



ST. THOMAS MOTHERS' CLUB

General Meeting Minutes—February 8, 2024

Attendance: In Person--22 via Zoom—9

Quorum: Yes

Meeting Called to Order by Paige Dominey at 12:34 p.m.

- I. Welcome/Opening Prayer Dr. Aaron Dominguez '96
- II. President's Report Father Jim Murphy, CSB
Not present
- III. Guest Speaker Chelette Stephenson, Director of Counseling
 - o College counseling is our main goal. Help with picking classes and taking advantage of all the resources at STH like the LEC.
 - o Summer programs are more important than ever. Not just for college admissions but also for discovering yourself.
 - o SAT and ACT testing here at STH. Ran the first digital test for PSAT this October.
 - o Small groups in the Spring will start to specialize.
 - o Alumni Mentor program will kick off in May. If you know of any alumni who would be interested in mentoring, let the counselors know.
 - o When you're making summer trip plans, consider visiting colleges and have STH alumni show you around.
 - o 84% of Senior class has been accepted to at least one college as of today. Over 1300 applications submitted and 422 reported. Boys don't always report though--please remind Senior boys to show counselors their acceptance letters.
 - o Create a 4-year plan. What should I be doing? Where is your child showing interest? Handout will give guidance and will be available in their Naviance journal with links to summer opportunities, test prep, service opportunities, etc.
 - o Comparison is the thief of joy. Don't compare your son's journey to someone else's. Make sure you're not getting all your college advice from your neighbors. Things change from year to year.
 - o Adaptive testing now for SAT and ACT.
 - o SAT test is going all digital this March. ACT will be paper for one more cycle, then digital.
 - o Buyers and Sellers College List—The Buyers will give you more scholarship money. This resource shows how fast students are graduating from the colleges. Something to consider about each school.
 - o Look at merit aid--given based on test scores. Our data shows that our boys are hitting these ranges to receive merit aid. 21% of class of 2023 scored above 1400.
 - o Look at summer programs. Applications are starting now. The programs do fill up. Light bulbs can go off/learn new things/see themselves at that school/learn independence and can see what it looks like to be at that college.
 - o Entrepreneur, Business Programs, and College Essay Camps available this summer at STH.
 - o Log in to Naviance!
 - o The Counseling newsletter is going out every 2 weeks.
 - o The small group program is coming out soon and it is also on the school calendar in pink.
 - o Recommended books--*Grown & Flown*, *Raising Emotionally Strong Boys*
- IV. Principal's Report Dr. Aaron Dominguez '96
 - o Senior moms and dads—Seniors need to remember that they actually need to do the work to graduate. Don't slack off. In previous years if boys had below a 75 in one or more classes, they had to go to a senior study hall. Not doing this anymore bc the feedback was so negative. But they

will be called in for a group discussion. This is the reminder to do the work. Very important to graduate.

- Executing a study this Spring to determine changes overall to the academic program. Possible changes to the amount of work put in front of students. Best practice may not be volumes of work. Based off a book *Overloaded and Underprepared*. 170 or so boys will be selected for the study. Dr. D will select the participants. Once data collected, a small committee of faculty and students will analyze the data. Will come up with a future HW/student work policy that will be fair, rigorous, and aligned with the school vision.
- The boys need a healthy balance. Need some free time on the weekends and adequate sleep.

V. Advancement Office—Round Up Raffle Steve Cummings, Alumni Director, and Kenny Martin, Annual Fund Director, Soccer Coach.

- In charge of the student portion of Round Up, making all the announcements to the boys about what to do and not do for RU.
- If 3 quotas were turned in by today, earned dress down for a month after RU. 120 boys hit this mark. Will also get the t-shirt, sweatpants, hoodie t-shirt.
- 4th quota-off-campus lunch.
- 5th quota-Ticket to an Astros game.
- If turn in 4 quotas by Feb. 22, name will be entered into a drawing for a turtle box. Can get up to 10 more entries for additional quotas turned in by this date.
- Make sure tickets are filled out right. (Buyer's full name, phone number or email, student's full name.)
- Label maker at school to print labels for a lot of tickets.
- If struggling to sell, come see Kenny and Steve.
- Alumni want to be called. They expect it around this time.
- Do not buy your son's first quota.
- We want to set the boys up for success. RU is a pillar of our brotherhood.
- Online payments can be accessed through a link on the Eagle Store. This option can be offered *after* someone has confirmed they will purchase a ticket. The buyer has to enter seller's name for the seller to receive the credit. Kenny will send the boys an email after someone makes an online payment in their name. Boys don't need to fill out a ticket for these online sales.
- Follow the Instagram page—STHRoundUp. A good way to see what the boys are doing.
- Mr. O'Brien and Ms. Looper handle the phone-a-thon and letter writing campaign. Sometimes these payments don't come in until after RU. They will count towards incentives but can't rely on letter writing campaign to come back in time to count for the add-on incentives. (They don't count until the payment comes in.) Don't base all your selling on the letter writing campaign.
- It is possible to do a private turn in for large sales. Request this with the Advancement Office.
- If it is just a donation and they don't want tickets, boys can get credit for this too. Write donation on the check.
- More quotas can be picked up in the Business Office any time during school day.

VI. Officer Reports

A. Vice President

Judy Wittman

- Looking for a couple of people to help with rewriting/changing any necessary parts of the Mothers' Club Bylaws.

B. Treasurer

Kris Peters

- Galentines tickets sales looking good.
- Budget is on track. Let Kris know if you haven't been reimbursed for something and she will help track it down.
- Use the form that is on the Mothers' Club website for reimbursements.
- Can check out a credit card and use it at the school to make purchases.

C. Communications Secretary

Amy Price

- Newsletter each week going out on Wed. Use links to go to all the areas to volunteer. If the links don't work, let Amy or Paige know.

- D. Recording Secretary Davalyn Bone
- Motion to approve January minutes—Emily Guyre. Seconded by Liz Brown. Minutes approved.
- E. Past President Emily Guyre
- Nominations for 2024-2025 Executive Board. Self-Nomination forms due March 6
 - Tom's Moms Galentines Party sold out. 40 tickets sold.
- VII. Big Three Updates
- A. Auction/Gala Maru Pruneda, Maria Morfin, Liz Brown, Cheryl Dzurec
- No report
- B. Round Up Tiffany Davila, Megan Long, Carmen Trevino, Jennifer Langin
- Save the Date—Sunday, March 3; March 2 Preview Night
 - email:: stheaglesroundup@gmail.com
 - 3 weeks until RU. Prayers for good weather are appreciated.
 - Reminders—Preview party for Big Red Market Saturday night before RU.
 - Vendors for the Big Red Market will be featured on the Mothers' Club Instagram page before RU.
 - Listi is putting final touches on the Volunteer Sign Up Genius. It will go to faculty first then to the RU Gazette.
 - Sponsorships--Platiunum sponsor sold, 2 Gold sponsors sold. We have room for one more Gold and more Ruby sponsors. Deadline is Feb. 14. Businesses are great to have on the T-shirt.
 - Food Court needs Carnival Snacks Chair, an easy and fun booth.
 - Mandatory Chair mtg on 2/29 6pm in Cemo.
 - Sign up Genius for Theme Baskets. Maru is helping with that. Can also donate money to use for items for the baskets.
 - Tom Eagle on the Town. Gift cards for restaurants or donations for us to buy the gift cards.
 - Prizes needed for the games—drop off in Advancement office or Front office
 - Class donations—Freshmen/Senior—Two 2 liter bottles of brand name soda, Sophomores—individually wrapped baked goods, Juniors—a whole cake for Cake Walk.
 - 6:00 p.m. is the big raffle drawing.
- C. Style Show Haley Finkelman, Killian Gilbert-Smith, Kathleen Brickley
- Save the Date—Friday, April 26, Theme—Run for the Roses
 - email: EaglesStyleShow@gmail.com
 - An email going out with the info if you missed the mtg. for Senior moms.
 - Senior families were given the opportunity to buy underwriting tables first.
 - Winner's circle rose pendant--\$53 in honor of 53rd Style Show.
 - Mystery Bag--\$50 buys one bag. Merchandise item inside each bag is worth \$50+
 - Donations ongoing until April.
 - We would love to have underclassmen moms volunteer the day of the event.
- VIII. Standing Committees & Special Events
- A. Cookie Break (2/13, 3/26, 4/17, 5/15) Nichola Carr-Welch
- QR code on the Agenda and MC newsletter to sign up to bake and/or distribute cookies.
 - Write "nuts" on the bag if your cookies have nuts.
- B. Booster Club Paige Dominey
- Will be selling merchandise at RU, New Eagle Welcome, and Registration night.
 - New designs coming out; one is a Class of 2028 sweatshirt for the new boys coming in.

- C. Eagle Treats (2/13, 3/26, 4/16) Fatima Maniar, Janna Moore, Crystal Cruz
 - o Boxes of Valentines candy for Feb. 13. Bring them to the Front office. Can donate money too.
- D. Prom Irma Rodriguez, Maria Morfin
 - o Sign up Genius for Chaperones and gift cards are on the back of the Agenda and in the newsletter.
 - o Prom is April 5 at Union Station at Minute Maid Park.
 - o Good opportunity for Fr/soph moms to chaperone since it is a junior/senior event.
- E. Moms in Prayer Kris Peters
 - o Meet every week Wed. at 8:00 a.m. via Zoom. Goal is to pray for the STH community.
- F. Young Life
 - o Heights on the Bayou Instagram has all their information.
- G. President Paige Dominey
 - a. Old Business
 - o Social - Lunch at Mia's Table was fun.
 - o Melchor Family support—link is still in the newsletter. They would love anything that shows we are still thinking about them.
 - b. New Business
 - o Black History Month Celebration, Feb. 22. Link in Dr. D's email with how to be involved.
 - o New Eagle Welcome, March 22—Boys who have gotten in to STH are invited to come to campus for a fun night..
 - o MC Social, Bingo Night @ Lodge in the Heights (date change to April)
 - o Registration Night for Class of 2028, April 3--boys who have confirmed they are coming to STH.
 - o Academic Awards Ceremony, April 17—still need a Chair.
 - o Mentor Moms Social, May 2
- IX. Closing Comments
 - o Round Up is our hot button right now. Spread the word to people you know who are considering coming to STH.
 - o If you have an event coming up in the next month or two, let Gretchen know so she can order any plates, napkins, supplies.

Meeting Adjourned at 1:59 p.m.

Thursday, March 21--Next Mothers' Club Mass @ 11:30 a.m. & General Meeting @ 12 noon. Guest Speaker will be Andrew Quittenton, Theology Department

Upcoming Dates

February

29 @ 6P - Round Up Meeting #3

March

2 @ 5-8P-- Big Red Market @ Round Up Preview Night

3 @ 12p-6p Round Up

3 @ 11a-530p Big Red Market in Reckling Gym

6 - Self Nomination Forms Due for Mothers' Club

7 @ 8:30a MC Exec Board Meeting

21 @ 11:30a Mass & Mothers' Club General Meeting; Guest Speaker—Andrew Quittenton, Theology

22 @ 6-8p New Eagle Welcome

April

3 @ 530-730p - Registration Night Class of 2028

4 @ 8:30a MC Exec Board Meeting

5 @ 8-11p Prom - Minute Maid Park

11 @ 11:30a Mass & Mothers' Club General Meeting, Guest Speaker—Daniel Bryant, Assistant Principal, Academics

17 @ 6:30p Academic Awards Ceremony

26 @ 11a Style Show

May

2 @ 8:30a MC Exec Board Meeting

2 @ 6-8p Mentor Mom Social

4 @ 7p STH/IWA Pop Show Concert @ IWA

10 @ 12p-2p Mothers' Club Spring Luncheon @ JLH

10 7p Spring Music Concert

24 @ TBD Junior Ring Ceremony

24 @ TBD Bacculaureate Bash

25 @ 10a Graduation with Bacculaureate Mass – Class of 2024

Cookie Break



Eagle Treats
Donation



February Eagle Treats



Self Nomination Form



By-laws



Prom



Round Up

