

STARS Family Association
Thursday, September 16, 2021
7pm – 7:40pm – via Zoom

In Attendance:

Jen McEwan
Tammy Laurito
Heather Nutter
Jerry Andrews
Terra Britton
Jessica Guenther
Gill Koerner
Melissa Bouquin
Bridget Tartick
Allie Reid
Laura Woloszyn

1. School/Board Update

The meeting opened in prayer, followed by a school update given by Mrs. Nutter. Mrs. Nutter stated the school is still looking for teachers, and if anyone has any leads, please contact Mr. O'Brien. She has had people ask what is going on in the Family Association (Christmas Bazaar and Fall Pork Dinner). She expressed a need for the Family Association to ramp up with fundraising and planning. She passed along the recommendation from Mr. O'Brien that the Family Association (F.A) get a leader/President to run the group, and that Gerry Andrews would be discussing that. Mrs. Nutter reminded the group of the policy regarding the Fundraising approval from the board.

Mr. Jerry Andrews was introduced as Governing Board Chair. He was asked to sit in on the F.A meeting tonight by Mr. O'Brien. The Board is completely new for this year and had their first meeting last night. The other board members are as follows: Jen McEwan, Colleen Smith, Mary Scion (Treasurer and Chair of the Finance Committee), and Kristine Edbauer. Father Pat Melfi was our Canonical Administrator, and it has now been passed off to Father Alphonse. Mr. Andrews stated that Mr. O'Brien assured him that STARS would get through this year, due in part to COVID-19 relief funds, but by March we need to have serious plans and funding coming in. Mr. Andrews assured the group that the Board (past and present) are not at odds with the Family Association and that he is willing to offer whatever he can. Mr. Andrews noted that Mr. O'Brien wants to have structure to the Family Association, and that the group needs to have structure to prove to the Superintendent of Catholic Schools that the group is functional. He stated that the Family Association needs individuals to lead the group in the position of President, Vice President, Fundraising, in addition to other key positions and that they need to be put in place so that they can work back and forth with the Board.

Mr. Andrews stated that the Board has their own work to do. Father Pat has agreed to continue to help, and the Board is doing outreach to the regional parishes in hopes they are part of the solution. The goal is to have a presence in the weekly parish bulletins. Mr. Andrews stated that the Board is looking at how overworked teachers/staff are this year. We are still in need of 3rd grade teacher & ELA/Social Studies/Religion/Spanish for Jr. High. Mrs. Nutter stated that Mr. O'Brien is continuing to fill in with Junior High classes and having to divide his time between the principal's office and classrooms. Mr. Andrews gave his phone number and email out to the group in case of questions/concerns. (907-748-1049, gerald.andrews907@gmail.com) He concluded that he wishes for STARS to succeed.

2. Fundraising Committee

- a. Christmas Bazaar – The person who has historically chaired the Bazaar is unable to this year, and the Family Association is looking for a new Chair. The event has been hosted for over 50 years and usually brings in about \$12,000. Last year we were unable to have the event due to COVID-19. An overview of the event was given (Craft sale, lunch, bake sale, basket raffle, etc.). If anyone is interested in chairing, please contact familyassociation@staloyiusregional.com or the Office.
 - b. Fundraising Committee Meeting – There will be a meeting on Monday, September 20th. This meeting will discuss the Fundraising calendar for the year and set the calendar. Discussion was had regarding on-site or via Zoom. Hybrid meeting was decided. Mrs. Gill Koerner offered to run the meeting and help get the ball rolling but is unable to commit to being Chair. She requested a list of current STARS families. Mrs. Koerner said she offered to purchase a Zoom license for the school. Mrs. Melissa Bouquin stated that she has a Zoom license that the school can use. Mr. Andrews stated he would be willing to attend the meeting and help as he helped with fundraising last year.
 - c. Mum Sale – Mrs. Nutter stated that 740 mums were sold, and a couple more last-minute orders will come into the office tomorrow. A thank you to Mrs. Nutter, Allie Reid, and Laura Valone for running that event.
 - d. Reminder of new fundraising policy – A fundraising application needs to be filled out for any potential fundraising event. Each event needs approval from the Board, and forms need to be to the Board at least 8 weeks prior to said event.
 - e. Questions/Comments at large – Mrs. Allie Reid mentioned the former system regarding fundraising and volunteering. She suggested that we go back to some form of that and get creative to encourage people to participate. Mrs. Woloszyn suggested people think about ways to encourage participation and bring those ideas to the meeting on Monday. Mrs. Melissa Bouquin, a parent who is new to the school, said they had a raffle system at Salem Lutheran for their fundraising. Mrs. Bridget Tartick had several questions and comments to wrap up, mainly mentioning that the Family Association needs structure. She additionally asked for a list of families. Mrs. Nutter said that she feels uncomfortable sharing people's personal information but would send out an email asking parents if they are willing to share their information. Mrs. Tartick asked how the Bike Run went and that she agreed with Mr. Andrews.
- Mr. Andrews asked for a Family Association table set up for Curriculum Night on 9/23/21.

Wrap Up/Action Items

Mrs. Woloszyn will work with Mrs. Nutter to get on on-site location for the Fundraising Committee Meeting. Mrs. Bouquin will get the Family Association a Zoom Link. Some one is needed to set up a table for the Curriculum Night on 9/23/21. Mrs. Woloszyn will make a survey for the Family Association Leadership as well as type up meeting minutes. They will be available on Monday, September 20th. Finally, Mrs. Woloszyn mentioned that we've done Trunk or Treat in the past, and if we'd like to do it again, we need someone to coordinate it. With that, the meeting was adjourned for the night.

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Next Meeting Planned for Thursday, October 14th at 7pm