

ST. THOMAS HIGH SCHOOL

BASILIAN FATHERS – 1900

St. Thomas High School

Mothers’ Club General Meeting

January 15, 2020

Minutes

1. WELCOME/OPENING PRAYER

The January 2020 General Meeting of the Mothers’ Club was held in St. Basil Hall on January 15, 2020. Meryl Gregory, President, called the meeting to order at 11:43am and led us in prayer.

Quorum - Yes

Minutes Approved - n/a

1. GUEST SPEAKER – Rod Takacs, Dean of Students
   1. Safety and Security of STH Students, Faculty and Staff
      1. The Parkland High School Shooting on February 14, 2018 was an important date because it hit home in our community. At this point STH started asking “What are we doing to keep our community safe?”. This set the wheels in motion to create a safety committee, which came up with plans for both external and internal threats.
         1. External Threats
            1. fobs on the doors, the fence and guard stands at all gates
         2. Internal Threats
            1. Began to search for the best program to implement.
            2. ALICE training institute (See attachment), is becoming the most highly recommended program in the United States. Endorsed by Homeland Security. Several institutions who have employed the ALICE training have had no casualties.
            3. Mr. Takacs and Gail Calkins went to a training session over the summer to become Certified ALICE Instructors. They have begun the process to become Institutionally Certified so that they may begin to train the faculty and staff.

Faculty and staff have taken an e-learning course and training when they came back from the Christmas break.

Students will have active shooter drills after they decide best approach to handle this sensitive subject.

* + - * 1. The best part of ALICE is it give institutions PROACTIVE Strategies
        2. Faculty, staff and the Dean of Students office has changed how they look at student behavior. At times deciding to send a student to talk to the Choices Counselor rather than giving them detention. And also identifying conflict between students.
        3. Students, Faculty and Staff MUST wear their ID badges so that the hired security team can quickly identify who belongs on campus. Boys in violation will be given detention.

1. OFFICER REPORTS
   1. Vice President – Barbara Pane

* We are looking for moms to self-nominate for a position on the executive board. Junior moms are given preference, but all moms are welcome to apply.
* If you interested in Chairing any events, please let us know.
* We need someone to step in to Chair Eagle Angels for the Spring semester due to the previous Chair transferring out mid-year. Please let us know if you are interested.
  1. Treasurer – Laura Sage via proxy Meryl
* Please be sure to turn check requests and receipts into Laura within 45 days of the event.
  1. Communication Secretary – Dena Skucius via proxy Meryl
     + Mothers’ Club Newsletter is sent out every 2 weeks
     + Big Red News will now only be sent out once a week instead of twice – per Mark deTranaltes.
  2. Recording Secretary – Gwen McKeehan
* No Report
  1. Past President – Shawn Savarino
* I have sent an email to the Junior Moms about self-nominating for Executive Board positions.
* Junior moms are given preference due to experience on campus, but all grade level moms are welcome to self-nominate. You can see the breakdown of preferences in the Mothers’ Club Bylaws posted on the website.
* We ask for self-nominations because we want to know that you are committed to the position.
  1. President – Meryl Gregory
     + - Christmas Fund was a success. Everyone faculty, staff and maintenance team member received a Christmas bonus
       - Flower donations for the Mother/Son Mass helped decorate the alter
       - Christmas Luncheon had 105 + 4 special guests in attendance. Thank you to Angie Clinton and her helpers for making the event a success
       - HSPT was administered on campus this past Saturday.
       - Binders – When you Chair an event, please read through the binder carefully. Everything you need for your event should be there. Also, please remember to return to Barbara after your event
       - Aprons – We would like to bring this tradition back. Aprons are for sale in the Eagle store and online. You will need to have them monogrammed off campus. The aprons are nice to wear at events so that parents can identify the Mothers’ Club members
       - Financial Aid forms are due February 1.
       - Eagle Treats – once a month event for faculty and staff. The next Eagle Treat is Friday, January 17 and the theme is Health Snacks. We are still in need of volunteers to bring food. The February Eagle Treat is February 14. You can sign up by searching 2019-2020 Eagle Treats on SignUp genius.

1. BIG 3 UPDATES
   1. Round Up – Laura Reyes, Jodi Diamond, Amber Caver

* Sunday, March 1, 2020
* Special thanks to Taqueria Arandas for donating the food for our first meeting on January 8
* Dawn Phillips (Volunteer Chair) will be sending a SignUp genius for all volunteer positions this week
* Wish List for Silent Auction baskets. We are looking for volunteers to put together baskets or donate items for the silent auction. You can also make a monetary donation on the school website. Gift cards, tickets to events, etc… are all welcome donations.
* Sponsorships are available on the online store on the website. Form also available on the STH website. Sponsors will be recognized at Round Up, on Posters around campus, in the Round Up Gazette and the Mothers’ Club Newsletter. Range from $250-$5000. The goal is to cover all expenses so that 100% of the monies raised from raffle sales goes directly to Tuition Assistance.
* Next meeting is Wednesday, February 5 @6:00pm
* Volunteer Needs – There are still a few booths that need Chairs
  + Tic-tac-toe
  + Orbitron
  + Baseball Toss
  + Dinner for Two
* Pre-Order for Eggrolls on the online store
* Maria Varcados – Big Red Market
  + Over capacity with Vendors – We are hoping to squeeze them all into the venue
  + Save-The-Date for the Big Red Market Preview Night, February 29, 5:00pm-8:00pm.
  + New Chair for next year – Nicole Herger
  1. Style Show – Meryl
* April 24 at River Oaks Country Club
* Theme – Soaring with Eagles
* 2 styles of bracelets available. $40 + Tax
  1. Auction – Christine Cummins
     + Raised over $500,000!!!!

1. STANDING COMMITTEE & SPECIAL EVENTS
   * Spring Luncheon – Mary Grace Carter
     + May 8 at Tony Mandolas
     + Need 2-3 Volunteers to help with planning, decorations, invitations and RSVP’s
2. NEW BUSINESS
   * Catholic Schools week (January 26 – February 1) has always been popular with Middle Schools. It has been a time when Catholic schools showcase the Catholic education by giving tours and hosting other events. There is now a new push to have the high school students go back to help promote their high schools. St. Elizabeth Ann Seton and St. John Vianney are wanting to have St. Thomas set up a table in the activity center after church to promote the Catholic education and what St. Thomas has to offer. If your church happens to have a table set up during Catholic Schools Week, please stop by to help support the cause.
   * Young Life has been approved by the Cardinal.
     + St. Thomas will be the 1st Catholic school to have Young Life
     + We are partnering with Duchesne and Incarnate Word
     + Great way for the boys to socialize with girls
     + 1 hour on Monday nights
     + Looking for STH alumni to be leaders
     + We will fall under the Heights Young Life
     + Thank you to Amy Huggins (past parent) for making this happen
   * Cookie Break Committee – Valerie Lee
     + SignUp genius is active for the Spring Semester on website under STH Mothers’ Club Cookie Break Committee. There are still openings available toward the end of the semester. There is also a link on the Mothers’ Club Newsletter.
3. ADVANCEMENT – Mark deTranaltes

* Annual Fund is in full swing with class incentives to give the boys rewards for participation. The 3rd incentive is January 31. Classes that reach the 65% goal will receive an awesome T-shirt!!
* Thank you to all the families who have contributed

1. Meeting adjourned 12:47pm