

SJNCS PTMO Meeting Notes – November 8, 2023

Patrick Wade - Next week's (November 13-17) **Spirit Week Food Drive** to benefit Food Life Services in LaFollette, TN. Students will bring in either \$2 a day or 2 cans per day during Spirit Week. We have received a grant from East Tennessee Foundation to match monetary and food donations up to \$3000.

Mary Marlowe - **Safety Patrol** meeting will be held this Thursday. A chairperson will be needed to come up with the Safety Patrol schedule for parents and students. This opportunity will be extended to 4-6th graders. There will not be a DC trip this year and no fundraising, instead there will be a yearly "something fun" to be announced at a later date.

Hope Street Presentation - Presentation was well received however attendance was lacking. Discussion of possibly opening up the Hope Street Presentation to allow further reach to the community, parishioners, youth groups, etc. Timing of the presentation (day/evening) was discussed as well as a potential virtual option for those who are unable to attend in person due to prior commitments or lack of childcare. We are looking at January/February for the next presentation.

Christmas Luncheon for Teachers and Staff will be held on December 13th. Volunteers for food, set up/take down, and parents to walk children to class/lunch/etc. will be needed. Signup Genius to follow.

The Elementary Christmas Program will be held on December 11th. Details to follow. Some expressed concern over sound issues in gymnasium and mentioned another location (church) might be best.

Veterans Day Assembly will be held this Friday, November 10th at 9:30AM. Students may wear red/white/blue tops with uniform bottoms to school.

* Mrs. Talley will send out an email with December calendar events.

Lunchroom volunteers are needed on a daily basis. The Signup Genius is available in Weekly Newsletters. There is also a need for a coordinator for Lunchroom Volunteers. See Jennifer Dzermejko if interested.

Dr. Mechelke and Mrs. Talley spoke of the **Advisory Board** which is a committee made up of six people who are appointed by Father Joe. They are SJNCS parents from St. John Neumann Parish as well as other SJNCS parents from All Saints Church. The board's next action item is to review the books in the library and create a new policy using the current bylaws to ensure they make sense for SJNCS. The agenda and how the advisory board meetings are run were taken from the four areas from the NCEA (National Catholic Educational Association):

Mission and Catholic Identity
Governance and Leadership
Academic Excellence
Operational Vitality

Mrs. Talley touched on the revamping of the SJN Award to the new **St. Benedict and St. Scholastica Awards**. Students will now receive a necklace with one of these two saints as their award in place of a medal. These awards can be given to up to eight students per grade.

Spirit Shop - Discussed bringing car magnets back to Spirit Shop for purchase as well as possibly re-opening the shop for Theatre/Band/Choir spirit wear. Mrs. Talley will look into this.

Mary Marlowe spoke of the many changes in the **Tuition Assistance Program** for the upcoming school year. For families with one or two children enrolled, there will no longer be a parish contribution. This is to ensure that the church can assist those who are in need and also to help with our teacher's salaries. There will be only one round of tuition assistance, and there may not be an option for late applications. Tuition assistance forms do still need to be completed in order to receive the Catholic rate for Catholic applicants. This is to be completed by December 15th.

If anyone needs assistance with completing/submitting paperwork, please do not hesitate to come into the office and ask for help.

Also, **re-enrollment** is open this week and is all electronic on Facts. Re-enrollment is to be completed by January 1.