

# **Parent Action Committee Meeting**

**Tuesday, May 3rd, 2011.**

## **People In Attendance**

Maureen Blum (Principal), Kelly Rosa (President), Heidi Westling (VP/Volunteer coordinator), Cecile Meister (Secretary), Randy Bremgartner (Events Coordinator), Danae Hollinger (Treasurer/Scrip Chair), Katie Cowden (Room Parent Coordinator), Margaret Mansker.

## **Opening Prayer**

Kelly Rosa

## **Principal Report**

Maureen Blum

### ***New Principal Visit***

Brain Anderson will be at St. Benedict on Friday, May 13<sup>th</sup>. He will meet and greet the school community following the Mass and crowning of Mary.

Maureen asked PAC and the School Commission to organize a coffee hour in the auditorium.

Kelly is soliciting volunteers to make baked goods.

It was agreed that this is an occasion to bring out Bennie Bear.

### ***Volunteer Hours***

Kathy Schell has reported that the total number of volunteer hours recorded so far is under what it should be. She is concerned that some may have been lost. In addition some volunteers have not turned in their hours.

Maureen and Kelly will ask David McReynolds to set up a [PACpres@stben.net](mailto:PACpres@stben.net) email account. She will then send out emails to all school parents indicating how many volunteer hours they have recorded with the school and asking whether the number needs to be corrected. Parents will need to respond by May 18<sup>th</sup>. After this date Maureen will send out bills to those families who have not completed their 20-hour minimum.

### ***Back To School Night***

This will be organized at the next PAC meeting.

Kelly will touch base with Kurt Beers who planned the event last year.

### ***Talent Show***

This will take place on Tuesday, May 31<sup>st</sup> at 1 pm and 7 pm.

Rules will be sent out by Ms. Rivord including time limits and attendance requirements.

### ***School Year Goals***

Maureen is preparing a report on the fulfillment of the 2010-2011 School Goals. She asked PAC member for input on ways in which these goals had been met through PAC activities. Kelly and Randy provided several examples.

### ***2011-2012 Calendar***

A skeleton of the 2011-2012 school calendar is now posted on the school website.

### ***Registration***

The school currently has openings in K-5, 7 & 8. There are wait lists for preschool, pre-K, and 6<sup>th</sup> grade. Maureen emphasized that school families should not discourage anyone from applying since she still expects changes to occur.

Approximately 180 students are registered for K-8 and 38 students for preschool and pre-K. The school budget for next year is based on a student population of 180.

### **New Business**

#### ***Official Vote for Officers for the 2011-2012 School Year***

The following PAC officers were voted in for next academic year:

President – Kelly Rosa

Secretary – Cecile Meister

Events Coordinator – Jeff Dome

VP/Volunteer Coordinator – Heidi Westling

Room Parent Coordinator – Katie Cowden

Treasurer/Scrip Chair – Danae Hollinger

Randy will continue to run movie nights but he would like other parents to begin training so that they can stand in for him and eventually take on this responsibility.

#### ***Library Plans***

Maureen

The library renovation project received \$90,000 from the auction.

Weekly meetings are starting this Friday.

The current plan is for renovations on the main library room to be started this summer. This includes the door, librarian's desk, carpet, and electrical improvements. The hope is that the extra classroom will be available for use next academic year.

The storage room and room across the hall (new staff room) will not be renovated until phase 2.

Volunteers will be needed to help take books out of the library. Some will need to go into long-term storage.

Details e.g. regarding the furniture and other parts of the plan still need to be determined.

This phase of the renovation is due to start as soon as school is out for the summer and to be complete before school starts again this fall.

They expect to spend \$120,000.

Several PAC members were concerned that the architect and contractor appear to have been selected without obtaining competing bids. Maureen referred the question to Fr. Steve.

Questions were raised regarding the role of the new principal in these decisions – a which point in the process will he become involved. Maureen referred the question to Fr. Steve.

#### ***Science Club Plans***

Cecile

Nora Coronado, Cecile Meister and Lisa Berendts are offering to start up an after-school science club next year.

Plans are flexible but the basic format would be as follows:

- We would have 2 groups - one for 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade students and one for 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade students.

- We would meet in Ms. Druffel's room from 3 until 4:15 pm every Friday with the groups alternating weeks so that each group would meet every other Friday.
- The goal would be to provide a variety of fun, hands-on activities.
- We would start out using kits from the Champion Science Adventures Program (\$6 per kit bought in batches of 12).
- The suggested price per child per session = \$10. The money would go towards purchasing and building up supplies and equipment.

The club could eventually help with students interested in competing in a Science Fair or Science Olympiad.

PAC members were supportive and thought the club would be popular.

They suggested increasing the price per session a little to discourage parents using the club in place of extended day.

Maureen asked that we contact Chantel and provide her with an updated written proposal.

She also reminded us that we would need to have our background checks complete prior to starting the club.

I will provide PAC with an update of our progress at our next meeting.

### ***Scrip Contest Kick Off***

Danae and Margaret

The Scrip contest began May 1<sup>st</sup> and is running the complete month of May.

The winner will be the class with the highest percent participation. The class also needs to have purchased a minimum of \$2,500 in Scrip.

Winning students will each receive a \$5 Fred Meyer/QFC gift certificate. The teacher of the winning class will receive a \$20 Barnes and Noble gift card.

Margaret suggested Bennie Bear be out at drop-off on Wednesdays and Fridays this month when Scrip sales are taking place.

Katie will ask 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade room parents to email class parents and determine which students are interested in being Bennie Bear.

### ***Parent Volunteer Forms***

Heidi

Heidi provided us with print outs of the current parent volunteer form and a new version she has been working on.

Changes include regrouping the positions into the following categories: school, after-school, events, technology, sports, and special.

She asked PAC members to provide feedback on the content and organization of the new form and to help give missing information when needed for the "description" and "lead" sections.

Suggestions included the following:

- Clarify that this form only concerns the required 20 hours volunteer work outside of the Wurst Festival. Wurst Festival volunteer position sign-ups are conducted separately.
- State that preschool and pre-K parents are encouraged to volunteer while K-8 parents are required.
- Add information about background checks.
- Remove the pizza lunch volunteer position since pizza lunch will be taken care of by "No Junk Inc." next year.
- Add the position of movie night coordinator.

Maureen would like the completed form to be sent out to parents next week so that parents have time to return it by June 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Heidi will email the final document as an attachment to PAC members.

### ***Wurst News***

Randy

The “Kick-Off” meeting is scheduled for Thursday, June 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6 pm.  
The sign-ups books will be open and the new T-shirt will be unveiled!  
The Dudley Manlove Quartet will be playing all night Friday.  
Posters were ordered this week.  
This year volunteers will be able to obtain health cards online.

### ***Last PAC Meeting***

Kelly

The last PAC meeting of the year will take place on June 7<sup>th</sup>.  
The focus will be to organize the Back to School Night.  
Katie will ask the Kindergarten room parent to inquire whether any Kindergarten parent may be interested in leading this event.

## **Events Update**

### ***Upcoming Parent Ed Night***

Danae

The next parent ed night will take place on Monday, May 23<sup>rd</sup> from 6:30 until 8:00 pm in the 7<sup>th</sup> grade classroom.  
The subject will be internet safety.  
Extended day will be open.  
A flier advertising the event is going out in this week’s envelope.  
Danae expects this subject to be of interest to parents.

### ***Movie Night***

Randy

Movie night this month will be held on Friday, May 13<sup>th</sup>.  
The film is “Megamind”  
Randy reiterated that he needs a responsible replacement to run movie nights next year.

### ***Mother-Son Barn Dance Updates***

Randy

The invitations have been sent out and a reminder email will go out to the entire school.

### ***St. Bens Night at Green Lake Bar and Grill***

Kelly

Kelly plans to contact the manager to see if Thursday, June 9<sup>th</sup> would work.  
She will get back to us with details.

## **Parent Room Update**

Katie Cowden

Room parents are working on lining up replacements for next year.

## **PAC/Scrip/Amazon Funds**

Danae and Margaret

Heidi suggested placing the Amazon logo further forward on the school website so that it is more obvious.

Katie suggested placing it on the front pages under “Upcoming Events”.

Submitted by:

Cecile Meister, PAC secretary