

SAINT THOMAS ACADEMY MOTHERS' CLUB MEETING

Minutes for Tuesday, November 4, 2008

Opening:

Sarah Mealey opened the meeting with a prayer written by Saint Monica, mother of Saint Augustine, which was a reflection on motherhood.

Julie Brady welcomed everyone and introduced our guest speakers, Steve Bjork, Director of College Counseling and Susan Hoff, of Baker Hoff Educational Consultants.

Guest Speakers:

Steve Bjork and Susan Hoff gave a joint presentation on preparing for college and they made the following points:

- Get to know your college counselor.
- Develop a plan and keep your options open.
- Course rigor and GPA are the #1 factor in college admissions.
- Utilize tutoring and resources such as The Write Place.
- Develop a resume and keep track of extracurricular activities, leadership opportunities, and community service.
- Develop relationships with teachers, both for academic assistance and letters of recommendation.
- Develop a plan for testing, which includes preparation for those tests.
- Explore colleges online, attend college fairs, attend college receptions, and meet with college reps visiting school.
- Develop a list of colleges to visit, schedule a tour, information session and an interview when possible.
- Take time to develop and write your essays. Have someone proof read them.

The information presented is available in a handout from Mr. Bjork and both Mr. Bjork and Ms. Hoff are available for questions.

Steve Bjork – Director of College Counseling

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Kathy Laird, Director of Marriage and Family Life for the Archdiocese of Saint Paul. Kathy spoke to us about the importance of family life and the vocation of marriage and family. She emphasized that the vocation of marriage and family require love and faithfulness. She also reminded us of our baptismal call to evangelization, which includes giving our children the gift of faith and helping them get to heaven. She encouraged us to reflect on how well we know God. She also encouraged us to invest in others and to use the words “please,” “thank you, and “I’m sorry,” to raise men of integrity and faith. Kathy encouraged us to encourage our sons to become active on the Pro-Life Committee.

Announcements:

Ann Girres, Media Specialist, announced a Pagers fundraiser at the Barnes & Noble in Eagan on Dec. 6th and 7th. Barnes & Noble will donate a portion of the proceeds from your purchases to the Pagers program. All you have to do is mention Saint Thomas Academy at checkout.

Randall Hallett, Director of Development, introduced the new Community Auction Chairs, Pat and Kelly O’Neill, and Pat and Lisa Mascia. The Chairs are looking for volunteers to chair Auction committees.

Sarah Mealey, encouraged participation in Eucharistic Adoration and handed out a flyer titled, “Understanding Eucharistic Adoration.” Eucharistic Adoration takes place on the first Friday of every month, from 8:00A.M. to 2:30 P.M. in the Chapel. If you are unable to make your scheduled time, please arrange for a substitute from the Sub List. Any questions, please contact the Chairs.

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Respectfully submitted,
Mary Johnson
Recording Secretary