

PTO Meeting  
November 8, 2010

Ellen Hannah- Welcome

Fr. Cregan – Opening Prayer

Valerie Garcia : Church Property Safety

- Signage, cameras, lighting for playground
- Working on wording of signs

Mark Bergin: Alexandria City Police Officer

- No crime wave happening at BSS, we don't have a serious problem
- 2 fairly serious incidents happened –
  - incident with Clifford
  - TC Williams student robbed in front of school
- Playground seems to be connecting factor – likely to become a magnet for teenagers
- Police will patrol the area – does not anticipate this becoming a more serious problem
- Next step would be to put up “No Trespassing” signs (4-5)

Valerie Garcia: Principal's Update

- DFE survey – only 28 people have responded – please respond
- Diocese doing Marketing enhancing – open house next week

Mrs. Knight: DFE Update

- Mission statement / Building a faith community section completed
- Learning statement almost finalized

Kelly Brinley: ECC Update

- New fence on ECC playground
- Very successful pumpkin patch day
- Next big event is Thanksgiving Service Project – Bag lunches for Christ House to take home on Thanksgiving Day
- ECC Sock Hop – Saturday, Feb. 12<sup>th</sup>

Anne Hoffman: Annual Fund

- 176 families have participated – 71% \$67,867.50
- FACTS no longer available, but families can still participate
- Looking to expand Annual Fund into other areas: alumni, grandparents, outside donors
- Pleased with # of families involved and participating
- Special thanks to Anne, Eileen Jorenson, Mary Beth Long & Rebecca Barnes
- Personal phone calls and thank you notes will be sent

Ellen Hannah/Jim Reeves: Diocesan PTO Meeting Update

- Diocese is doing very well overall – particularly with enrollment
- Building a “best practices” handbook
- Catholic schools advocacy – VA one of few states that doesn’t give tax breaks to big businesses who make donations to catholic schools

Response to parent survey (More enrichment activities)

- Ideas for enrichment opportunities: Career day – take advantage of ½ days, Game night, Family Faith support (ways to enrich family life with catholic faith) – include link on website for seasonal activities  
Connect parish groups such as BSS Mom’s group, church events ( i.e. soup night)  
Outside speakers (financial, homework help, etc.)
- Possible communications person for PTO
- Have speakers at PTO meetings speaking on enrichment topics

Fr. Cregan:

- School top priority – no more important part of our parish!
- Welcomes opportunities to see the whole parish participate in school activities
- Suggestions for movie nights/discussions

Ellen Hannah: Adjourn

- Next Meeting Dec. 6<sup>th</sup> in library- CYO, Family Fun Day, Field update

Attendance: Ellen Hannah, Valerie Garcia, Fr. Cregan, Kelly Brinley, Christian Dvorak, Sue Knight, Anne Hoffman, Nancy Gregoire, Maggie Mejia, Jim Rives, Jill Rough, Mary Burner, Kristin Passantino, Cesarina Berrigan, Maddy Mitchell, Cathy Johnson, Eileen Shea Joransen, Nancy Conway, Ann Bremner, Mary Beth Long, Dave Fenimore, Blaine Lankford