

# School Board News

2011-2012 School Year

Spring 2012

## Looking Ahead

|   |  |
|---|--|
| Book Fair                                     | Apr. 18 - 20                           |
| Parent/Teacher/Student Conferences            | Apr. 18 - 20                           |
| Catholic Schools' Night<br>Padres vs Phillies | Apr. 20<br>Petco Park                  |
| MOMS Group                                    | Apr. 20<br>8:15 - 10:00<br>Barry Hall  |
| Great Cash Giveaway                           | Apr. 28<br>5:45 - 11:00<br>Parish Hall |
| Lunch on the Lawn                             | May 4                                  |
| Grandparents Day                              | May 11                                 |



## Spotlight!

They start off so small and then in a blink of an eye they are in 8th grade and ready to graduate! Many times that graduating 8th grader is the last SMA student in the family. As we send off our young adult to high school, we also "send off" a family that has been at the school for many years. One such family that will be ending their "student" years at SMA is the Dorworth's. Eleven years ago Todd and Kathleen Dorworth, long-time parishioners of the church, choose SMA for their daughters Zoe (8th grade) and Chloe (SMA graduate) for Workshop Way and a great Catholic education. Over the years they have seen big changes in the school especially with technology but the school community, where parents are involved in the same goal of having their children educated in the Catholic way, has remained a constant. Todd and Kathleen's involvement in the community reaches farther than their church work as an Eucharistic Minister. Todd has coached soccer for 8 seasons and has had the fun of being a 6th grade camp chaperon 4 times! Together they have helped in the Walk-a-thons, Big 10, Lake Murray clean up, food bank and lunch supervision. Todd said Chloe and Zoe have gained strength in living their faith every day and those all important life skills like good study habits, willingness to risk, and confidently expressing themselves clearly. There were many things Todd said he would miss when Zoe graduates, and making that turn into the SMA parking lot every morning for school was one.

## SMA Great *Cash* Giveaway 2012

- Opportunity Drawing tickets sold
  - Tickets sent in for Buffet Dinner
  - Evening out with friends
- Almost here!*

That's right, Saturday, April 28th is almost here and we can't wait for the Great Cash Giveaway! With the Opportunity Drawing for cash prizes (the largest is \$10,000!), buffet dinner, great auction items and our own version of Dancing with the Stars (teachers dancing with SMA parents) the evening is guaranteed to be a fun one!

Jacqui Valdivia has been working hard with her team of volunteers. She shared with the Board that the teachers and their dance partners have been working with a professional ballroom teacher and are ready to put on a great show. Some of the items up for auction include trips, jewelry, amusement park tickets and hotel stays. Jacqui has also arranged for pre-selling dinner tables so you can pick where you want to sit if you buy the whole table with a group of friends.

Chairing this event is a major undertaking yet Jacqui and her team seem to have thought of everything to make it a wonderful time.

As one of our largest fundraiser, SMA depends on this event to help with operational expenses and raise money for tuition assistance. Thank you for your support and enjoy the evening!

*SMA School Board...working with families to make a difference.*

*Julianne Attaway • Virginia Boyd-Ballantyne • Donna Colbert • Kathy Connors • Chris Danielson  
Denise Duppée • Susan Glevanik • Maria McRoberts • Tracy South • Jacqui Valdivia • Greg Wilfahrt  
Ex-Officio Members: Fr. Jim Poulsen • Toni Dimuzio • Bob Dyar*

## After-School Sports At SMA

Fall turns into Winter. Winter into Spring and through it all Mr. Mains manages the sports teams at SMA in his capacity as Athletic Director. "I am responsible for scheduling practices, finding coaches, ordering uniforms and equipment as well as holding meetings with parent-coaches and attending meetings with other Athletic Directors with the Catholic Sports League."

And because Mr. Mains is also our P.E. teacher, he has creatively incorporated the skill sets for the current sport into his P.E. lesson plan. Mr. Mains also takes P.E. class as the perfect opportunity for him to encourage students to participate in the sports program. Even students as young as Kindergarten are able to join in with co-ed soccer.

Skill requirements in Mr. Mains' class show up on the field as the students become more physically aware and fit. Students in 7th and 8th grade run the mile weekly, while 5th and 6th graders do this a couple of times during the quarter. With the addition of our track, Mr. Mains is able to make more fitness-related activities possible. He believes this has also correlated to the large amount of students who sign up for track.

School spirit has increased over the years with pep

rallies, Spartan apparel, and Varsity/Junior Varsity athletes encouraged to wear their sports uniform shirts every Friday!

As with so many things at SMA, parent volunteerism is a cornerstone of the sports program. "Without our parent volunteers to coach our teams, the after-school sports program would not even exist," says Mr. Mains. "I am fortunate to have such a great group of dedicated coaches every year."

In addressing the success of the after-school program, Mr. Mains speaks to the challenge of maintaining the level of participation, "With many of our students playing sports outside of SMA, they often have to choose what sport they can play. This challenge is mostly prevalent among the Junior High students."

### Sports offered at SMA:

- Flag Football-Fall: Boys Varsity (7-8) & Jr. Varsity (5-6)
- Volleyball-Fall: Girls Varsity (7-8) & Jr. Varsity (5-6)
- Basketball-Winter: Boys Varsity (7-8) & Jr. Varsity (5-6)
- Soccer-Winter: Girls Varsity (7-8) & Jr. Varsity (5-6)
- Soccer-Winter: Kinder, Girls 1-2, Boys 1-2, Girls 3-4 & Boys 3-4 Pee Wee
- Soccer-Spring: Boys Varsity (7-8) & Jr. Varsity (5-6)
- Basketball-Spring: Girls Varsity (7-8) & Jr. Varsity (5-6)
- Track-Spring: Grades 1-8

## Student Council: Leaders taking on Responsibility

Have you ever wondered about something and realized you just didn't know enough about it? Well that happened to me the other day when I was thinking about Student Council. I realized I just didn't know enough about what their role was at SMA so I decided to seek out the person who could fill me in: Ms. Palafox, Student Council Advisor.

Student Council has been facilitated for the last three years by Ms. Palafox and is comprised of over a dozen 7th and 8th graders. Before being chosen the students write a 500-word essay explaining why they would like to be in Student Council and what they believe they can add to the program. After being interviewed by Ms. Dimuzio, Ms. Hartley and Ms. Palafox, the student's grades, life skills, school spirit and essay are reviewed.

I learned that Student Council members have many responsibilities. They handle fundraisers like bake sales, nacho sales, Halloween and Valentine activities. They are

responsible for pep rallies, end of the year activities, staff appreciation day, and posters around the school. You might remember seeing them selling newspapers before school for Kids News Day or noticed them as Walk-a-Thon leaders. They also participate in Catholic Schools Week, Lake Murray Cleanup and volunteer for the Women's Club for our parish. Wow!

I wanted to see what the students themselves thought about Student Council and their role in it. In questioning the students the reoccurring theme of their desire to be part of Student Council was to contribute something to the school, their community—to help, to volunteer, to give back, to be involved. "Student Council is a chance to learn leadership and step up as a volunteer in our community" wrote one student. "SC is a place for me to help make the school a better place," wrote an 8th grader. Another student said "It gives me a chance to learn about new ideas, and meet new people."

I am really glad I took the time to learn more about Student Council, the things they do, and the students who help. Great work!

*SMA School Board...working with families to make a difference.*

*Julianne Attaway • Virginia Boyd-Ballantyne • Donna Colbert • Kathy Connors • Chris Danielson  
Denise Duppée • Susan Glevanik • Maria McRoberts • Tracy South • Jacqui Valdivia • Greg Wilfahrt  
Ex-Officio Members: Fr. Jim Poulsen • Toni Dimuzio • Bob Dyar*