

St. Thomas High School
Mothers' Club Meeting
September 9, 2021
Minutes

I. Welcome / Opening Prayer

The September 2021 General Meeting of the Mothers' Club was held at STH in Basil Hall and via Zoom Conference on September 8, 2021 at 12:00pm. Amber Caver, President, called the meeting to order at 12:04pm and Father Murphy led us in Prayer.

Quorum - Yes
Minutes Approved - Yes

II. President's Report **Father Jim Murphy, CSB**

- Welcome and thank you for everything MC does.
- Incredible turnout at our events – people want to be out and about and involved. Back to School Night was well attended and thank you for the Mothers' Club for refreshments.
- School year has started well.
 - Next few weeks – With permits passed Father Wilson baseball field start construction and conversion of St. Basil Hall [had to get new occupancy labels with COH]
- Catholic Bowl was a huge success from football team, training staff to cheerleaders, exceptional community event
 - Very proud of STH community at the Catholic Bowl
- Cognoscente of the health of our community this year because of covid
 - Major area of concern is mental health issues and finding best ways to care for everyone – students, parents and faculty and staff
- Founder's Day Mass next Tuesday, September 14 [honoring founding of school: September 1900], inducting Raymond Bourgeois '70 into the Hall of Honor. Also honoring faculty and staff recognizing milestone years.
- This year ask for support, patience, and kindness as we get through this year and its challenges.

III. Guest Speaker **Max Holmes, Director of Admissions**

- Helping families see school and envisions STH as their future homes and getting them in front of coaches, teachers, student's parents for potential families to hear stories.
- Team:
 - Claudia Walker, Admissions Team, great resource and knowledgeable.
 - Jared Murphy '12, Assistant Director of Recruitment
 - Partner school visits, shadow visits are reinstated for this year.
 - Teachers, staff, and students – why we are successful
 - Emily Guyre, liaison to Admissions – sign ups and getting parent involvement at events
- Enrollment – 172
 - 175/class on average
 - 630 total enrollments
 - 9 transfers
- How can moms help
 - Tell your story and how your son has grown and our experience at STH.
 - Speak highly of STH
 - Push potential families to STH events
 - Individual tours on waitlist

- End Zone Rally, 9/17/2021
- Open School Preview, open to schools that aren't feeder schools
- Coffee with Leadership – families visit with Dr. Dominguez and Father Murphy
- Open House, 12/5/2021 – will need parents
- Home Visits or Group Tours – if you know a group of families interested in STH and can coordinate Home Visits or Evening Group Tours
- Google Reviews or Niche – immediate way to help STH
- Student Athlete Night in Springtime with Coaches

IV. Principal's Report

Dr. Aaron Dominguez '96

- Communication – A reminder that my bi-weekly emails on Fridays and the online calendar are the official communications from the High School. Specifically, things related to Academics, Admissions, Athletics, Campus Ministry, Dean of Students, Student Organizations, and Technology will be messaged there. <https://www.sths.org/events>
- Other communications aren't coming directly from Dr. Dominguez unless it says, "Office of Principal". If you see anything that doesn't seem correct on calendar, please contact Dr. Dominguez.
- Admissions – We enrolled 172 members of the class of 2025 and an additional 19 transfer students. The class of 2025 spent a week at Camp Aquinas in Livingston, TX where they had an opportunity to grow and connect with other freshmen, faculty, and seniors. The transfers have been paired with a mentor and we are being intentional about integrating them into the STH community. The boys reported great feedback, overwhelming positive – supporting them and setting them up for success.
- Parent/Teacher Conferences - Parent/Teacher Conference Nights will be held on October 12 and 14 from 4:00 PM – 6:00 PM and 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM respectively. Parents will have the opportunity to sign up for a ten-minute time slot with each teacher. All teachers will host meetings in their primary classroom or in a designated location on campus. Classroom doors will remain open during meeting hours and school leaders and campus security will be actively moving through the school to support a smooth process. Sign-up genius forthcoming.

In addition, our teachers make themselves available before school, during planning times, and after school to meet with parents as needed. We appreciate your flexibility and hope this format better supports you and the families we serve.

- Important Dates:
 - Tuesday, September 14 – Founder's Day Mass
[text message the day before mass reminding boys of mass and mass dress]
 - Thursday, September 16 – Makeup Pictures
 - Monday, September 13 – Grade run and notification
[teacher communicate with families if student have below a 75 in a class]
 - Friday, September 17 – End Zone Rally
 - Saturday, September 18 – Basketball Pictures
 - Monday, September 20 – Walk-A-Thon
[Largest Fundraiser of the year: eagle store for purchase: \$25, \$50 or \$100, events with each package, ie Astros, Crawfish Boil, Schlitterbahn]
 - Thursday, September 23 – Coffee with a Counselor
 - Tuesday, September 28 – 9:50 AM Start

- [every Tuesday is late start, later start is for Professional Development, request to send reminders to boys]
- o Thursday, September 30 – Coffee with a Counselor
- o Wednesday, October 6 – National Honor Society
- o Friday, October 8 – End of First Quarter
- o Saturday, October 9 – Homecoming Dance
[Homecoming 101 document on MC page of the website, Homecoming tickets included with the Gold Package from Walk A Thon]
- o October 12 and 14 – Parent/Teacher Conferences
[teachers contact parents of wanted conference, then open to everyone, limited but email teacher if want to discuss anything]

V. Annual Fund

Kelly McPhee, Annual Giving Coordinator

- Thank you for supporting STH and your sons
- Coffee with a counselor, first year to do this
 - o Every Thursday morning Joplin Campus gym, coffee and snacks 7:30-8:30, Chellette Stephenson or another counselor attends to answer any questions
- Annual Fund – Why? Covers what tuition doesn't cover – from ties, football helmets to bussing students, during covid helped families financially, anywhere they are needed they come in and financially help out
- Biggest ask and biggest fund
- Chick fila Competition first class to reach 80% participation
- Community Building Events – Coffee with a Counselor, Yoga and Mimosas [December and February, date TBD]
- Soft Launch – Grandparents Campaign, get information to receive communications, with Grandparents Mass in 2022, send information to Kelly with grandparent's contact information to review Big Red News, Mailers, Sports News, etc

VI. Officer Reports

A. Amber Caver, President

Thank you: Jenny Hanks for ordering lunch from Sage, STH faculty and staff fantastic start to school year, Andrea Quintanilla, welcome tea chair [Julie Perry, Jenny Hanks, Raeanne Walker, Tina Wusterhausen] , Parent Orientation Night [same as before, including Holly], August social Heather Curran Kelly and Stephanie Bourg – lunch at Bellagreen, Back to School Night – Michelle Cantioni and Mimi Aguilar Howard – put out snacks, Booster Club Tailgate at first game was a great turnout - Booster Club, Tina Wusterhausen – eNews [sthmcenews@gmail.com] every 2 weeks, Paige Dominey – Cookie - great turnout and boys loved it, Eagle Treats – Paula Marsh and Dawn Griffiths, faculty and staff very grateful [Teacher Appreciation]

B. Raeanne Walker, Vice President

- Thank you Maria Morfin chairing Freshman Sophomore dance and other volunteers,
- Upcoming Events
 - o College Fair, Michelle Williamson chairing and needs support, October 5th,
 - o October 6th NHS Induction – application due 9/17 [hard deadline] open to Juniors and Seniors
 - o November 1st Father/Son Mass, Marna Dickerson chairing event

C. Jenny Hanks, Treasurer

- Expenses: send receipts to Jenny to be reimbursed, budget questions ask Jenny

D. Tina Wusterhausen, Corresponding Secretary

- eNews – if you aren't receiving the eNews, please see Tina.

E. Julie Perry, Recording Secretary

- Minutes on Website

F. Holly Schlosser, Past President – nothing to report

VII. Big 3 Updates

a. Auction/Gala

Angie Clinton, Julie Perry, Stephanie Yankowsky

- Come Together, November 6th, Fundraiser put on by Mother's Club
- Reservations / Deadline for Underwriting – buying a table or splitting a table, Deadline to be in Underwriting in Invitation Wednesday, September 16th
Limited number of tables – reserve sooner rather than later
- "Lucy in the Sky with Diamonds" Raffle – open today, \$100 per ticket, only 100 available
- Spec's "Cooler" Event, great turnout, chair Emily Guyre did great job
- Wine & Spirits Pull Tailgate, September 17th
- Live Auction Items / Donor Forms
- Registries
- Volunteers
Potential October 1st stuffing, stamping invitations [confirm date closer to 10/1]
Friday, November 5th set up date

b. Round Up

Melina Bellomo, Michelle Marlar, Barbara Villafranca

- Preplanning for RU and excited to bring STH community
- BRM Vendors – looking for vendors for the market, \$200 booth plus donation, Saturday night preview/ Sunday RU
- Volunteers – sign up online general, not specific yet, a place for any volunteer, support for any volunteer

c. Style Show

Gwen McKeehan, Angela Platsas, Lisa Weaver

- April 29, 2022 – Save the Date
- Volunteer Opportunities available on Sign Up Genius
- Open to all moms, potential moms as well

VIII. Standing Committee & Special Events

a. Homecoming Dance – Chaperone Maria Morfin

- Homecoming Friday 10/8 and 10/9 game and dance 8:30 – 11 [lock in 9pm-10:30pm]
- Mother Club Page – Homecoming 101 [29 questions that address most questions]
- Walk A Thon - \$100 level includes Homecoming ticket
- Mums – Music Guild
- Homecoming – Boys can come with out a date, go with group, girls from sister schools also come in groups
- Sister Schools Orientation Dance [all grade levels can participate]
 - St. Agnes Academy, 7pm lock in 8-9:30, theme is Neon/Glow in the Dark, \$10, bring ID, only for STH and Strake boys, Masks optional, Senior girls will be there because they are bringing their little sisters so Seniors will be there

- Duchesne Academy, 8 – 11 [8:30-10:30 lock in], \$10 fee, white house lawn, outdoors, Masks optional
- IWA, 9/25 more details coming, 8-10:30pm

b. Homecoming Mums – Music Guild Rebecca Jones

- Makes mums, fundraiser for music guild, mums worn to football game on Friday, info covered on HOCO 101, you can purchase elsewhere if wanted
- Ordering/pick up – notice in mum order [eagle store...should be live soon], single \$50, doubles \$60, triples \$70
- Armbands \$35 [girls buy for dates, but anyone can order]
Themes: Tom Eagle Pride, Go Team, Texas Pride
- Mums: Pick a theme [1st, 2nd and 3rd choice: Girly Girl, Unbearable Cute, Tom Eagle Pride, Go Team, Texas Pride
- Name ribbons already attached – name can be followed up later
- Can change mind when pick up if additional ones available
- Email for mum sales on eagle store
- Pick up time on order form [Sat 10/2 10-2 or 10/4th, 5th, 6th 3-5pm]

c. Cookie Chair

Paige Dominey

- Cookie Chair – one day a month, 4 inch cookies, individually bagged, sign up
- 9/15 need bakers
- 10/11 – October Cookie Date
- Sign Up to hand out cookies, sign up once to allow other moms to participate

d. Booster Club

Paige Dominey

- Thank you for ads in Booster Club magazine
- See the magazine at home games
- Tailgates 9/17 [invite friends with Middle school], 9/24, 10/8, 11/5
- Instagram
- Homecoming Shirt – on Eagle Shirt – red drift shirt [buy one for son, date, parents, etc], sale ends on 9/17, \$20
- Football themes – Hawaiian theme this Friday, play along and dress up
- Look for new merchandise in the school store
- SA Catholic game and Antonian – bus tickets on school store
- Volunteers to help in store
- Son doesn't have to play sport to be involved in Booster Club
- Aprons on eagle store
- Eagle Coop on Eagle Store – tons of merchandise
- Boys can wear themed shirts to school – double checking with Dean of Students

e. Eagle Treats

Dawn Griffiths, Paula Marsh

- Faculty and Staff Appreciation once a month
- eNews link to volunteer

f. Social Events

Heather Curran Kelly, Stephanie Bourg

- August Lunch social at Bellagreen was great
- Lunch / Evening rotation
- September 23 Bunco at Cemo/ partner Annual Fund – hosting light bites and beverages, prizes, \$10 buy in if you can, RSVP by the 17th to Heather Curran [heather.curran.kelly@gmail.com]
- Upcoming
 - October: grade level moms get together, Stayed tuned
 - November 18th: lunch possibly Dunlavy

- o December 2nd, 6:30pm: Moms Christmas White Elephant Party

G. Eagle Angels **Anita Bryant**

- Link to sign up for eagle Angels
- Need based program

H. Moms in Prayer **Shannon Huff, Kris Peters**

- International organization, cover every school in prayer
- Focus on an attribute of God each week, prayer for school, teacher, admin and mostly our sons
- Wednesday 8-9, via zoom
- No prerequisites, not trained, just need a heart to pray for your son
- Link on eNews and grade level communications

I. Young Life **Amy Huggins**

- 2nd year at STH
- Party with purpose
- Mondays at 7:13
- Leaders from U of H, most Catholic, not all Catholic
- Average 50 students a week
- Leaders involved in student's activities
- Theology department support
- All grade level together every week

IX. Old Business

- Sign Up to volunteer -
 - i. Link in eNews, MC Newsletter
 - ii. STH Website – Mothers' Club Page
 - iii. <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0f4da5af23a3ffc07-weneed>

X. New Business

- Need chairs for following positions:
 - o Academic Award Night – April 13th: punch and snacks
 - o House Saints Day – need someone to pick up donuts on specific days and bring to school [once a month]
 - o Eagle Elves – for families at STH that need assistance during Christmas
 - o Baccalaureate Mass – May 20th reception: punch and snacks

XI. Closing Comments

Meeting Adjourned 1:50pm

Next Mothers' Club Mass & General Meeting will be Thursday, October 14, 12pm Guest Speaker : Joe O'Brien, Director of Student Activities

UPCOMING EVENTS

(Check for times on the STH Website)

September 13

Young Life on Football field [every Monday at 7:13pm]

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|--------------|---|
| September 17 | Auction Wine & Spirits Pull Tailgate [at Varsity football game] |
| September 23 | NHS Induction |
| September 23 | Mothers' Club Social – Bunco at 6:30pm in Cemo |
| October 5 | Catholic High School College Fair at Strake Jesuit |
| October 6 | NHS Induction |
| October 8 | Homecoming Football Game |
| October 9 | Homecoming Dance |
| October 13 | Auction & Gala All-Committee Meeting |
| October 14 | Eagle Treats |
| October 14 | Mothers' Club General Meeting at 12:00pm |