

**MOTHERS' CLUB OF ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL  
MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING – JANUARY 5, 2005**

**Next Meeting February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2005, 6:30pm Scaggs Center-Vaghi Dining Room**

Those in Attendance January 5<sup>th</sup>: V Battle, N Borger, J Casasco, C Connors, SM Contreras, D Cross, J Cushing, G DeBord, L Denion, O Deoudes, F Dispenzirie, G Dominguez, V Franceski, B Galginaitis, K Garbow, T Glowacki, N Hamilton, K Hemming, M Hoerauf, P Horn, P Kalla, C Kashe, B Keebler, D Kelley, ME Kenealy, J Kern, L Kriz, C Lipka, L Loftus, M Loya, D McFarland, T McIntyre, T Melo, L Meliani, M Mullings, L Murphy, D Orcino, M Otero, L Paschal, VG Pinder, M Ridge, R Rikard, M Salas, E Simpson, K Spencer, J Stokes, P Sweeney, K Tarone, R Trejo, D Turner, M Villar, S Washington, HV Watson, C White, D Whyte, B Woodson, S Wooters, K Yates, LB Yillah, D Johnson-Cooper, and Jeff Mancabelli.

Mr. Mancabelli opened the meeting with a prayer.

**ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA:** Pat Sweeney moved to approve the agenda and Kathy Garbow seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

**REMARKS FROM THE PRESIDENT:** Debbie began by reading thank you notes from Brothers Tom, Anthony and Joe for their Christmas gifts from the Mothers' Club. She also read a thank you note from a mom complimenting the wonderful job of decorating the school for Christmas.

Barbara Williams was not present and Debbie reported that the cookie dough sale brought in approximately \$16,000 compared to \$9,000 last year. There are still a few orders to fill. The staff and faculty benefited by the company's mistake of over ordering pies and the extras were distributed to them – which was truly appreciated.

Debbie checked on a mothers' suggestion of having the inaugural parade video taped for SJC but due to security issues, it is not possible.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Elide reported that as of 12/31/04 the ending balance is \$23,522.42.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**CHRISTMAS DECORATING:** Georgine DeBord thanked all that helped with the decorating. Even the teachers lent a helping hand. We also thank Mr. Mancabelli for keeping our trees alive. Mr. Mancabelli related a story of how on the last day before break two students came to his office to give him a beautifully wrapped present for Christmas. They said it was "from the heart". As he opened the gift, the students were almost on the floor laughing – when Mr. M. opened the gift, he finally realized what was so funny. They had presented him with one of the beautifully wrapped "empty" boxes that were under our Christmas trees for decoration!! Even the students had fun with the decorating. Next year's decorating is planned to be even bigger and better. We have storage so if anyone has donations please let Georgine know.

***SJC MOTHERS' CLUB SCARVES:*** Debbie thanked Lulu Hester Alexander for such a lovely job on the scarves. Lulu - as a one-woman team – researched and followed through on all the details from start to finish on the scarves. It has turned out to be a successful venture and we love wearing them!! There are still for sale, just contact Lulu.

***POST PROM:*** Karen Spencer, Chair. This year the Post Prom Event will be at Dave and Busters in White Flint Mall. Karen will be in touch with those who volunteered. We will only need about ten volunteers the night/morning of the event. We will need LOTS of donations/money for prizes for the students. Prom – senior only – May 27<sup>th</sup> and post prom May 28<sup>th</sup> 1am.

***MARDI GRAS:*** Terry Melo and Manola Villar – Chairs. Mardi Gras is February 8<sup>th</sup>. This day we bake for our students. At lunch, students are able to come to the dessert table to take sweets kindly baked by our moms. It is a festive day and the moms help to serve the desserts to the students. Terry will send an email specifying what she will need. Home baked goods are the best. Try to bake for about 8-10 people and drop off the morning of the 8<sup>th</sup>. Any questions call Terry or Manola (301) 588-1341, (301)897-5299. Debbie is checking the budget to see if we can give more money to decorating for Mardi Gras this year.

**NOTE: if you bake any item that has nuts or possibly might contain nuts or peanut oil, please label it as so – last year we had an allergic reaction situation.**

***REMARKS FROM THE MODERATOR:***

Mr. Mancabelli began his remarks by stating that the information he was about to give was not usually information appropriate for the mothers' club based on the mission of the group. Mr. Mancabelli then addressed the rumors that surfaced prior to the holiday break. He wanted the mothers to know that the rumor about a gun was just that – a rumor. He stated that if there is ever a real threat to the school community that the parents would be notified. He also confirmed that the rumor of the fight was true but clarified that this incident took place off campus and after school. Mr. Mancabelli told the mothers that the mission of the school is to work with each individual student, but there are times when the incidents force the school to look at the community as a whole, first, and make a decision that is in the best interest of the entire student body. Mr. Mancabelli explained that there is a portion of the school community that is hurting and it was going to take some time for them to heal.

In response to Mr. Mancabelli's remarks, several parents expressed feelings of thanks and support for the school and Mr. Mancabelli for trying to do what is best for the students.

***INAUGURAL PARADE:*** Our JROTC Regiment will have the great honor of marching in the Inaugural Parade. Thanks to Secretary Ridge, we are able to be a part of this historic day. It is highly competitive and difficult to be a part of the parade and we are very thankful for Secretary Ridge's help in this area. The press have been seen on campus photographing and/or interviewing our JROTC students – checking out the importance and benefits of the leadership skills gained from this program. There are many restrictions and security issues in relation to the parade – our officers cannot carry

their sabers, and our band will march with the regiment without their instruments. There are already many, many bands in the parade. Also due to security issues, we are **unable** to provide a bus for SJC parents to ride to the parade.

**EXAMS:** are next week. Friday there is no school – unless for some reason we need to build a “snow day” into the exam schedule. So far, it looks like it will be a day off. Campus ministry had some thoughts for the students – a sign on their office read something like this “Pray all you want but you still have to study!” Report cards go out the 21<sup>st</sup> and parent/teacher conferences are the 27<sup>th</sup>. Students are encouraged to attend the parent/teacher conferences.

**CHRISTIAN BROTHER MASS CARDS:** Brother John McDonald of the National Office has provided LaSallian Mass Cards for us. Mothers were encouraged to take a packet that contains many Mass cards – sympathy, wedding, thinking of you, etc. – to be used when needed and you send in the donation when you use the card. All instructions come in the packet. If anyone wants a packet, you may see the development office or ask me (Nancy Borger) and I will get one to you.

A question arose about college night – please check the school calendar but as of now it looks like the 1<sup>st</sup> one is February 8<sup>th</sup> for juniors and parents, another one March 9<sup>th</sup> for athletes and students with learning differences.

Meeting adjourned at 7:45p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Nancy Borger, Secretary.