

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 pm by Natalie Gordon, Interim President.

OPENING PRAYER: Jesus, our friend and our brother, please guide us with your wisdom and love today. Help us to do your will and to be open to hear your voice as we speak and listen to one another. Amen.

PRESIDENT REPORT- Natalie Gordon, *Interim President*

- We are still looking for a president and vice president.
- We are going to be looking for event and round sponsors for Trivia night if anyone has any leads.

SECRETARY REPORT- Ashley Lack

- Approval of Minutes from September 6, 2023 meeting
 - A motion was made by Susan Kasten and seconded by Natalie Gordon to approve the minutes as distributed.

TREASURER REPORT- Susan Kasten

- Checking account balance: \$37,000
- Uniform Resale profited \$866
- Dress Down Day Pass Sale profited \$1899
 - Reminder that there are no physical dress down day passes this year. Everything is being tracked on a spreadsheet, which is shared with the office and all of the teachers. There's a tab for each class. SAPA will update this spreadsheet after each SAPA meeting to add passes for those in attendance. Teachers will keep a tally and remove passes after each dress down day.
 - Friday, October 13th is the next SAPA Dress Down Pass day.
- Grandparents' Day came in at a loss of \$221.51. This is after all donations. The event cost more this year due to an increase in the cost of the doughnuts.
- Magic Match had every teacher and extra area sponsored. A very special THANK YOU to the Sponsors for the 2023-2024 school year are:
 - Ron Winkler
 - Jim & Jennifer Hendrickson
 - Deacon Bill & Pat Kessler
 - Carla & David Totten | Nancy & William Orrill | Debbie &
 - James Ellebracht | Donna & Stephen Mikoff
 - Shawn & Nancy Hanion
 - Judith Clark in memory of her husband Jim Clark
 - Terry & Noncy Dooling
 - Deacon Jay & Kim Wackerly
 - J.A.D.

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- Greg & Georgia Adams
- Kathy Rogers
- Ric & Linda Jun
- David & Mary Eckhouse
- Mark & Rebecca Terry
- Michael Stephan
- Tom Bechtold & Cynthia Gelsthorpe
- Virginia Thomeczek
- Godfrey Knights of Columbus
- McTeachers Night profited \$624.50. This event can be held once a year.
 - Special THANK YOU to Natalie Gordon for organizing this fundraiser!
- Saints Sponsor numbers will be available at the next meeting.

PUBLIC RELATIONS REPORT- Emily Lacy & Natalie Gordon

- With Applefest this weekend we will begin promoting the Trivia night.
 - It will be held at the Sports Tap on Saturday, November 4th.
 - Sign up for a table at: <https://satrivia23.givesmart.com/>
 - We would like to look into holding this at a new location next year that will allow guests to bring their own food. Having the event in the school gymnasium will likely require dram shop liability insurance and a liquor license, as well as approval from Father Steve. Deacon Jay suggested that SAPA check with Marcia Wheeler at the Godfrey Knights of Columbus to see about using the KC Hall for next year.

SCHOOL ACTIVITIES REPORT- Sarah Mendoza

- Grandparents Day - overall success, thank you Peggy Kory
- Upcoming Events
 - Halloween Parade - October 31st at 7 pm
 - More information and sign ups will be coming soon.
 - Students voted on this year's theme: Minions
 - Trivia Night - Saturday, November 4, 2023 at SportsTap
 - Book your table: <https://satrivia23.givesmart.com/>
 - Christmas Community Event - Sunday, November 26, 2023
 - Save the date for this event from Noon-3:00 pm
 - More information will be coming soon
 - This will be at Krueger's Orchard and focused on a community event/Toys For Tots toy drive.
 - Christmas Movie Night
 - Organized by Mark Terry & Chris Varady
 - Saturday, December 16th at 7:00 pm
 - 1st Communion/Confirmation Reception
 - SAPA is donating refreshments for this event. Father Steve is providing games/activities for the students.
 - Cardinals Calendar Fundraiser

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- SAPA received an email from Paige Dawdy about organizing a Cardinals Calendar fundraiser. They are 2024 calendars and will be sold for \$17 each; SAPA will receive \$7.50 for each calendar sold. The calendars will arrive by Christmas. The calendars have a coupon page in them as well. Order forms will be available soon and payment will be cash/check only. This will be completely optional for families to participate.
- Thank you to all who have volunteered to be event chairs. All currently scheduled SAPA events have a chair!

DEACON JAY'S REPORT- Jay Wackerly

- Camera wires have all been run for additional security cameras. There are 17 security camera views currently; this upgrade will be adding 16 additional views.
- The Spelling Bee will take place during Catholic Schools Week. We are in need of someone to run/organize this. Please reach out to Deacon Jay if you are interested.
- A representative from Mercy Tree Adventures will speak on February 7th at the SAPA meeting.
- KC Tootsie Roll Drive for Intellectual Disabilities is this weekend. They will be at every Mass and on Tolle lane collecting donations.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT- Bob Baird

- **Model UN Begins** - Our Model UN program will begin after school on Wednesday Oct. 11, 2023. The group will meet once a week until the Model UN conference in February.
- **Book Vending Machine** - Our book vending machine has been a big hit amongst the students. After a month of using the machine, we have given out over 75 tokens for individual students to obtain books to keep. The use of tokens and the recognition that comes with it, has led to many acts of volunteerism and a desire to pitch in and contribute amongst the students.
- **8th Grade Class Trip** - Our 8th grade recently made their class trip to Camp Ondessonk. After the trip students talked about how nice the staff were and how much fun they had on the trip. Even students that were originally skeptical about attending acknowledged that they had a lot of fun and that it was a great experience.
- **Vision & Hearing Screening**- On Oct. 16 we have our annual vision and hearing screening. The screening is for Kindergarteners that haven't turned in an eye exam yet. It is also for 2nd grade, 8th grade, and those new to the school not in preschool. The hearing screening is for K, 1st, 2nd, 3rd grades, and those new to the school not in preschool.
- **End of 1st Quarter & Report Cards** -The end of the 1st Quarter is Friday Oct. 13, 2023. A week later during the afternoon of Friday Oct. 20, 2023, the report cards will be opened and available on FACTS SIS.
- **Halloween Parade & Trunk or Treat 10-26-23** - Again in 2023 St. Ambrose will have a float in the Alton Halloween Parade. Students have chosen the Minions as a theme. Students will have the opportunity to walk or ride on the float and are encouraged to participate in the theme. More information and sign-ups will be shared soon. Our annual Trunk or Treat event is scheduled for Thursday Oct. 26, 2023 at 7:00 PM.

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Donations will be accepted to benefit the 7th Grade Class of 2025 and their class trip to Camp Ondessonk. A sign up for the event will be sent out soon.

- **Faith's Law Resource Guide Posted To School Website** - Recently a document was posted to our school website under the Student section. This document is for Faith's law, which works to protect children from sexual predators and abuse. Information contained within includes available resources for victims of abuse. Also contained within is information on processes used when children are suspected of being victims of abuse.
- **Character Counts Assembly for August/September-** Our Character Counts Assembly emphasizing RESPECT for the months of August/September was held on Thursday Sept. 28. Guest speaker at the assembly was former St. Ambrose Catholic School Principal and longtime Parishioner Sheila Mullen. She spoke about RESPECT and what it means to her. Students that received book vending machine tokens were recognized along with other students that have displayed positive acts of RESPECT.
- **Illinois Attorney General's Office Presented to Grades 4-8** -On Thursday Sept. 21 at 1:45, Alyssa Castleman, from the Illinois Attorney General's Office, was on hand to talk to our 4-8 grade students about the dangers of the misuse of technology and social media. The talk lasted about 45 minutes and the students had the opportunity to ask questions.

- **ADDITIONAL COMMENTS ON PRINCIPAL'S REPORT**
- Parent/Teacher Conferences are scheduled for Wednesday, October 25th from 3:30-7:30 pm and Thursday, October 26th from 3:30-6:30 pm. A link to sign up will be sent out by Friday October 6. Trunk or Treat will be held after conferences on Thursday, October 26th. There will be no school on Friday, October 27th.
- Peggy Kory is coordinating a Wellness Plan for St. Ambrose. This is a requirement for our upcoming accreditation. This plan highlights our school wide approach to nutrition, health and physical activity, including times spent in activities such as recess and P.E., as well as our food offerings and medication/medical management. Mrs. Kribs and Mr. Baird are also assisting. The plan will be released later this fall. Chris Varady also volunteered to assist with this, as she is a nurse practitioner.
- Mr. Baird will be submitting a proposal to SAPA regarding donation of supplies for Catholic Schools Week, which is Sunday, January 28-Friday, February 2, 2024.
- Building updates: The doors have been ordered from Lyons glass to replace the doors at the back of the building (Kindergarten door, back parking lot door, gym doors, courtyard door).
- Mr. Baird performed a successful heimlich maneuver on a student during lunch last week. Thea Mendonza recognized that a student was choking and immediately sought help from Mr. Baird. THANK YOU to Mr. Baird and Thea Mendoza for your heroic actions!

NEW BUSINESS

- No new business was brought forward.

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS/DISCUSSION- Open Forum

- No additional questions were raised.

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CLOSING PRAYER: We give you thanks, Lord, for helping us to learn more and how to love one another. Please help us to always be instruments of your perfect peace in our school. Amen.

With no further questions/discussions, the meeting was adjourned at 6:29 p.m. by Natalie Gordon, Interim President.