

# VISITATION SCHOOL PTO

*“Events, Fundraising & Community”*

## MEETING MINUTES

February 6, 2024

42 participants

1. Opening prayer

2. Sign in “Sheet”

3. Pastor’s Report – Fr. Matt

- Hello everybody! I apologize I cannot be there with you this evening and I pray God’s blessings upon each one of you. Here are a few upcoming items:
- Lent begins on Ash Wednesday – Feb. 14<sup>th</sup> – and all are invited to participate in our many offerings to help us live an awesome Lenten preparation for Easter. Check out:
  - LENT 101: <https://www.visitationchurch-la.com/lent101>
    - Answers to common questions about Lent
  - Lenten Resources: <https://www.visitationchurch-la.com/lentresources>
    - Daily Brief Meditations from our priests
    - Lent Unplugged (Tuesdays)
    - Lenten Bible Study on the Eucharist (Wednesdays)
    - Stations of the Cross (Fridays)
- Our Reconciliation and First Holy Communion Retreat for parents and students is coming up on February 25<sup>th</sup>. I can’t wait! This will be an awesome opportunity to dip into the power and beauty of the Sacraments of Reconciliation and the Eucharist. Let’s pray for our 2<sup>nd</sup> graders who will be receiving their sacraments in the coming months!
- I am looking forward to the Strategic Planning Retreat coming up on March 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>. This planning process will be an excellent way for our school to unite and look ahead to where God is calling us to grow in the coming years (Chris can fill in more on this).
- Our annual Together in Mission appeal will be launching again this month. This annual fund raises millions of dollars to serve the poorest schools and parishes in the Archdiocese. We promote this a Sunday Masses and thank you for your generosity!

4. Principal’s Report – Mr. Watson

- Open House was successful; word of mouth. PTO was present to meet people which was helpful.
- Spring Meeting will have more detailed financial report and likely have different members report out on various financial components.
- Ash Wednesday- Students will be attending mass and can dress in red, pink, and white. Trying to balance both Ash Wednesday and St. Valentine’s Day. Teacher specific decisions on how they will handle.
- 2/25 is Reconciliation and First Holy Communion retreat
- 2/13 is Hot Dog Day
- 3/19 is Spring Meeting

## 5. Financial Report – Gabe Valenzuela

- No official report because he has been digging deeper into PTO financial tracking/reporting
- Question: When it comes to fundraisers, what comes back to school? Would be helpful to have more explanation at Spring Meeting.

## 6. Current Open Items

- Golf Tournament – Mike Mininsky/ Madison Webber
  - Oldest student should have received a packet
  - Need sponsorships! 4/17 Due
  - Silent Auction Items too
  - Early Bird pricing before 3/8
  - More information will be coming related to golf tournament
- School Board Formation / Upcoming Retreat – Colleen Tiedemann
  - Over the last year 14 people have been on strategic planning/ school board committee
  - Each person took a deep dive into 12 categories and prepared a written assessment
  - Planned a retreat on 3/15 & 3/16 (13 service hours); review written assessment prior
  - At retreat, consultant will help us create a 3-5 year strategic plan related to the 12 categories. Hoping for 60 people.
  - 6-9pm Friday and 8-4pm Saturday; We would love you to participate however you can if you have 1<sup>st</sup> reconciliation
    - Can sign up for your areas of interest- curriculum, finance, technology, etc.
  - School board members will be assigned by Fr. Matt including community members, donors, etc.
    - Probably meet 4x a year formally
- Restaurant Fundraiser
  - Bennys - \$300
  - Next one TBD- Restaurant will likely be booked last week of February 6, 2024
- Rock Roll & Run – Cathleen Massey
  - 3/2/23 Saturday
  - 5 Runners and 1 donation! And ~\$200 raised. Virtual runners can sign up too!
  - ½ day event at LMU
  - Email went out
  - Question: Can we bring the bulldog?
  - Can Coach Bobby get the kids excited? Track and Cross Country. Someone to sponsor Mr. Nunez
- STEM FAIR
  - Scheduled for 4/22 – 26
  - Mandatory for Middle school, optional for grades 1-5
  - Hoping to have prizes like in the past
    - If you'd like to donate, please contact the office or Krista Doby
  - We'll be having a work day for Middle Schoolers on Monday, 4/22 in the morning.
    - If you're interested in mentoring the students, please reach out to the office or Krista Doby. You'd be there 2.5 -3 hours and it's great to have the help with this hands on portion of the fair.
  - We need judges! If you're available on Thursday, 4/25 in the morning we'd love to have your help and expertise!

- 4<sup>th</sup> of July Float
  - Still need 1-3 volunteers to help with the idea/execution of the float
    - Jeff Obermeyer willing to co-spearhead the float so need another volunteer

7. New Items

8. Additional Comments/Concerns

- No PTO Meeting in March just Spring Meeting

9. Adjournment

*\*The PTO Board plays a major role in the achievement of the vision of Visitation School, acting as a support for the school, parents and students. Their primary focuses are building a community rooted in our Catholic faith by acting out and proclaiming the Gospel message, fundraising, school development, and marketing.*