Home & School Association

HSA Meeting Notes
October 14, 2026
6:30 PM

Attendance: Katie Benjamin, Taylor Rassel, Lauren Jones, Heather DeJarlais, Katie Fredericksen, Liz McCrea, Frank Mikesic, Jackie Mastellar, Colleen Spork, Lauren Skurka, Larry Maginot, Christine Zima, Christina Topoll, Ethel Menezes, Susan Melnyczenko

I. Opening Prayer

II. Introductions

To reach President Lauren Jones: hsa@stjohnparish.org
To reach Treasurer Taylor Rassel: sjetreasurer@gmail.com
Vice President: Katie Benjamin
Secretary: Heather DeJarlais

III. Eagle Walk- coming up Oct. 22, 2026!

-Students bring water bottles, wear hat or sunglasses, Eagle Walk Spirit Wear shirt, NUT day/ spirit wear day bottoms, tennis shoes, dress appropriately for the weather
-Donations - $25k to $60k goal. Please encourage donations- ask family and friends to keep donating! Helps to fund all the things we do through the year, and if we have money left special projects.
-Volunteer needed to cricket sponsors in banner
-Check to make sure your family received donation ask- maybe send them a reminder!
-Do we have tracking ability to see if all were sent out?- we can check with Jackie tomorrow to see if there is a delivered setting on GIveSmart
-Thank you to Zarlengo's for donating italian ice for the students after their walk and playing this year!
-Taylor Rassel cricketing the banner with the sponsors and logos. Thank you Taylor!
-Wear red, or Eagle Walk shirt you earned if you raised $100 or more
-Sponsors get the flannel pants as well
-ideas to bring more attention to Eagle Walk- is there any reason it can't be a family day? It is a regular school day, and only an hour long- can it be longer?- should we extend it?- need to be brought up to leadership- might be nice for parents to be a little more involved- can it be like a marathon and parents line up the walk and cheer students on?- way to make more hype and fun- challenge kids to race people?- cheer them on.- give people donating an actual physical thing to have for donating- discount card or candy or community incentive

IV. All Saints Day Classroom Parties- Nov. 2, 2026

-dress like a saint this day- don't forget
-can we have a swap for saints day costumes like how we have the uniform closet- it can also be a communion outfit too.
-it could be like in trinity hall and you leave with what you bring or you swap with someone- can't be stored at school

V. Christmas Classroom Parties- Dec. 18, 2026

-Christmas Program still December 13th after the 10am mass it will be K-2 and cantors only.

VII. Spring Fling (April 16, 2027- 6pm-12am)

-Open positions: Parish Liaison (get more parishioners, what Father Sammie and Kahlil can do to help- needed to help with church correspondence and at the church asking people to come- can we ask Sydney Vega if there is a volunteer who has helped her before), Marketing Lead (social media, marketing, tables at church)
-Mary Grace Fagen is our new Entertainment lead
-Theme ideas- themes getting too specific, is there anything we need to go back to or themes we would like to explore- no ideas brought out- can we put out a Google Form?- Spring Fling survey- what would help you want to attend, theme no theme, food, entertainment, timing, and planning the night- Lauren is leaning more toward no specific theme but being more of a gala but mainly doing the games and things that they liked, and making it a bigger party night- more games and smaller dance floor- more mixing in games and no one out on dance floor- do we need dancing or giant dance floor?- should we make the space smaller so people are more together- then there wouldn't be a whole empty side- too loud of music making people want to move away from the loud- at tables you can't hear who you are sitting with- short google form with key questions will be good, shouldn't go too in depth to get good feedback
-people are buying tickets but not come- can we buy tickets but them have an incentive for coming? Raffle tickets, money back? Anything like that.
-$250 a ticket
-Committee Sign Ups: Need 3 volunteers for sponsorship committee- not chair positions- less of a commitment- you are calling out and emailing for the leads and helping the leads- sponsorship committee volunteers- can be what you can give it- starting within the next month and it would last up until Spring Fling- Lauren Sustek is the lead you will be talking with- Christine Zima offered to help. Thank you!
-Next Spring Fling meeting at Lauren's house- date TBD, get a published calendar of dates

VIII. Upcoming Important Dates

October 22, 2026- Eagle Walk (previously Race for Ed)
October 23, 2026- Parent Teacher Conferences- E-Learning for Students
October 26-30, 2026 Fall Break
November 3, 2026- Spirit Day and $1 Treat Cart
November 9-17, 2026- Thanksgiving Food Drive
November 10, 2026- Early Dismissal
November 12, 2026- Veteran's Day Program
November 17, 2026- NJHS Induction
November 25-27, 2026- Thanksgiving Break

VIIII. Treasury Update/ Purchases

-please fill out HSA reimbursement form if submitting a reimbursement/ check request, it can be found on the sjeschool.org under forms and links- include the form- please don't forget!- don't forget receipts as well- items will get processed on Fridays- without form it takes longer to figure out and who to contact- the form helps!
-can the school come back and help as well- can the school if they get random receipts say hey fill out this form first?
-if we can collect emails of leads as well and getting the form to people- HSA can help with this as well if we can compile our list of main helpers and just give them a form first
-K-4 parties and PreSchool are donation based- please remember
-Middle School main lunch meal is funded by HSA- extras and drinks are donations from the parents of that homeroom

X. Q&A

-parent wanted to bring up wait til 8th pledge- it is a commitment that you will not give your child a smartphone until they have graduated 8th grade- they do not have social media accounts- it is a state law that phones are not allowed in schools anymore on- they have to be off and put in backpacks- to

have many parents rally together and stand strong together would be wonderful!- principal would back this for parents- ban together and find parents in the younger grades to stand strong with!

-continue to educate parents on dangers of social media and technology too soon

-back to school night it could be discussed, or kindergarten orientation- it could be presented- let's put it in focus groups!

-encouragement before christmas to stand strong- put in update that the school is supporting this effort

XI. Closing Prayer

NAME:	**EMAIL:**
