



ST. THOMAS MOTHERS' CLUB

General Meeting Minutes—November 9, 2023

Attendance: In Person—20, via Zoom—7

Quorum: Yes

Meeting called to order: by Paige Dominey at 12:04 p.m.

- I. Welcome/Opening Prayer Father Jim Murphy, CSB

- II. President's Report Father Jim Murphy, CSB
 - November is a month of remembering our loved ones who have passed away, a month of giving thanks, and gratitude for giving at the STH Auction. Thank you to the Chairs and everyone for making the Gala a success.
 - Steve Green and family honored at the Gala. They were very grateful to come together.
 - Playoff football is gearing up. Celebrating our State Champion Cross Country team.
 - The Fall Drama Production, Wyrd Sisters was a wonderful celebration in October. Truly grateful for the connections to our sister schools.
 - Bishop Italo Dell'Oro speaking at the Father Son Mass was another wonderful celebration with fathers and sons. Looking forward to Mother Son Mass in December.
 - Newest Melodies with Murphy is coming up.
 - STH Open House is coming up in December—a seminal event in our community.

- III. Guest Speaker Mike Netzel, Athletic Director
 - Planning daughter's wedding next Saturday.
 - Our facilities expanding with the new campus acquisition—New baseball park is the obvious part. Cavan Biggio '13 said it was as nice as any ballpark he played on in college and even some minor league ballparks too. Father Wilson has been represented well. Meat and potatoes of the new facility is the training facility, new weight room, wrestling room, gym, etc.
 - Now other sports--lacrosse, soccer, rugby--are able to use the previous Father Wilson field practice field. A good adjacent field to the Student Center and courtyard for the boys to run around and we can keep an eye on them.
 - Eagle Project coming up for an STH student--taking down the previous baseball stands/bleachers and press box and make the space an inviting area with picnic tables.
 - You can rest assured that the school is spending the money we have in the places to give your boys the best possible experience while they are here at STH.
 - Update on our Sports Programs—This year has been the single best year in the 16 years I've been here with more boys than ever trying out for all sports. (170 boys in the football program; 50 boys in Cross Country program; Basketball had 75 boys try out for 45 spots; 90 boys tried out for soccer for 40+ spots; 30+ boys are in the swimming program; wrestling program has 50 boys outfitting every weight class with 3 guys for each class. We are building programs, not teams. We care about the boys Freshman year all the way up.
 - Won our first Cross Country State Championship since 2004. Much pride and joy in the boys and Coach Labus.
 - Undefeated football season 10-0—3rd since history of the school. Last one was 2013.

- Our last win was most impressive win since Netzel has been here--the way our seniors rallied around the Freshman QB after Donte was hurt. First 2 playoff games are here on campus. Need to win the first one to proceed.
- Winter sports are off to a great start. Soccer is very talented group.
- Swim team finished 3rd out of 25 schools, only private school there. First meet.
- Coach Llorens' basketball teams won their first tournament. He is a perfect fit for STH!
- Wrestling program is starting off. We are hosting some meets at STH this year.

IV. Principal's Report

Dr. Aaron Dominguez '96

- Appreciate our level of excellence in Athletic Department and all Departments. Some more examples--
- Our students are serving at Loaves and Fishes, this week carving turkeys and providing a Thanksgiving meal; Campus Ministry team has revamped our Retreat Program and ministry here; Our Academic Program has more AP courses and over the last five years we have increased the number of students taking them and the percentage of students earning college credit for AP exams has increased. Last week we were named a Platinum Honor Roll School by the College Board for our performance on the AP assessments.
- Our Deans office is striving towards a restorative approach rather than suspensions/punishment. The focus is on how to restore the relationship when a wrong has been done to another student, not how do we punish them. Justice for us is about restoration.
- It is more difficult when there has been a violation of human dignity—racial slur, making fun of someone for the academic ability...We are working on a program in the Campus Ministry that we ask the students to go through that is meant to educate and support the student and ultimately restore the relationship with the other person. (Dr. D shared other examples of violations of human dignity after this was asked by a mom.)
- Max Holmes' Admissions events are all filling up. All metrics are pointing to another full class for next year.
- One point to remind the boys—in the interest of safety and security and putting measures into place—this place is not their playground. They come here to learn under the direct supervision of staff and faculty. Our facilities have access but need to be under the supervision of someone who works here. Badges must be worn. Police officers will be asking for badges and if someone doesn't have a badge, they will be escorted off campus. Trespass violations will be issued after the second violation without a badge. This is a safety issue in regards to a litigious standpoint and also a health and wellness standpoint.

V. Annual Fund/Advancement

Kenny Martin

- Mark hired a replacement for Reagan who moved to Corpus Christi. Her name is Katie Romero.
- Reagan is coming back in town after Thanksgiving to help Katie with Melodies with Murphy (Greg Gatlin from Gatlin Barbecue is the next guest singer.)
- December Melodies with Murphy will look at Fine Arts Department and feature Josh Wilson and Donald Theode.
- Over halfway to our goal for Annual Fund.
- Parent teams making calls worked out well. Over 70% of the classes have contributed. 88 % for faculty.
- Round Up meetings have started. New leadership structure this year--24 boys on a board; 12 exec board to make decisions, other 12 boys broken out in teams to handle different aspects of RU. Need \$820 to break the record, \$819,000 last year.

VI. Officer Reports

A. President

Paige Dominey

- Old Business

- Homecoming—thank you to everyone who chaperoned and gave candy. Around 1200 kids were on the campus, compared to 800 previous years.
- Thank you Janna Moore and Eva Paek for chairing the Father Son Mass.
- Some discussion about where to put supplies for events and how to fine tune this procedure in the future.
- Eagle Treats were awesome.
- Social media—share events. Speak positively about St. Thomas on Social media.
- New Business
 - ISEE Testing 11/11 Volunteers to help with check in.
 - Christmas Decorating 11/17 8:00 a.m. It's a fun day! Come if you haven't done it before. Come for as long as you can. Sergio would like donated artificial trees to put around the baseball field. He will add the lights if the lights aren't working. Anything extra like garland too.
 - Hot Art Cool Jazz 11/14 6:30 p.m. A night to feature the Fine Arts Department. In the courtyard and Hall of Honor. Artwork, musical entertainment.
 - Open House 12/3, 1-4 p.m. Max would like parents located at different centers to speak about the different areas. More info to come about how/where to sign up to help.
 - Mother Son Mass 12/8, 7:50 a.m. Tom's Moms will be serving donuts.
 - Mothers' Club Luncheon at Maggiano's 12/8 11:30 a.m.
 - Middle School Speech & Debate Tournament 12/9 8A-3P May need some help.
 - Christmas Gift for Faculty & Staff—use the Eagle Store to contribute.

B. Vice President Judy Wittman

C. Treasurer Kris Peters

- As of Oct 31, Eagle Treats is lagging and needs some donations. Use the School Store.
- Father Son Mass was on budget.

D. Communications Secretary Amy Price

- Hopefully everyone is getting the Big Red News and newsletter weekly on Wed.
- Weekly send your updates, pictures--deadline Sunday at 6:pm.

E. Recording Secretary Davalyn Bone

- No corrections to the Oct minutes. Motion to approve Oct. minutes by Liz Brown, seconded by Angie Clinton. Minutes were approved.

F. Past President Emily Guyre

- Self-nominations will start in January if you are interested in serving on the Board next year.

VII. Big Three Updates

A. Auction/Gala Maru Pruneda, Maria Morfin, Liz Brown, Cheryl Dzurec

- Recap of Hopelessly Devoted to STH. Thank you everyone for all the support, donations, and volunteering. We had over 200 baskets for Silent Auction. Amazing Live and Big Board, decorations, and wrapping...An amazing community event.
- Bidpal is still open for some items—Fish Pictures and Class of 2024, Teacher Wishlist, Socials.

B. Round Up Tiffany Davila, Megan Long, Carmen Trevino, Jennifer Langin

- Save the Date—March 3

- The first Round Up was held in 1927. A annual tradition since 1945. The boys sell raffle tickets.
- Huge event for the community. All ages are welcome. All proceeds go the Scholarship Fund.
- 4 areas—Big Red Market—shopping with vendors similar to Nutcracker Market; Eagle Court—games in the gym; Food Court—in Cemo; Carnival
- New this year for Round Up--Maida field is now accessible with more spaces for games, bands, DJ's. More vendors for Big Red Market.
- Need volunteers and chairs--sponsorship chair, communications chair, entertainment chair, volunteer chair (help with sign up genius), volunteers on the event day. Boys can get service hours for volunteering.
- Meeting dates—January 17, Feb. 7, Feb. 29
- Pray for good weather.
- Video will be coming out for the boys about how to sell tickets.

C. Style Show Haley Finkelman, Killian Gilbert-Smith, Kathleen Brickley

- Save the Date—April 26
- Mystery bags—start shopping now.

VIII. Standing Committees & Special Events

A. Mother's Club Christmas Lunch Angie Clinton, Raeanne Walker

- Maggianos on Post Oak. Dec. 8 after Mass.
- \$55/ticket. Use QR code to buy tickets.

B. Cookie Break Nichola Carr-Welch

- Next dates--November 15, December 13
- Thank you to the bakers. Need more for Nov.
- Spring dates are now up on the Sign Up Genius. January is reserved for Senior moms.
- Use the Waitlist if you have already distributed this school year.

A. Music Guild Betsy Denson

- Having a get-together for all those who helped to create mums. Next Wed. @ 4:15. Check the newsletter.

B. Eagle Elves Alejandra Creixell Pacini

- Time of the year to gather funds, gifts for struggling families in the community. All done privately. Look for communications to come about how to participate.

C. Booster Club Paige Dominey

- Football Playoff Game—11/17pm, STH hosting
- Eagle Store will be open in the Hall of Honor at Mother Son Mass. Good time to buy Christmas presents.

D. Eagle Treats Fatima Maniar, Janna Moore, Crystal Cruz

- Pies for Nov. 14; drop off by 8:00 a.m. Can also donate money to fill in the gaps.
- Christmas lunch for Faculty/Staff is a catered lunch. Donate money for this.

E. Moms in Prayer Kris Peters

- Back on Zoom next week.
- Luncheon Social for moms and sons on Dec. 19 after final exam.

F. Young Life—check their Instagram for all information. Taking a break from meeting on campus to figure out logistics.

IX. Closing Comments/Meeting Adjourned at 1:22 p.m.

December Mothers' Club meeting is the Christmas Luncheon.

Thursday, January 11--Next Mothers' Club Mass @ 11:30 a.m. & General Meeting @ 12 noon. Guest Speaker will be Joe O'Brien, Director of Student Life

November

9 @ 11:30a Mass & Mothers' Club General Meeting
10 @ 12-3p Fall Olympics
11 @ 7a-3p ISEE Testing

December

3 @ 1-4p Open House
8 @ 7:50 Mother/Son Mass
8 @ 11:30a Mothers' Club Christmas Luncheon

January

11@ 11:30a Mass & Mothers' Club General Meeting
TBD Round Up Meeting #1

February

TBD Prospective Athlete Night
8 @ 11:30a Mass & Mothers' Club General Meeting
TBD Round Up Meeting #2

March

2 @ TBD – Big Red Market @ Round Up Preview Night
3 @ 12p-6p Round Up
3 @ 11a-530p Big Red Market in Reckling Gym
21 @ 11:30a Mass & Mothers' Club General Meeting
22 @ 6-8p New Eagle Welcome

April

11 @ 11:30a Mass & Mothers' Club General Meeting
26 @ 11a Style Show
TBD Prom

May

2 @ 6-8p Mentor Mom Social
10 @ 12p-2p Mothers' Club Spring Luncheon @ JLH
24 @ TBD Junior Ring Ceremony
24 @ TBD Baccalaureate Bash
25 @ 10a Graduation with Baccalaureate Mass – Class of 2024

Cookie Break



Eagle Treats
Donation



Eagle Treats
Sign Up Genius

