



St. Columbkille Home & School Association

224 E. 5th Street • Papillion, NE 68046
(402) 339-8706

H.S.A. Meeting Minutes

January 13, 2015

Angie Eidem called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm with an opening prayer.

November meeting minutes were approved.

Angie Eidem provided the following update:

- Looking for a volunteer to be the Turkey Bingo coordinator for next year, there are also a number of community relationship opportunities that we are looking for volunteers for – see Angie or Pam for more details.
- Turkey Bingo wrap up – we had proceeds of over \$4000 and ended up donating over \$1400; thanks to everyone who helped – it was “tons of fun”.
- Please continue to monitor the H.S.A. website for information and announcements.
- KVSS is sponsoring a contest for Superstar schools, make sure to vote for our school.
- We have ordered a Google Chromebook mobile lab for the classrooms, we are awaiting it’s arrival.
- The next meeting has been moved from 10 March to 3 March to de-conflict with 1st Communion activities.
- The H.S.A board is working to update the H.S.A. by-laws.
- The H.S.A. board is considering a number of funding requests, we have updated the request form and have several requests, please provide any funding ideas that you have.
- Science Fair is 11 February, more information to follow.

Pam Roland provided a Stewardship update:

- Blimpie’s has closed, so those restaurant nights scheduled there are cancelled. If you purchased Blimpie Care Cards, see the Care Card coordinator for a refund through the end of January.
- There will be a Family Fun picnic on 10 April in the parking lot / social level
- Don’t forget to post your service hours in Volgistics, about half the school is not registered in Volgistics; get signed up and get credit for the hours your putting in.

Pam Roland provided a review of the Box Top program with \$1,885.69 raised from last year

- Extended a reminder to make sure that the box tops are not expired
- Noted that we will be doing a contest

Jen Nieto was ill, Angie provided some basic information:

- We have approximately \$64,000, we have \$11,000 allocated for the mobile lab but are seeking ideas on how to use the remainder for the best benefit for the school.

Rita Weiss provided the following information about the Spring flower fund raiser:

- Orders are taken in April for a May pick-up; need to start getting the order forms out.
- Flowers typically come in 6 packs, estimated cost is \$3
- The specific plants available is based on the suppliers (for the 6 packs); there will be single plants and hanging baskets.
- Last year, the fund-raiser made \$1782, it was provided at no-profit for the Weiss'
- The sale is open to parish members and school families
- Rita provided a flyer for people to look over
- Having volunteers who can stay the whole time helps increase proceeds by allowing the sale of extra plants that weren't pre-ordered. 3-4 volunteers who can stay should be sufficient.
- Set up starts at 8:00AM, will need volunteers to unload the truck, set up orders – perhaps the Scouts could volunteer.

Diane Farrow provided the following information about the Ceili

- Date is 7 March, web site is www.columbsceili.org
- Every year the Ceili raises money for a parish project, this year the Helping Hand Project is for the school – part of the proceeds will go to improve the wireless environment within the classrooms.
- Tickets can be ordered on line, when you buy tickets you will be entered into a drawing for 100 Ceili bucks good for bidding on auction items.
- There will be a live auction, with the Classroom Creations
- Need a variety of volunteers – set up, clean up, auction item management; if you would like to help they will find a job that suits you; you can sign up on Volgistics
- There will be a door-prize drawing for early arrivers

Mr. Makey gave a presentation and discussed the Terra Nova test results:

- Terra Nova testing is directed by the Arch-Diocese and is held in the fall.
- It covers Reading, Language Arts, Math, Science and Social Studies in grades 3-8; although the total scores by grade do not incorporate the Science and Social Studies grades
- Scores were provided by grade, and Mr. Makey indicated that it was important to track a class' progress year to year, for example looking at last year's 5th grade class and this year's 6th grade class would show progress for the same group of students rather than this year's 5th grade class and last year's 5th grade class.
- If you want to see how individual students have done, you can talk with their teacher or see Mr. Makey
- St. Columbkille had higher Terra Nova scores than PLV for the 3rd and 8th grades (the only one's used for the comparison)
- There were questions about contributing factors for the difference between the PLV scores and ours, such as curriculum and demographics as well as general differences between public and private schools.
- There is a tax credit scholarship bill in the Nebraska legislature under consideration, people were encouraged to support it's passage; no one knew the bill number so the school volunteered to post the information to the school webpage.
- In regards to budget items, Mr. Makey mentioned the following items:
 - The playground surface for consideration for funds; general agreement that the shredded rubber is bad, it is all over the block and tough on clothes. It would be expensive to pull it all up, a padded surface would also be expensive.

- The text book adoption program, overall cost would be \$50,000; would like \$10,000 from the H.S.A. This need is partly due to a reduction in federal grants to the PLV schools.
- \$5000 for a guided reading library
- funds for emergency kits for the classrooms, this has been presented as an Eagle Scout project.
- Funds for a more comprehensive assessment system, a “few thousand” would allow for charting growth, and better alignment with the curriculum.
- The textbook issue sparked some discussion and an expressed desire to have a separate public forum to further discuss the text book way ahead.

Angie Eidem opened a discussion seeking funding suggestions and inputs on priorities from the membership:

- Given the projected budget, projected expenses the board projects about \$27,000 to spend on projects.
- Reading Intervention program for the upper grades (grades 4-8) (Level Library Intervention) - \$4000
- There was a discussion about the playground and the location of a proposed multi-purpose building which is supposed to be on the site of the current playground with construction planned to begin in 2016. There was concerns about spending money on a playground that would be gone in a year or two and no one knew the site of the next playground.
- The question was raised about whether the decisions would be voted on by the membership, current plan is for the board to decide.
- There was a strong majority that favored spending the money on education purposes, vice the playground
- Any suggestions that members came up with after the meeting should be emailed to Angie for consideration by the board.
- Next year is the 100th anniversary of the school, we are looking for fund raising ideas, activities or any suggestions on how to commemorate this event; please send those to the H.S.A. or to Angie.
- Scholarship forms will be posted on-line, we are accepting applications for (2) \$500 scholarships.

Meeting closed with prayer at 8:15PM.

tlb