



# PTO Meeting Agenda

September 4 2025 6:00pm in Charity Hall

**Welcome and Prayer**-Mr. Relph, Principal

19 parents/teachers in attendance

Mr. Relph reported that school safety is an ongoing thought and concern. Front office discusses safety at least once or twice a week and formally do an annual discussion. On Thursday, law enforcement was in the school rehearsing with teachers for intruders. Last year, law enforcement did an assessment of the campus and had no glaring concerns. We are looking at updating cameras, with parish auctions funds. In discussion currently is someone standing in the back of the church during all-school masses, to close and watch the doors. In the future, officers will be coming in plain-clothes to ensure students or others are not letting strangers into the building; students are told to never open doors for anyone, even if they know them, as all visitors must go through the front door, through proper channels, to enter. This takes any decision making off the students, who are not equipped to make such decisions.

Mr. Relph reminded parents of our Smart Families Initiative. This is a Texas-based non-profit agency, which has no fee for our school. The goal of the organization is to educate parents about technology and to empower them to make the best decisions for their children. They use neuroscience and brain research to teach how technology impacts the brain and our behaviors, which will be the topic of discussion in the October mandatory meeting. Mr. Relph recommends interested parents read the book *The Anxious Generation*, which addresses these concerns.

PTO welcomes new chair members: Molly Bradley, President, Adrienne Basgall, Vice-President, and Colette Gabel, Treasurer. They are still seeking a Secretary; any interested party can reach out to them to fill this position. The Vice-President will fill the role of President next year, so that the chair members are regularly rotating, with fresh ideas coming in.

**PTO Budget Review**-Currently, the PTO has a balance of \$13,244. A teacher questioned if a small amount of money could be set aside each year for teachers, for small purchases that they might normally request from parents, such as supplies for projects, etc. PTO was open to this

but will table until the next meeting when they have had time to further discuss fundraising options and know what income might be received over the following year.

**PTO Committees**-This year, all parents were asked to sign up for one of four committees; this will hopefully help organize events for the year and allow more parents to get involved in the various activities. The PTO chairs will initially chair the committees, although any parent who would like to chair a committee is more than welcome to do so!

Molly-Student Committee

Adrian-Family Committee

Colette-School Committee

Secretary (currently Molly)-Parish Committee

Feel free to reach out to your committee chair with ideas, questions, etc.

Teacher appreciation was discussed, and the School Committee will begin working on ideas. Possibly, they will do a once a month gesture for teachers involving snacks, filling adoration hours to pray for staff, Thank-you notes, etc.

**Parish Auction Update**-Our parish auction is October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2025. Be on the look-out for a sign-up genius for basket wrapping and to help set-up, manning the event, and clean-up. High School students can use this opportunity for service hours. Teachers have reached out about class baskets, so please send in items if you have not already done so. The auction committee is hoping for 100% parent participation, as this is the primary fundraiser for the school and benefits our students immensely. Tickets for the event and raffle will go on sale after masses, starting this weekend and going throughout September. Parents will receive an envelope with raffle tickets to sell, which is a great way to involve family, friends, and neighbors. You are always welcome to re-post Facebook posts about the auction, to include others in the community.

**Trunk or Treat and Chili Cook-off**-The parish committee is looking at dates for this event; tentatively planning October 25<sup>th</sup> or 26<sup>th</sup>. Middle and high schoolers are welcome to run games, as they did a great job last year. There will be no entry fee for this event, but it was discussed to offer concessions, hot dogs, and popcorn to help raise some funds, in addition to the wonderful chili, which will be offered at no cost. We will plan to open this up to the Parish and invite parish ministries to offer trunks.

**Fundraising Options**-Other fundraising options were discussed. House of Joppa is an online, Catholic store, which has a program in which any items purchased on their website will give a percentage back to the school, much like chick fil a does on spirit nights. A parent has a family-

owned print shop, which can make us different Holy Spirit products, such as spirit wear, stickers, etc, which we could sell at different events. Options will be discussed and decided.

**Additional Items from the Floor**-Clayton Applegate, Grand Knight, presented Mr. Relph with a check for \$1000 from their back-to-school breakfast fundraiser. This was a very generous donation and will help supply books and new shelves for the school library.

**Closing Prayer**