



ST. THOMAS MOTHERS' CLUB

General Meeting Minutes—October 12, 2023

Attendance: In person-- 32 via Zoom—5

Quorum: Yes

Meeting Called to order: by Paige Dominey at 12:05

- I. Welcome/Opening Prayer Father Jim Murphy, CSB
- II. President's Report Father Jim Murphy, CSB
 - Melodies with Murphy Volume 2 was superior to Volume 1. Grateful to Reagan Rodgers for all her work.
 - The Blessing of the Father Wilson Baseball Field was this week. Thanks to all who helped with preparations. The Strategic plan and pillars for success for STH were communicated--We want to make sure we are caring for all the needs of the boys and that their STH experience is exceptional. We want them come in as Freshman and persist all the way through to graduation and then to come back after that and tell us all they are doing. We want to make sure we are financially sound, communications are always captivating, and that we are engaging families earlier (6th/7th grade). We are having breakfasts with school leadership for prospective families. Also communicating with donors, with young and old alumni. Facilities are being prepared for the educational needs of the future while also being safe and secure. Stem facilities have been updated, perimeter fences and security gates added. We want to be prepared for all the challenges ahead.
 - Steve Cummings, Alumni Director, and Father Murphy went to Austin for an alumni event. STH paired up with Kinkaid. Current students at UT were excited to be there and have a mini reunion.
 - Excited about the Gala, Hopelessly Devoted to St. Thomas.
 - Please give us your continual support, love and prayers. Thank you for all the work you do.
- III. Guest Speaker Dr. Max Holmes, Director of Admissions
 - Max has worked 8 years in the Admissions Department. Thank you for all the support. We have one of the best Admissions teams in the city--Claudia Walker who is also a STH mother, Jaren Murphy is a 2012 STH graduate. They can really speak to the school and the difference it makes. We also have student ambassadors who are doing a great job with campus tours and events. Stephanie Yankowsky, and the parent ambassadors—thank you for all the help at events.
 - Enrollment this year: 205 Freshmen, plus 19 transfers.
 - Another important aspect of Admissions is Google and Facebook ads. How are families of prospective students interacting with our website, Google media, etc? Three big items are looked at—Google searches for schools, word of mouth, Google/website reviews.
 - We need Google, Niche, and Great Schools reviews too. As an incentive, we will put your name in a drawing for an Amazon gift card if you do a review. (Send Max a copy of what you wrote so your name can go in the drawing.)
 - Any time we are promoting an event, please share it on your personal Facebook page, Instagram, etc.

- Several events for middle school students are coming up—S.T.E.A.M. Night, Fall Theater Production Event, STH Open School Preview, Hot Art Cool Jazz. All of these are on the “Visit” tab on the Admissions webpage.
- Summer programs too. Post those and tell your friends.
- Tell your story, share reviews.
- We have resources on the Admissions page under the “Prepare” tab. These are good guides for families in the inquiry phase.
- Sunday, Dec. 3, Open House—sign up to help! We will start marketing it in 2 weeks. It will include a new addition--Mass for the community with Father Murphy before the Open House at 1:00 p.m.
- Shadow visits are starting in November and all 175 slots are filled. We will have more options in the spring.
- We will have an ad in the Buzz Magazine marketing the Open House.

IV. Principal’s Report Dr. Aaron Dominguez ‘96

- We have a targeted and strategic approach to our communications that has gotten us proven results. We are on a trend to exceed those results now. Sometimes we purposefully choose *not* to do things (i.e. parish bulletins). We are very strategic with our choices and the return we can get. We found we can get a better return on other investments. We welcome feedback and are always reassessing.
- It brings us joy to see moms on campus. It is greatly appreciated when you can be here. It does not go unnoticed. Permeates through the school. This was on full display with our Hispanic Culture Event, a beautiful event. Thank you moms who participated.
- We are blessed with our faculty who are talented and strive to be servant oriented. October can be a difficult, long month as an educator with no breaks/holidays. If your son has a teacher who has done something well, let them know. Reach out to the teachers with a thank you note, handwritten or emailed, to show your appreciation. Gifts are welcomed too.

V. Annual Fund/Advancement Mark deTranalties

Something different with Annual Fund since it’s after September 30—Mark didn’t speak!
Annual Fund is doing great!

VI. Officer Reports

A. President Paige Dominey

- Old Business
 - Fun social at Dish Society.
 - End Zone Rally was phenomenal. Thank you to all who helped with the event. Let’s invite future families to football games. The game against St. Pius is a good one. Also basketball games.
 - NHS induction was fabulous. Thank you Hanne Rickert and Judy Wittman.
 - Catholic High School College Night we had 3 tables to represent at Strake Jesuit.
 - National Merit Recognition was great to see who was recognized! This Award is part of what makes our school special.
 - Hispanic Culture Event was jampacked and had amazing energy. Going around the room, seeing the moms and fabulous food.
- New Business
 - Refer to HOCO 101 for everything for Homecoming. Link in the Newsletter.

B. Vice President Judy Wittman

- If you have chaired an event and have a binder, please send those back to the front office so we can have it for next year’s chairs. The notes in them are very helpful for future chairs!

C. Treasurer Kris Peters

- No report.

- The Cookie Break this month is on a Tues. Thank you everyone for all the ways you have participated—donating cookies or funds, or baking.
- For Oct., we only have 11 of the 22 slots filled in for bakers. We need these filled! Need the cookies here by 11:00 a.m. Brownies, rice krispies, cookies, all are OK.
- You can Zelle funds. Sponsors are always welcomed.
- Open House Event, Dec. 3 will also need cookies. (More details to come.)
- Remember to save the distributing for other people if you have already had an opportunity to distribute one time.

C. Booster Club

Paige Dominey

- Hoco shirts are being distributed this week. These were a preorder item, not a part of the Diamond Level for Walkathon.
- New baseball shirt is available, *There is No Place like Home* and also some new hats. These are available online and in the Booster Club store.

D. Eagle Treats

Fatima Maniar, Janna Moore, Crystal Cruz

- Next day is Oct. 17. Each slot on the Sign Up Genius is meant to be a quantity of 120 bags of whatever you're signing up for.
- You can bring the items early since they are nonperishable. Mark them Eagle Treats.
- Donation link in on the Eagle Store and also on the newsletter.

E. Father/Son Mass (Nov. 1)

Eva Paek

- Wed Nov. 1, All Saints Day, 7:50 a.m. with a reception following. Grab and go Kolaches, donuts, coffee, juice. 9:45 a.m. wrapping up. Sign Up Genius for volunteering.
- If Dad is not available, a mom or grandmother or other family member can come.

F. MC Social Events

Nina Boutte

- Watch in newsletter for upcoming events.

G. Moms in Prayer

Kris Peters

- We've had some really good participation.
- Wed 8:00-9:00 a.m. via Zoom. Link is in the Newsletter.
- First Wed. of the month is in person in the Chapel. Except Nov, it will be Nov. 8.

H. Young Life

Amy Huggins

- 7:13 p.m. Monday nights. Can come at 6:30 p.m. for games and pizza.
- We are the first boy's Catholic school that has YL.
- Looking for parent ambassadors and student ambassadors too, to spread the word. There is a link in the newsletter that will take you to Heights on the Bayou Young Life. They have an Instagram page as well.

IX. Closing Comments/Meeting Adjourned at 1:10

Great start to the year.

Thursday, November 9--Next Mothers' Club Mass @ 11:30 a.m. & General Meeting @ 12 noon.
Guest Speaker will be Caroline McRoberts, Director of the LEC.

November

- 1 @ 7:50a Father/Son Mass
- 3 @8a Auction Set Up and Decorations
- 4 @6p Auction & Gala "Hopelessly Devoted to STH"
- 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

Homecoming Dance
Sign Up Genius



Homecoming
Candy and Dessert
Sign Up Genius



Cookie Break



Eagle Treats
Donation



Eagle Treats
Sign Up Genius

