our service project idea with perhaps exploring serving our school families in need of a special service.

Board Christmas Event is scheduled for December 13, 2007. Ann McAloon reports there will be more information at the November meeting regarding the event.

Meeting adjourned at 6:45 pm.

Next Board and General Meeting is November 13, 2007.

Respectfully submitted by
Elizabeth Frith
Recording Secretary