

**MEETING MINUTES
ST.LUKE'S EPISCOPAL SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL
NOVEMBER 29, 2007**

The following members were present at the meeting: Jill Vassar, Cathy Case, Donna Basse, Jessica Koontz, Carol Bousquet, Shannon Wingrove, Aida Snyder, April Zgardowski, Catherine Spezia, Molly Salmon, Betty Lansdale, Lisa Brunsvold, Mary Ellen Archer, Betsy Zachry, Dana Hawkes, Carra Garza, Nancy Wright, Laura Soules, Mary Ann Randolph, Liecie Hollis, Amy Martin, Laura Gulley, Margaret Ann Casseb, Sherry Murphy, Bridget Booth, Mari Pickering and Shirley Berdecio. Apologies received from Roxana Newsom and Libby Bentley.

WELCOME

Jill called the meeting to order at 8:40am. The meeting was held at Talbot's at North Star Mall, since both Talbot's and St. Luke's are celebrating 60th anniversaries. Jill introduced Kat Hensley, manager at Talbot's, and thanked her for hosting our meeting. Talbot's provided food, Starbuck's coffee, goodie bags and door prizes and we are very appreciative of their hospitality.

The opening prayers were led by Bridget Booth.

DEVOTIONAL

Ann Allen, Director of Children's Ministries at St. Luke's Episcopal Church, gave the devotional.

HEAD OF SCHOOL REPORT

Shirley gave an overview on Character Education at St. Luke's and how it is embedded in the life of the school:

- Character education is infused in the whole school program
- Daily Chapel is the basis for Character education
- The study of the Bible during chapel enables children to garner an in-depth understanding and apply it to their own stage of development in life
- The Pledge of Allegiance is recited every morning
- The St. Luke's Way is recited every morning: "As members of a Christian community, our conduct is guided by love and respect for God, our school, our neighbors, and ourselves. We demonstrate the St. Luke's Way through behavior that is courteous and cooperative"
- "Words of Wisdom" from Project Wisdom is read every morning; there are different themes such as kindness, respect, gratitude, and setting goals with thought-provoking messages designed to inspire children to make wise choices
- Teachers are given hand-outs from "Words of Wisdom" to try to incorporate the theme into the school day whenever possible
- Shirley conducts chapel on Friday and reviews the "Words of Wisdom" theme with the children; occasionally 8th grade students will perform a skit exemplifying the trait
- Cross-age/Cross-grade level connections: the K-8 configuration of the school lends itself to a more community-type atmosphere; the younger children have the older students to look up to as role models and understand the progression and purpose of

education, whereas the older children serve as role models and mentors to the younger students and this arrangement gives them a sense of accountability

- Examples of Cross-grade level connections are: 8th graders sitting with younger students at Chapel, sharing snack time, and looking for ways for students to share ideas and thoughts in the Core Knowledge Curriculum
- Community Service is an important aspect in a St. Luke's education
- St. Luke's wants to create children who are grateful, thankful, and realize that they have self-worth; this is achieved from doing things that we don't directly benefit from

Shirley also announced that the school will not switch to the ERB test this year, as previously thought. We will stay with the Stanford for achievement testing this year and switch to the ERB next year. The school wants the teachers to be more comfortable making the change, and wants to have more time for training. The curriculum map will be revised to tie-in the objectives.

AUCTION PARTY

In Roxana's absence, Jill gave an update on the Auction Party. The date is set for March 7, 2008 at the Pearl Stable. The catering will be by Don Strange and the band is Blind Date Austin. Also, the Guardian Angel Fund is being created to help families who need assistance paying for school expenses such as the 8th grade Washington, D.C. trip, outdoor school, and the 4th grade trip to Space Day in Washington, D.C. The proceeds from the sale of the Class Projects at the Auction Party will fund this project. Another new auction item this year will be off-campus teacher lunches.

MIDDLE SCHOOL DANCES

Betsy reported that the 6th grade will have their own dance, separate from the 7th and 8th graders. The 6th grade dance will be at St. Luke's, tentative date April 4, 2008. Also, Bishop Lillibridge will be the guest speaker at the next Middle School Lecture Series event. This will be held on January 15, 2008, with a cocktail reception starting at 6:30pm and the lecture starting at 7:00pm. The topic will be "Keeping Spirituality in your Teen's Life".

ANNUAL FUND

Jill presented a "Hero's List", compiled by Lisa Brunsvold, of parents who have already committed to giving to the Annual Fund. Jill spoke about the fact that Parent Council has scaled back on other fundraising events in order to support the Annual Fund and the Auction Party. There will be more information on the Annual Fund coming out soon, and the campaign ends May 31, 2008. We encourage everyone to participate.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Bridget gave the Income and Expense report. As of 11/28/07, the Parent Council checking account balance is \$34,884.04. We have had very good participation in the Classroom Accounts this year-\$18,529.58 has been collected. The participation rate is 92 percent. You can still order Sally Foster online. The final totals from Book Fair have not been received yet.

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION

Presentations to the Sixty Super Supporters were made:

8. Rene Euresti-Yearbook

9. Susana Euresti-Yearbook
10. Mari Pickering-Yearbook
11. Mindy Daubert-Book Fair
12. Christina Staskawicz-Book Fair
13. Catherine Spezia-Class Captains Coordinator
14. Heidi McCullick-Grandparent's Day Buttons
15. Jennifer Brown-Teacher Luncheon
16. Wendy Atwell-Original Works
17. Nancy Hayne-Original Works
18. Chris Lopez-Class Projects
19. Carra Garza-Class Projects
20. Catherine Payer-Teacher Luncheon

The Volunteer Appreciation event that had been planned for the evening of May 14, 2008 has been changed to a Volunteer Appreciation Chapel. This will take place Friday, May 16, 2008 and will recognize all parent volunteers during a special chapel.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

The minutes from the September 20, 2007 Parent Council meeting were approved.

CLOSING ANNOUNCEMENTS AND ADJOURN

Shirley announced that the contracts for 3-year olds are ready to be processed. If you know of anyone wanting to enroll, make sure they have turned in an application.

Betty announced that the →Get Connected←Cluster Coffees will not be held in the spring. There was some confusion with both the Cluster Coffees and the Coffee & Conversation meetings with Shirley. We want everyone to attend the upcoming survey meetings with Shirley, so the Cluster Coffees will be eliminated. There will still be other →Get Connected←events.

Jill recognized Dana Hawkes for all the wonderful work she does for the Parent Council.

The meeting adjourned at 9:35am.

The meeting was followed by a fashion show featuring Talbot's fashions modeled by St. Luke's parents!

Respectfully Submitted,

Cathy Case, VP Communications