



MQP Home & School Association - Meeting Minutes

August 24, 2023 at 7pm

Holy Family Room

	<p><i>Denise Watkins, HASA President, called the meeting to order and welcomed all to the first meeting of the year. All attendees introduced themselves. Total Attendance: 30 (approximately).</i></p>
7:00 - 7:05	<p>Opening Prayer</p>
7:15	<p>Introductions - Denise Watkins</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Roster Review/Updates <p><i>Lindsey Field distributed a master roster list so that all present could check that their contact information is correct. This master list records both phone numbers and emails to be used for easy HASA communication – if anyone would prefer that their phone number not be shared/used for non-urgent communication, please let Lindsey know.</i></p>
7:15-8:35	<p>Event Updates - Chairpersons</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Spirit Wear - Rachel Bolin and Rachel Didion <p><i>Rachel Bolin reported the Shop is currently open, and some items might be noted as being ineligible for spirit wear Fridays at school. Rachel indicated all seems to be going well. Spirit wear Fridays have been discussed with respect to what is permitted to be worn. Spirit wear is only a top. Anne Steffens and/or the school office will be sending a flocknote following up on this spirit. Many thanks to Rachel!</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● School Supplies- Erin Venable (not present) <p><i>Erin Venable provided a summary that reported that 91 families pre-ordered 166 boxes of school supplies, for a total of \$16,064 in total sales resulting in a net profit for MQP of \$1,120. Many thanks to Erin!</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Buddy Family - Sarah Saguto <p><i>Sarah Saguto reported it was a very successful year. There were 230 RSVP's for the pizza party, with approximately 175 persons who showed up. MQP magnets were purchased as a new family gift and distributed, and the remaining will be donated to the office. Event "takeaways" - Sarah advised to be cognizant that we must empty our own trash, and should likely look at a cleaning service to be utilized prior to Ice Cream Social event on Sunday. 120 signs were also delivered with help from 20+ volunteers. MQP Yard Sign collections will occur the second week of school. Many thanks to Sarah, Jessie Austermann, and Kim Obholz for their efforts in welcoming new families to our MQP family!</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ice Cream Social - Megan Dolan <p><i>Megan Dolan reported it was a great event. Event "takeaways" - Megan advised the set up and take down was a lot and is now our responsibility. There was an open discussion as to the information tables for the school ministries. Are the tables worth it? Is it too much, and did it add value? The overall consensus gathered that it is a rather chaotic event in general, and the</i></p>

ministry tables do not get much traffic. Alternative dates to display/evangelize the ministries was also discussed, such as the possibility of adding it to back to school night. There was also the thought of moving the ministry tables to gym, and even a virtual ministry communication, as well as staggering the ice cream and classroom drop offs.

Kylene Blumeyer indicated she will be happy to utilize Hospitality's "Pretty Committee" to be sure the school is in aesthetic order prior to Buddy Family Pizza Party and Ice Cream Social. Additionally, the possibility of adding ambassadors for hallway/direction help for families - a "more boots on the ground" scenario, along with 8th grade ambassadors. Many thanks to Megan and Sean Dolan for putting on such a great event this year!

- Volunteers

- *All-School Volunteers (SUG) - Denise Watkins

Denise Watkins reported that the SUG is going live Sunday Night, and she is awaiting on a few people to provide volunteer numbers. There are 925 slots on the board this year, which is a bit lower than last year. She is debating making volunteer commitments per family or per child, and she indicated the likely scenario might be one (1) preschool volunteer commitment and three (3), K-8 volunteer commitments per child. Megan Dolan noted there is the possibility of Springfest commitments and SUG possibly parting ways. Denise expressed an issue with importing emails into SUG, which has been a struggle this year. Denise is working with Anne Steffens to remedy this.

- *Room Parents - Katie Collet

Katie Collet reported she used fast direct to communicate with each class, as opposed to SUG, to reach out for room parent volunteers. If multiple responses were submitted, Katie picked out of a hat. All slots were filled and many parents were doing it for the first time this year and she started a "WhatsIt" app chat with all of the room parents to help those newer parents. Katie also discussed the importance of fair treatment with respect to special treats/gifts for the teachers, as well as room parents requesting monies to help each teacher throughout the year. Coordinating between room parents with multiple classes per grade to be sure each teacher is treated fairly is going to be a focus this year. There was a wide array of thoughts regarding what is a "good ask" and what is "too much." Katie will be seeking feedback for next year, on what worked and what did not, as far as "voluntary gift donations" for the room parent to then oversee throughout the year. Some of those present asked about HASA maintaining these accounts. Others present brought up the importance of the \$1 dress down days and each child understanding what that \$1 is going toward. Overall, while not a completely polarizing topic, there was a disparity in opinions as to appropriate Room Parent solicitation, and a few Room Parents that were present discussed their level of comfortability in their duties, as well as the importance of proper stewardship of funds.

Social chairs for grades/classes are no longer a role and will be done without supervision.

- *Recess/Traffic - Michele Roy

Julie Janes presented for Michele. Traffic duty/crosswalk duty is still looking for volunteers - a SUG will be sent out soon. She also reported Michele is working to obtain yellow street signage for the crosswalk areas on both Berry and Lockwood.

- *Cafeteria - Julie Janes

Julie Janes reported that Cafe and Recess volunteer sign-ups are doing well. Praise was offered to our principal and assistant principal for their roles and presence in the cafe. The possibility of maintaining a sub-list via flocknotes (as opposed to a general email with "reply-all") was also discussed.

Many thanks to Denise, Katie, Michele, and Julie for their continued efforts and volunteerism!

- Grandparents' Day - Meghan Zahra

Meghan reported she is busy working on making Grandparent's Day a success. She stated she utilized a google form, via email, to try and get a more accurate head count for Grandparent's Day, but only ½ the people have replied. Men's club will be helping for parking purposes. The Prayer service will occur this year, with a seating chart, and families will be dismissed by last name from church to school. PreK3 and PreK4 will not be in church this year, and those grandparents will meet the preschool children in the classroom. Donuts and coffee will be catered, and the outdoor spot will possibly be removed from a coffee/donut station. Board games for the gym will be asked to be donated, via amazon wish list. A photo booth will also be up and running, and the possibility of placing photos in a google drive was discussed. Cafe staff may be helping with the event as well.

- Bratfest - TJ Scherbel and Alex Donley

TJ Scherbel reported presale tickets will be on sale, similar to years past. There will also be drink tickets available for purchase, inflatables in the gym for FREE, and the popular pony rides and petting zoo will be making a return. TJ mentioned a special thank you to the Donley, Pollaci, Dietzel, and Morgan families who have been instrumental in donating food, beverages and other items, which he hopes will help keep this a profitable event. Julie Dietzel mentioned the possibility of providing "rules" for volunteer parents who help police the bounce house area, and she and the Scherbels will be speaking with the bounce house provider to execute the rules.

- Auction - Mari Barringer

Mari reported the countdown is 14 months, and the event will occur in the school gym! She also stated the linen supplier has already been contacted, and Westwood catering will be reprising their catering role. Mari stated the theme, while not final, is "Let the Good Times Roll," a New Orleans masquerade party. Mari is requesting committee chairs, especially for a silent auction role, as well as shadows to take over the 2026 auction. Mari also questioned the MQP HASA Instagram handle - which appears not to have been used since 2019. She indicated the marketing committee would like to take it over. Many thanks to Mari for getting the good times rolling so early!

- Hospitality -Kylene Blumeyer

Kylene reported that Hospitality continues to stock the teacher's lounge with snacks and beverages. The lounge has been updated, looks amazing, and now includes a Keurig for both regular and iced coffee. Fr. Craig reported new furniture is also coming! Fr. Craig also requested that someone take photos of the new projects - he wants everyone to be in the know that these projects have come to fruition, and expressed a "thanks to all for donating to the MQP improvement fund!" which he stated was approximately \$150,000. Kylene also made a request for a bigger budget for Hospitality's "Pretty Committee." Many thanks to Kylene for keeping our teacher's lounge looking lovely and fully stocked!

- Library - Laura Miller

Laura Miller reported the children are unable to check out books because of a software crash in May. Laura requested the school to incur the cost of a new software and was denied due to yearly budget reasons; thus Laura asked HASA to incur the cost for the software, which is \$1,500 for the first year. Notably, Laura is now hand-writing out 4th and 5th grade checkouts, and the younger children have not been able to check out any books. Said funding request was presented for vote and passed unanimously. Laura indicated donated books will be a second

	<p><i>phase of the library project. There is also an amazon and scholastic wish list for books that will be going out school wide based upon requests from school aged children. Laura also noted she will be instituting "Birthday Book Club" and books will be marked with a sticker using the donating child's name. Thank you to Laura for her hard work and dedication to getting our library back in business!</i></p>
8:35-8:45	<p>Pastor's Report – Fr. Craig <i>Fr. Craig introduced our Seminarian Intern, Michael, and further stated that 427 students arrived for our 1st day of school. He thanked everyone for our enthusiastic volunteerism for our school. He also thanked HASA for paying for ⅓ of the painting of the gym - and advised "up next is the whole school." Note that Denise Watkins sent a ballot flocknote regarding the funding for the painting over the summer break to HASA Committee Members, and said ballot was approved.</i> <i>He next updated us on the new construction projects and indicated chairs are going to be arriving soon for many of the parish facilities, including the Holy Family Room.</i> <i>Fr. Craig stressed that "Gamel Company" is a cleaning company - they are not required nor should they be asked to set up tables and chairs. He further stated that MQP parish organizations should be requesting the aid of the MQP Men's Club to help with large event set up and/or take down.</i> <i>Fr. Craig stated the rectory is receiving tuck-pointing work and lintel replacement for \$175,000. The gutters and roof on both the rectory and church will be replaced next, and the project total might be in the \$600,000 range. He noted this is being financed/paid through MQP's accumulated savings. Also on the list of necessary improvements is a total repair of the parking lot and fence, the confessionals in church, and the addition of another garage for storage, to be located next to the existing one at the west end of the property near the gym. The costs for all improvements is likely to be in the \$1,000,000 range.</i> <i>Fr. Craig lastly noted he purchased six (6) A-frame signs, and offered their use for all of our events, indicating we could simply switch out the foam core signs.</i></p>
8:45-8:55	<p>Principal's Report – Brandy Hildebrand</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Back to School Night <p><i>Mrs. Hildebrand reported they have begun to meet with the middle school teachers to prepare for Back to School Night.</i> <i>She also highlighted the importance of having a school nurse as soon as possible. There was a suggestion of getting parent volunteers in the meantime, before a new hire is here.</i> <i>Mrs. Hildebrand presented a funding request for walkie-talkies. Three (3) different bids were presented. Fr. Craig indicated the parish would be willing to purchase an additional six (6) walkies, and a motion was presented for the requested funding, which passed unanimously.</i></p>
8:55-9:15	<p>President's Report – Denise Watkins <i>Denise Watkins reminded the committee members and those present that we do receive many funding requests throughout the year, however only those over \$500 need to be submitted for a vote.</i> <i>She discussed teacher funding requests received from multiple teachers, and presented specifically one from a preschool teacher that was over the \$500 threshold. Denise stated that teachers are reminded to please submit requests to us, and Kylene Blumeyer asked if we could set up a fund to help them utilize our monetary resources for their classrooms throughout the year. Denise expressed concern with respect to teacher funding requests, indicating at some point there needs to be a cap of spending per teacher. She reasoned that perhaps we can "up the amount" of money that we initially provide to teachers for classroom upkeep throughout the year.</i></p>

	<p><i>Perhaps teacher wish-lists could be submitted prior to the end of the school year so that we can try to get them before the new school year begins. A motion for approving Mrs. Jansen's new classroom rug was made, and passed unanimously.</i></p> <p><i>Denise also advised that event chairs need to be more mindful of space requests, set up, and clean up. She asked to please place facility requests online through Angela Fiordelisi, and that said requests should include set up time and clean up time. Further, the space must be left the way you found it, and Denise suggested either hiring a cleaning crew and/or to be creative in cleaning efforts. Denise stated we do have the ability to hire "Gamel," and advised they need advance notice and also have the option to say "no." Event chairs are responsible for submitting any and all information to Anne Steffens in a timely fashion. Event chairs also need to know their event budgets and do their absolute best to stick to them.</i></p>
9:15-9:30	<p>Treasurer's Report – Megan Dolan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Budget Review and Update <p><i>Megan Dolan reported MQP HASA had a great year last year (\$75k ahead!), which included income sources from the Auction and <u>Eans</u> reimbursement.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff Gift Fund Recap (May 2023) <p><i>Megan also reported that 109 families donated to the staff gift last school year, and 47 staff members received \$250 gift cards. Many thanks to Megan for streamlining the staff gifts!</i></p>

The next Home and School Meeting will take place on
Thursday, September 14th 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