



## **MQP Home & School Association - Meeting Minutes**

September 14, 2023 at 7pm

Holy Family Room

	<i>Denise Watkins, HASA President, called the meeting to order and welcomed all to the meeting of the year. Total Attendance: 27</i>
7:00 - 7:05	<b>Opening Prayer</b>
7:15	<p><b>Secretary's Report</b> - Lindsey Field</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Roster Review</li> <li>• Teacher's Favorite Things - Karen Reilly</li> </ul> <p><i>Karen reported she is working to update the "Teacher's Favorite Things" information spreadsheet, with the help of Lori Klimt in the front office. She will provide the room parents with the updated spreadsheet upon its completion. Many thanks to Karen for coordinating!</i></p>
7:15-8:35	<p><b>Event Updates - Chairpersons</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grandparent's Day - Meghan Zahra</li> </ul> <p><i>Meghan reported the event began with a prayer service and then moved toward the reception. She thanked all of the volunteers who helped to make the day possible. Trish Wuelling from the front office helped create a survey to gauge attendance, which also helped to organize seating in church and dismissal procedures with grandparents and children. The event featured less coffee stations than last year, catered via Food Services, which helped to make the event flow well. Many items were plated prior to the reception. Meghan thanked the Men's Club for helping with parking and traffic duty. Event take-aways: Facility reservations need to be made early, especially the cafe; Communicate with other parish organizations to ensure space is ready (MQPAA for the gym, etc...); Prioritize seeking a clear pathway from church to school; More seating and potential chair rental; Golf carts for help with handicapped persons and/or far away parking; and more volunteers for clean up purposes. Thank you Meghan for chairing this timeless MQP tradition!</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bratfest - TJ Scherbel and Alex Donley, not present</li> </ul> <p><i>Read into the record by Denise Watkins. TJ reported they are excited Bratfest is quickly approaching in 10 days. It is scheduled for 9/24 from 4-7pm. Everything is booked and final preparations are being made. He also indicated they are announcing sponsorships will be available for the first time this year. All sponsors and donors will have signage posted at the event. If you are interested, please contact TJ Scherbel or purchase on Bratfest WeShare site, where presales tickets for food and drink are also available. They are also happy that pretzel sales will be back this year, sold by the 4th grade girl scouts, and the 8th graders will be selling Christmas wreaths &amp; greenery. This is the primary fundraiser to pay for the special events they get to take part in their 8th grade year, such as the Luke 18 retreat, the Seder Meal, the 8th grade musical and cast party, the Rose Mass, the Mystery Trip, the Graduation Glow Party and</i></p>

*some special stewardship activities. Any leftover monies are donated at the end of the year to the charity/charities that the kids choose collectively. Lastly, TJ stated they are still looking for volunteers to help monitor the inflatables in the gym. There are several openings on the All School Events sign-up genius. Many thanks to the Scherbel and Donley families for continuing to make this event possible!*

- **Stewardship - Maria Kiphart**

*Maria reported all grades now have a volunteer coordinator. Maria would like to encourage and drive awareness to the Stewardship program. There will only be 2 days of Stewardship this year, with October 6, 2023 being the 1st date. Patty Baxendale, our liaison with Catholic Charities, has been a great supporter and leader for ideas. The spring date is set for January 18, 2024. Coordinators have the option of either hosting an event that day, or requesting an off-site service opportunity date that can occur any time in the spring semester. Maria is hopeful to promote ongoing stewardship based activities throughout the year. The Stewardship mass will occur again this year on September 27, 2023. Maria also proposed the Stewardship Coordinator role be added to the all school SUG, and Denise Watkins agreed with the caveat of a detailed description for this role. Jennifer Hulsen requested to ensure the grade banners reflecting Stewardship themes be located and present at the Stewardship mass. Michele Roy also brought up an "end of year" pep rally where each grade presented money or gifts to their charity of choice, which was done at an all school mass last year. Thank you Maria for your work to make our Stewardship program impactful!*

- **Trunk or Treat - Kelli White**

*Kelli reported Trunk or Treat is set for October 27, 2023 with cars arriving at 5:40, and walkers arriving at 6:10. The goal is to have the lot cleared at 8:20, and streetsweeper will come at 9:00 p.m. Cleaning services will also be hired for indoor areas that will receive traffic. A "Save the Date" should be going out via Flocknote and MQP Bulletin on 9/21, as well as the MQP Weekly on 9/22 and 9/29. Registration will open 10/2 for families. Kelli is hopeful for a Facebook event, as well as a banner on both the parish and school website. The WeShare link is already set up, with the cost being \$20 per family and the ability to print tickets. A master registration sheet will also be kept. Kelli purchased a photo backdrop for the event, and is hopeful to set it up outside by DJ area. Kelli greatly thanked the previous event chairs for providing a detailed list of event "to-do's." We can't wait to trunk-or-treat, Kelli!*

- **Scholastic Book Fair - Emily Joseph**

*Emily reported the plan is to open the book fair the week of November 6 -9, including evening hours during Parent-Teacher Conferences. Karen Reilly offered to help Emily with event SUG information, including volunteer numbers and time for both set up and take down, as well as the event itself. Emily also noted MQP Scholastic monies were around \$1600, and Laura Miller and Emily used some of those funds to facilitate the purchase of \$600 in additional books for our library.*

- **Raise - Right (fka: SHOP/Scrip) - Jody Jorgensen**

Jody reported that the SHOP program has transitioned titles to "Raise-Right." She explained to those unfamiliar with this program that it allows us to purchase a gift card at face value, and in turn MQP receives a portion of those monies. Jody recently transferred over to Raise - Right, and currently her main goal is to now update our MQP website and to spread awareness of this fundraising program. Jodi also noted Items can be purchased through the WeShare platform, and she is hopeful to place a monthly order for gift cards purchased through the platform. Jody also stated that MQP will only be listing/selling gift cards for the brands that comply with the views of our Catholic Church via our website. Megan Dolan questioned the WeShare fee structure for these purchases (possibly 3%), and Jody said she will follow up with this hidden fee. Thank you, Jodi, for your efforts on this fundraising opportunity!

- School Supplies Proposal - Julie Dietzel

Julie presented an alternative to School Tool Box, and indicated she crunched the numbers and proposed MQP HASA to consider handling this in-house. She presented a spreadsheet indicating Stats, actual School Tool Box numbers, and her proposal. Erin Venable (current school supplies chair) reported she is holding off on signing the contract with School Tool Box for next year, and stated she also had a competitor who reached out to her. Julie and Erin will be added to an Agenda for a future date to explore this option further and/or for formal voting purposes.

- Library Curriculum and Software - Laura Miller

Library

Laura reported the new software is here and she is awaiting a notarized document stating she is a formal employee of the school prior to her being given access. She explained every single book in the library will be re-scanned into the system, as well as her goal to "weed out" older items. Laura will also be rating every single book at a reading "level," and the children will then have access to books they know are at their reading level, which will also be noted in the new system. She stated she is aiming to complete this by Thanksgiving. K-5th children are coming to the library on Thursdays and Friday, and preschool teachers are scheduling their own times. 6th-8th grades have an open invitation to come into the library during their free time, should they so choose. Laura would also like to upgrade the furniture and "library title," once she gets a better idea for how the library is used by the students. The "Library Birthday Program" already has 15 books that have been donated.

Laura has a long list of books that the children have been asking for repeatedly that we do not currently have, and she noted there are quite a few books that we are unable to purchase through scholastic. Laura is seeking ideas for donations, wish-lists, and or store purchases to fundraise for additional books.

Laura presented a \$520 funding request for 5 additional beanbags, 2 sets of 6 floor cushions, portable white board, and 8 stools. A motion was made to approve Laura's funding request, which passed unanimously, upon approval by HASA President Denise Watkins.

Curriculum Enrichment

Laura would like to gauge interest in the Junior Achievement program/curriculum, to re-institute in our classrooms at MQP. (Junior Achievement is a parent, volunteer run and

educating the children on business practices and teaching them to the school-age child.) Junior Achievement is no cost, and there are options as to how the curriculum can be taught (1 hour for a 5 week period, or 1 full day). The overall consensus was for 1 full day, and would require 2 parent volunteers, per classroom, for each grade. This is meant for K-5, possibly 6-7, and Laura noted the junior high children are able to possibly visit the headquarters.

#### HASA Sponsorship of Outside Activity

Laura reported a push for 5-8th grade, technology and social media training. West County Psychological Associates referred Laura to Greg Miller, an Artificial Intelligence professional expert for Parent/Teacher training as an educator who could offer professional development for teachers on the ability for them to use AI in their classrooms, as well as the pitfalls of student use. Greg Miller also has a partner out of Nashville who speaks directly to children on the importance of social media cautiousness. She will be reviewing a contract from Greg Miller, and speaking with Ms. Fanning.

#### Catholic Schools Week

Laura Miller also reported that she has started working on CSW planning with Ms. Fanning, and is open for ideas to make this an energetic week.

Wow! Laura, thank you for your hard work in restoring our library and curriculum enrichment programs!

- Marketing and Communications - Lisa Voges and Mari Barringer, not present

Read into the record by Denise Watkins. "As we work to define these evolving roles, we wanted to share where we currently stand. Two of our main goals are to help support communication between HASA and parents as well as help with marketing for HASA - we have a few things in the works that will hopefully get us moving in the right direction. First, we're in the process of rebooting the HASA instagram page and are also working on creating a space where all of our info will eventually live (whether on Fast Direct or a separate protected space on the website.) Caroline Ragsdale is working on some house-keeping items - she will soon begin putting together process manuals for each Event Chair role (essentially, an online version of our old binders) and will save in the google drive for future access. If you can please work with her on getting her the info she needs, we would appreciate it! While it seems like a tedious task to detail the process of each role, it is important we get this info saved in a space that is consistent and accessible to all. Our final initiative - we are putting together a quarterly newsletter highlighting all that HASA does throughout the school year. We plan to cover a number of items in this first edition - if you have something you would like to contribute, please reach out. The first edition will go out later this month!

That's our quick update. As always, please reach out with any questions or suggestions! And, if you need assistance with an upcoming event, please let us know. While we know it's not always possible, we would appreciate a week's notice for help with anything design-related." Many thanks to Lisa and Mari!

8:45-8:55

**Principal's Report –**  
No items to report.

8:55-9:15	<p><b>President's Report</b> – Denise Watkins</p> <p><i>Denise reported on her findings within the large storage closet next to the concession stand. She indicated she is currently trying to discover what is being kept inside, mainly for purposes of inventorying items that we already have negating the purchase of new/duplicate items. Denise noted the closet is shared by HASA, Women's League, VBS, Auction, MQPAA, Springfest, Breakfast with Santa, etc... Jennifer Hulsen warned to please not store open items or perishable items in this storage closet. Further, shelf labeling is likely not current. Denise shared her plan is to try to perform an inventory and restructure the closet.</i></p>
9:15-9:30	<p><b>Treasurer's Report</b> – Megan Dolan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Budget Review and Update</li> </ul> <p><i>Megan walked those present through the Statement of Activity, and reported on total expenditures thus far. <b><u>MEGAN - PLEASE FEEL FREE TO UPDATE THIS - I FEEL LIKE I MISSED OUT ON A TON OF INFORMATION AT THE END OF THE MEETING. MY APOLOGIES!</u></b></i></p>

The next Home and School Meeting will take place on  
Thursday, October 19th at 7pm in the Holy Family Room.

**2023-2024 HASA Meeting Dates**

8/24, 9/14, 10/19, 11/16, 12/14, 1/18, 2/15, 3/21, 04/18, 05/16