



## **Parents' Auxiliary Meeting Minutes**

**August 27, 2021**

**Mary Margaret Marks, President**, called the meeting to order at 8:04 a.m. Ann Nichols moved to start the meeting, and Katie Huff seconded the motion.

**Mary Margaret Marks** gave an overview of some Parents' Auxiliary activities through the school year, welcomed the parents to the school year, and encouraged anyone interested in volunteering with the Parents' Auxiliary to reach out.

**Mother Sandra Curtis, Lower School Chaplain**, gave the opening prayer.

**Dr. Jamie Griffin, Head of School**, welcomed everyone to the new school year. He went to an Episcopal school as a child and is excited to be here. Dr. Griffin thanked Joan Strauss and Steve Hickman for their help as he was preparing to be the head of school. New parents will be receiving requests for feedback regarding the admissions process and orientations. Covid continues to present a challenge for the school, but he is encouraged by our student vaccination rate. Last year provided a lot of information that the school is applying this year, including the difficulties inherent in the online/in-person hybrid model. Dr. Griffin encouraged parents to utilize the Covid reporting form available in numerous locations on the school website. He recognized that parents and students are all beginning the school year with a level of fatigue due to Covid. The school will be communicating protocols for outdoor school events, like football games, etc. The new Canvas management system has notification settings that can be adjusted, and the technology team has some helpful videos to get parents acclimated to this new system. Dr. Griffin reported that the school is continuing its partnership with Dr. Derrick Gay with regard to diversity and inclusion efforts, and a parent survey will be sent out. Episcopal is looking at consultants to assist with strategic planning efforts. Dr. Griffin has an open door policy and is always happy to hear anyone's thoughts or concerns. He encouraged parents to get other parents involved in the Parents' Auxiliary.

**Mary Margaret Marks** presented the May 2021 meeting minutes for approval. Angie Johnson moved to approve the minutes. Jamie Jones seconded the motion.

**Mary Lewis Dassinger, President-Elect**, presented the treasurer's report. The Parents' Auxiliary currently has funds of \$188,187.00. This amount is used to fund two years' worth of Parents' Auxiliary activities.

**Kathy Wild, Watermelon Supper Committee**, announced that the event is scheduled for Friday, September 10. The event will begin at 4:00pm. Fall sports will be announced at halftime. There is no charge for the event.

**Jamie Jones, Gate and Concession Committee**, explained that the purpose of the committee is to organize support for school sports, including gate and concession volunteers. Volunteers are needed at Spikefest this weekend. There is a SignUp Genius link that will be updated throughout the year, and parents are encouraged to check it continually.

**Leslie Bright, Wildcat Roundup Committee**, explained that the Wildcat Roundup is the Lower School's fall festival. Wildcat Roundup is currently scheduled for October 13 from 5:00-7:00pm. The committee is watching Covid numbers to see if Wildcat Roundup will need to be moved to Spring 2022. The event will take place on the football field. Ticket forms will be forthcoming in September. Middle schoolers can earn volunteer hours by helping with the event.

**Mary Margaret Marks** reported on behalf of the **Used Uniform Committee**. The committee earned \$8,000 this summer, which is a good indicator that the committee is offering a good service to Episcopal families. Mary Margaret reminded parents that the committee collects uniform pieces in all conditions. Those items that cannot be resold are repurposed.

**Mary Margaret Marks** thanked the Teacher Appreciation Committees and the grade level reps for all of their efforts in welcoming the faculty and students back to school.

**Mary Margaret Marks** noted that the Parents' Auxiliary will be meeting quarterly this year. The next meeting is scheduled for November 5 in the Upper School library.

**Mary Margaret Marks** thanked everyone for attending and asked for a motion to adjourn. Ann Nichols made such a motion, and Neal Lea seconded the motion.

Respectfully Submitted,  
**Kathryn Irby**