

CHAMINADE-MADONNA HOME & SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

Minutes from Sept 5th, 2007

Ildi opened the meeting at 7:05pm and invited Ms. Ramos to lead us in a prayer since Father John is home sick. Ms. Ramos shared *Psalm 100* by reading aloud. Ildi welcomed all the new parents to our group, explained our structure and invited ideas. She then introduced the board members and explained our roles.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Father John has allowed H&SA to keep last year's funds to be used this year, so our starting balance is \$3313.33.

Everyone read the minutes of the May 9th meeting. A motion to accept the minutes was made by Lorraine Holland and seconded by Judy Skehan.

GUEST SPEAKER

Colette Varese-Weinstein, now Assistant Principal of Student Affairs, gave an overview of the *House System* including a handout. Deans lead the five *Houses*; Mr.Catalano, Mrs.Billisi, Ms.Sierra-Cohen, Mrs.Blake and Mr.Johnson. She is happy to report that our students are bonding, that the seniors are growing into their roles and she has witnessed a dramatic drastic turn-around between last May and now. Senior students are now showing leadership, and volunteering to accept opportunities to become a positive influence on others. They are given opportunities to coach each other in activities for 15 minutes a day as well as accept coaching from others, and then to analyze the difference in how they feel about it. They are becoming aware of everyone around them. They will be making crests and shields for each *House*.

OLD BUSINESS

Ildi read aloud a beautiful thank-you card from Mr. Daniel Carlson who is our Teacher of the Year. He is committed to continuing to carry out the vision of Father Chaminade.

NEW BUSINESS

Ildi requested parents who can help volunteer with the upcoming H&SA events:

Monthly Teacher Breakfasts, which is organized by Lorraine Holland
Red Ribbon Week in May, headed by Helen Hendrick
Father/Daughter Dinner Dance, in C-M Cafeteria and the date is to be announced
Baccalaureate Reception & Graduation
Open House, which is held October 20th and also again later in the year
Christmas Campus Decoration headed by Kathy Little
Mother/Son Dinner Dance, at Hillcrest and the date to be announced

Parents can volunteer and sign up to help with these events at the end of this meeting.

Lorraine explained the monthly teacher breakfast, which is served every 3rd Thursday of the month at 7:15am in the President's Lounge. Teachers are very appreciative of this special event, which is supported by Miramar Bakery.

Regarding the Christmas Campus decorating, Ildi suggested we need a new Christmas tree to put in the cafeteria, where there is a beautiful Christmas Eve Mass. Lorraine Holland motioned we use H&SA funds, and MaryLou Joyce seconded that we spend up to \$300 on the tree & lights. It was agreed by the group to purchase a new artificial tree for this Christmas.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Ms. Ramos reported the beginning of the school year has begun very smoothly. She showed us a slide show of what the students look like this year in differing events. She stated how much she enjoyed the Back to School night.

This Monday, Sept 10th is the first of five *Encounters* for juniors, which is a requirement for graduation. There are four others scheduled throughout the school year.

There is a Liturgy Induction of Eucharist Ministers to which all parents are invited on Sept 20th at 10:15am at Nativity Church.

Spirit Challenge Day on Sept 21st is the day our local 8th graders are invited to visit C-M, so there will be no classes for our students. Nativity students will be visiting Oct 12th, due to a conflict. The Open House in October is for parents to visit our school.

Parent-Teacher conferences are on Sept 27th from 5pm to 7pm for all parents. *EdLine* announcements were sent to new parents; returning parents are to use the same activation codes to access the website and your passwords are the same as last year. Our teachers are required to post academic progress reports every Friday, as well as test dates and major projects. Encourage your student to use their school planner as their homework assignment agenda. There are very few days with no assigned homework, so please communicate and follow up with your students so they can do their best. Teachers may communicate with their students via email using the *EdLine* site.

As part of the SACS (Southern Association of Colleges and Schools) evaluation and the Marianist Education Office evaluation of C-M, we will be receiving an anonymous electronic parent survey to fill out and send back. Ms. Ramos encourages us to be honest in our feedback.

Please give your feedback on the *House System* to Colette Varese-Weinstein by email.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:04pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Helen Hendrick, Recording Secretary