



# HOLY CROSS SCHOOL PTO

## MEETING MINUTES 12/5/23

---

**Attendees:** M. Borer, M. DeKay, J. Stach, N. Walters, A. Renna, J. Wilber, M. Reed, M. Musolino, K. Byrns, C. Zoli, K. Kuehner, P. Jones

**Opening Prayer:** N. Walters

**Meeting Called to Order:** 7:05 p.m.

**Approval of November 2023 Minutes:** Approved – 1st M. Reed, 2nd A. Renna

**Principal's Report (N. Walters):** There are some administrative items that still need to be sorted out by NYS with respect to our hiring a security officer (i.e. a contract needs to be drafted) but the position was approved by the Town of DeWitt and we interviewed a great candidate. She is a former NYC police officer and recent retiree of the DeWitt Police Department with a lot of great ties to the community. We will move forward with hiring her barring any major issues. The security entrance is moving along; we're getting a bid from a company out of Rochester and hope to have that soon. December 22<sup>nd</sup> is now a day off for students mostly due to transportation issues. We will offer full day aftercare on 12/22.

**Pastor's Report (Fr. J. Kurgan):** N/A

**Treasurer's Report (J. Stach):** We currently have \$73,656.94 in our checking account and \$22,380.55 in the money market savings account. We paid Armored One for the first phase of window film in November so that was a big expense. We registered more students in the parochial league than expected and are starting to take in money from that. Our concession stand is up and running during games. Proceeds from sales and money we take in from the 50/50 raffle will go toward expenses for the end of season banquet and medals. Please remember to turn in your receipts and reimbursement forms from Halloween expenses. Christmas party expenses can be submitted for reimbursement once we return from break in January.

**President's Report (M. Paulus/M. Borer):** Thank you to all those who helped with fall after school activities! We are looking to offer more after school clubs in the spring and are always looking for ideas, especially for the younger grades. Please reach out to the PTO with any suggestions or contacts you may have. Based on feedback, it is likely that chess, soccer shots and art club will return in the spring. The PTO calendar of activities is housed on the Holy Cross Parents webpage and is a helpful reminder of the upcoming activities for the remainder of the year. Please remember you must be VIRTUS trained to volunteer at school. Room parents should have sent an email regarding the optional collection for teacher gifts. If you have any questions please contact your room parents.

### **PAST BUSINESS**

**Town of Dewitt Meeting (Nov. 13)** – See President's Report.

**Poinsettia Sale (Nov. 17) (J. Johnston/T. Clark)** – The poinsettia sale raised over \$1400. Thank you to Father Kurgan and the entire school community for your support. The giving tree items, which will benefit women and children in crisis, are due 12/6. The Caring Crusaders have a lot of exciting service projects coming up, including a school-wide ornament making project for Meals on Wheels.

**Pep Rally (Dec. 1)** – This was a fun event for all, and the students had a great time. Senior Night will be March 1.

### **CURRENT BUSINESS**

**Basketball Concession Stand (J. Stach)** – We need more volunteers, and it would be helpful for coaches to extend it to their parents. The stand will be set up ahead of time and the cash box will be ready for volunteers. You don't need to have a child that plays basketball or cheers to sign up.

**Nativity Play (Dec. 6)** – All are welcome to attend. The Kindergarten students are the actors; 4<sup>th</sup> grade is narrating; and 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grades are the choir.

**School Mass (Dec. 8)** – This is a holy day of obligation and 4<sup>th</sup> grade is leading the mass. It begins at 9:15 am.

**Christmas Shop (Dec. 8) (J. Stach)** – The schedule for shopping is set and will start with 6<sup>th</sup> graders and work its way down to pre-k. We have a great group of volunteers, but we will take more if anyone is interested. Volunteers should arrive at 10:15 and the first shopping starts at 10:30. Students are allowed to shop in 20-minute increments, and we will finish up right around 2:30/2:45. Students should remember to bring their shopping lists that were distributed. Volunteers are welcome to come for as long as you would like.

**Christmas Concert (Dec. 12)** – Students should plan to arrive at 6:40 and the concert starts at 7 pm. The attire is Christmas dressy.

**Teachers Christmas Luncheon (Dec. 22)** – We need VIRTUS trained volunteers this day to bring students to lunch and then back to classrooms while teachers and staff have lunch together. It is roughly a one-hour time commitment and there is a signup genius for anyone interested in volunteering.

**Class Christmas Parties (Dec. 20) (N. Walters)** – There is no school on December 22<sup>nd</sup> so room parents should contact their teacher to see when they would like to have the party. It is recommended that they be held on 12/20 since parents will already be at school volunteering during the teachers' luncheon.

**Taste of Holy Cross (Jan. 19) (M. Borer)** – The date has been changed to January 19. We're going to send out communication soon for anyone who wants to volunteer or sign up for a table. The students love this event and we are hoping to have a performance by the students. If anyone knows of any school/age-appropriate activities or performers like henna tattoo, African dancers, etc., please reach out to M. Borer. Families will not be charged but we will offer a suggested donation if people would like to give. The 5<sup>th</sup> graders made posters and did trivia last year; they will likely do something similar this year.

**Catholic Schools Week (Jan. 28 – Feb 2)** – We are continuing to plan the week. The co-chairs are meeting this week and we will have a schedule out as soon as possible. We plan to give parents and teachers more advance notice of service projects and when they will take place. We will need volunteers during the pancake breakfast on Jan. 30. We will send a signup genius out soon.

**Valentine's Ball (Feb. 9) (A. Renna)** – This event is Feb. 9 and we are in need of donations. More information to come.

**School Musical (April 11-12) (M. Musolino)** – It was announced during the Pep Rally that this year's musical is Aladdin, which will take place April 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>. A flyer with information about registration will go out in the new few weeks. We're hoping to have a parent interest meeting at the beginning of January and then registration will begin. Auditions will begin the week of January 22<sup>nd</sup> (dates are tentative and subject to change).

**Auction (May 18) (A. Renna)** – We are aiming to send raffle tickets home with students the week before Christmas. We would like to take 5 minutes during the Monday morning assembly to tell kids about the tickets and get them excited. We will hit the ground running with soliciting in January. We're considering the possibility of a sponsorship level for playground equipment for the younger grades.

### **OPEN DISCUSSION:**

**Basketball Spirit Sale (A. Renna)** – The basketball and cheer spirit sale will go live tomorrow and is open until December 14. There is a discount for new coaches.

**Spelling Bee (M. Musolino)** – We are participating in the spelling bee this year, which will be held January 11. The

preliminary test will likely be next Friday for grades 4, 5 and 6. The students that score the highest will be given an offer to move on and receive a study guide to look over during Christmas Break. The spelling bee will be livestreamed for those unable to attend.

**Q&A: N/A**

**Next Meeting: January 9 @ 7:00 p.m.**

**Motion to Adjourn:** 1st M. Musolino, 2nd A. Renna

**Meeting Adjourned:** 8:09 p.m.

Meeting minutes respectfully submitted by Michelle DeKay

MEREDITH PAULUS <b>PTO PRESIDENT</b> <a href="mailto:meredith.s.paulus@gmail.com">meredith.s.paulus@gmail.com</a> <u>m</u>	MARISA BORER <b>PTO VICE PRESIDENT</b> <a href="mailto:mborer@gmail.com">mborer@gmail.com</a>	MICHELLE DEKAY <b>PTO SECRETARY</b> <a href="mailto:michelle.dekay@gmail.com">michelle.dekay@gmail.com</a> <u>m</u>	JILLIAN STACH <b>PTO TREASURER</b> <a href="mailto:jstach@syrdiocese.org">jstach@syrdiocese.org</a>
---	---	--	---