

St. Augustine School
New City, NY



St Augustine School
Faith † Family † Future

Home School Association (HSA)
2011-2012
Parent Guide and Event Schedule

September 7, 2011

Dear Parents:

On behalf of your Home School Association (HSA), I'd like to welcome you and your children back to Saint Augustine's School (SAS) for what promises to be another exciting and successful school year. I'd also like to extend a special welcome to the thirty-three (33) new families and forty-nine (49) new students that are joining our SAS family this year. We are thrilled to have you join us and know that you will be happy with your decision.

The purpose of the HSA is to promote the Catholic education and wellbeing of our children through a combination of educational, social and civic activities. The HSA also serves as a communication link and mutual support system among the parents, teachers, school and parish administration and the community at large. This is accomplished through a variety of events and activities including special assemblies, book fairs, Catholic Schools Week, the Fall Carnival and dances to name just a few. Money raised through our various HSA fundraisers go to support books and teaching materials, technology for the classrooms, scholarships and other activities that are not covered through our tuition and fees.

A perfect example of this is the number of investments and improvements made over the summer utilizing the funds we raised this past year from our 50th Anniversary Gala and the "Go Techno" campaign. Among the investments that the HSA made are:

- (28) new desktop computers with the latest educational software from Microsoft for the Computer Lab;
- (3) printers including one color printer that can be used for class projects;
- Furniture and equipment (i.e. balances, microscopes, glassware etc) for the Science Lab;
- Gym equipment that will enrich the program and provide a safer environment;
- Desks and chairs for 6th and 7th grade;
- White boards and a projector for 8th grade; and
- (16) gently used computers for the faculty and Pre-K and Kindergarten classrooms; and
- Wired the Computer Lab for Internet access.

We are incredibly proud of what we have accomplished and hope to be able to make similar investments each year to enhance our children's overall educational experience and continue to provide the events and activities that we know our children look forward to.

Although we are relatively small, the depth and diversity of our programs and activities is indicative of a much larger school. We are able to achieve so much because of the passion, drive and commitment of our parents, guardians and other family members. The Parent Involvement Program (PIP), wherein each family is asked to volunteer a minimum of twenty (20) hours per year in one or more of the school's educational, cultural or extracurricular activities, is essential to our ability to provide the same level of programming for our children each year. Single parent and 8th grade families are only required to serve ten (10) hours. Please refer to the list of activities that are eligible for PIP credit. I would ask that you **complete the PIP Volunteer Form no later than September 14th** and return it to the school office. This form is for planning purposes only and will be used by our event chairpersons to contact you for specific

assistance. The schedule and a detailed description of each of these events and activities is available on the school website in the "Parent Guide and Event Schedule" which can be found under the Home School Association tab.

There are several potential changes to various events and fundraisers this year that we are still in the midst of finalizing. Among them are two new fundraisers, namely a Gold Party and a Calendar Raffle. The Gold Party would provide an opportunity for individuals to earn cash for their broken and unwanted gold jewelry while SAS gets a portion of the proceeds. The Calendar Raffle, (perhaps during Lent) would give people multiple chances to win from the purchase of a single raffle ticket. We are also hoping to host our 7th Annual Women's Expo, a Tricky Tray / Chinese Auction type event, from which we raised over \$18,000 for the school in 2010. While we always have many volunteers to help run these events, they will not be possible without someone volunteering to lead (or co-lead) the event or activity. Therefore, please consider what your level of involvement could be. Please indicate on the PIP Volunteer Form if you would be willing take on a leadership role for one of these events.

Finally, most communications and forms from the HSA will be sent home via email and posted on the school website. This will include a weekly newsletter every Sunday night with reminders for the coming week. It is important that your email address is on file and updated if any changes are made.

The HSA is your parent organization. We encourage your active involvement and welcome your comments, concerns and suggestions. Please consider joining us at our monthly meetings which are generally held on the last Monday of every month at 7:30 PM in the Library. All are welcome and encouraged to attend. You may also send your comments and suggestions to the HSA via email at Info@saintaugustineparishschool.com.

Thank you in advance for all of your help and support. May God bless you and your children with an exciting, challenging, healthy and successful school year.

Sincerely,

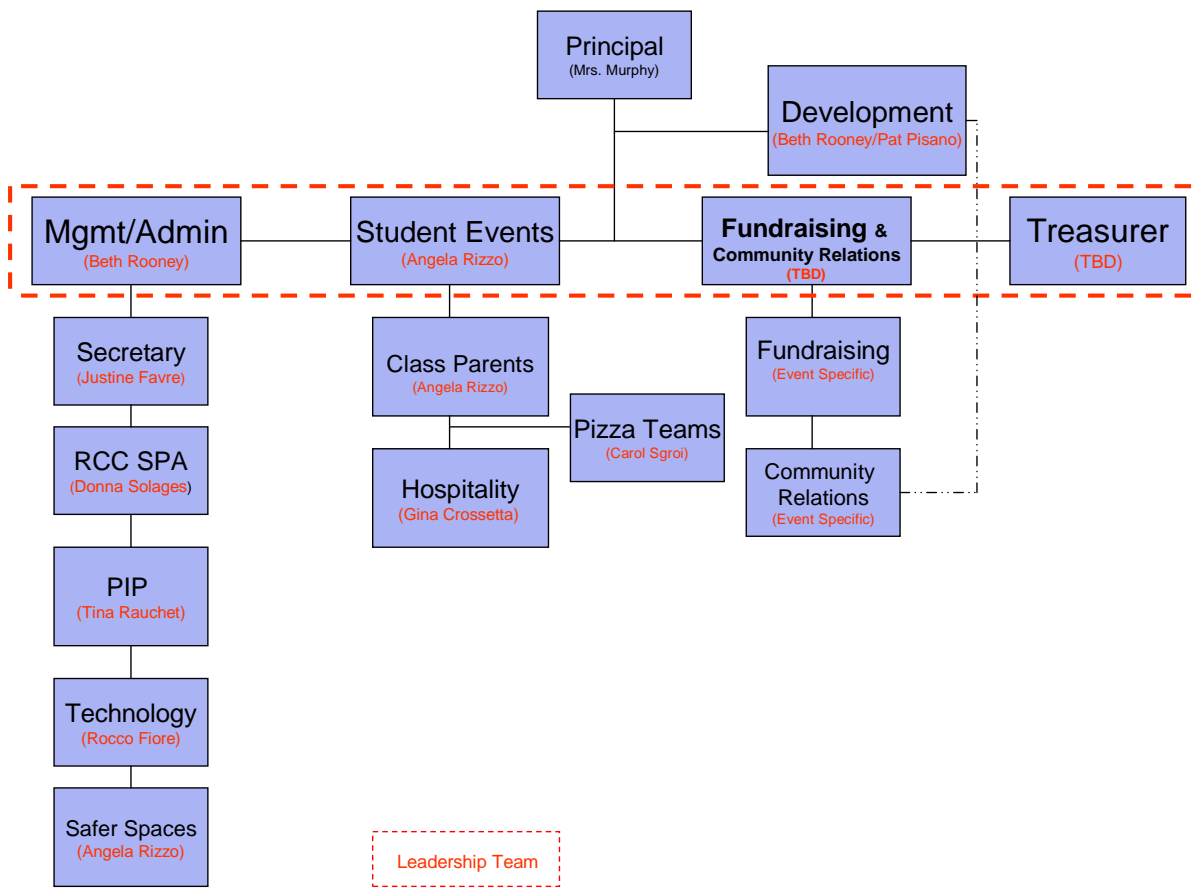


Bethann Rooney
Home School Association

HSA Structure and Members

The HSA is open to, and comprised of, all parents with children enrolled at SAS for the 2011-2012 school year. The Association is headed up by a Leadership Team which is organized with three main functional areas: 1) Management & Administration; 2) Student Events; and 3) Fundraising & Community Relations. The individuals that are responsible for the management and oversight of each of these functional areas as well as the Treasurer make up the Leadership Team, which serves as the conduit and communication link between the school administration and the rest of the parents at large. Responsibility and accountability for each event or activity however lies with the parents who have volunteered to take the lead on those events and activities this year. Each of these individuals is dependent upon you to volunteer your time and talents to help ensure the success of each event.

HSA Organization Chart



Event Coordinators

Due to the amount of work that is necessary to make each of these events a success we have begun to identify Coordinators for each of them as outlined below. You will note that there are a number of events that we have not yet identified a Coordinator for. We encourage your prayerful and thoughtful consideration of (co)leading one or more of these events. If we are unable to get volunteers to take these events on, we may not be able to have them this year. We are also seeking at least one additional parent volunteer to “Co-Coordinate” each event with the more experienced individual. If you are interested, please contact the person indicated by sending a note through your child.

Catalogue Sales (Spring & Fall) – Theresa Fiore

Fall Carnival – Janette Busetto

Family BBQ & Movie Night – Vinia Jeudy

Family Night Bingo – Gary Heavner

Field Day – Julie Webb

Mother / Son Golf Outing (Tentative) – Theresa Fiore

Parades (St. Patrick’s & Memorial Day/BBQ) - TBD

Pizza Teams – Carol Sgroi

SASAL – Patrick Solages & Pat Pisano

Scholastic Book Fair – Janette Busetto

Snowball Dance (Tentative) – Aimee Rodriguez & Julie Webb

Student Photos – Angela Rizzo

Yearbook – Deanna Furey

Additional information on each of these events is available on the school website at www.saintaugustineparishschool.com.

HSA Events & Activities – At a Glance

September

September - October 2011

September 12, 2011 (7:00 PM)

September 21, 2011 (7:00 PM)

September 21-22, 2011 (9:00 AM – Noon)

September 25, 2011 (12:00 – 2:00 PM)

Fall Catalogue Fundraiser

8th Grade Parent Meeting

Back to School Night / Book Fair

Scholastic Book Fair

Back to School Mass & Reception

October

October 5, 2011

October 28, 2011

School Photos (Individual Portraits)

Fall Carnival

November

TBD

November 2, 2011

November 10, 2011 (7:00-9:00 PM)

November 22, 2011

Gold Party Fundraiser

School Photos (Class and Activities)

Grade 5-8 Dance

Thanksgiving Feast

December

December 14, 2010 (7:00 PM)

December 21, 2011 (7:30 PM)

Christmas Pageant

Winter Band Concert

January

January 4, 2012

January 14, 2012 (7:00 – 9:30 PM)

January 29, 2012 (12:00 PM)

January 31, 2012

School Photos (8th Gr Cap & Gown/Retakes)

Father/Daughter Snowball Dance (Tentative)

Catholic Schools Week Mass

Grandparents Day & Breakfast

February

February 1, 2012 (9:00 AM–1:00 PM & 7:00 PM)

February 2, 2012 (5:00 – 10:00 PM)

Open House & Information Night2

Family Night Bingo

March

TBD

March 18, 2012 (TBD)

Calendar Raffle Fundraiser

St. Patrick's Day Parade (Pearl River)

April

April 26, 2012 (7:00-9:00 PM)

Grade 5-8 Dance

May

May 10, 2012 (5:00-8:00 PM)

May 16, 2012 (9:00 – 11:30 AM)

May 21, 2012

May 23, 2012

May 28, 2012

Mother/Son Golf Outing (Tentative)

May Crowning / Communion Breakfast

Field Day

Spring & Band Concert

Memorial Day Parade (New City)

June

June 12, 2012 (6:30 PM)

HSA Annual Dinner (TBD)

*** Unless other wise noted, events take place during the normal school day.

On-Going

Parish Bingo – held every Friday evening in the School auditorium. Individuals are asked to work from approximately 6:30-10:30 PM. Activities include selling bingo cards and verifying Bingo winners. Each family is asked to work a minimum of 4 Bingo's this school year (2 for single parent and 8th Grade families).

Pizza / Ice Cream Teams – Friday's at lunch time (occasional Thursdays). Each of four pizza teams is assigned one Friday per month

Class Parents – assists the teachers in organizing class specific events and parties, creating the yearbook collage and assisting the HSA in other events as needed.

Overview of Key HSA Events & Volunteer Opportunities

Assemblies - Various assemblies are scheduled each year to supplement the classroom educational experience. These assemblies are often theme related but relevant to multiple grades. Ideas for Assemblies are generated by both the Principal and HSA members.

Ideal for: Working Parents Non Working Parents Fathers

Assistance needed with: Idea Generation
 Other – To Be Determined on case-by-case basis

Back to School Mass & Open House - The Back to School Liturgy and Open House is the first opportunity of the new school year to gather together as a community and showcase our school family to the parish. The liturgy takes place at a regularly scheduled Sunday Mass and is followed by refreshments in the school auditorium. All students and their families are encouraged to attend this annual event.

Ideal for: Working Parents Non Working Parents Fathers

Assistance needed with: Set up Tables & Chairs
 Food shopping
 Kitchen Duty
 Clean Up – Break Down Tables & Chairs

Back to School Night - This annual event which is mandatory for at least one parent provides an opportunity for parents to meet their child's teachers and receive an overview of the curriculum for the year as well as to become familiar with school/classroom policies and procedures. This also provides an opportunity for the Home School Association to briefly highlight the various activities and volunteer opportunities available throughout the year. Light refreshments are usually served.

Ideal for: Working Parents Non Working Parents Fathers

Assistance needed with: Set up Tables & Chairs
 Food shopping
 Kitchen Duty
 Clean Up – Break Down Tables & Chairs

Catholic Schools Week Open House – Catholic Schools Week begins on the last Sunday in January and is an annual celebration of the important role that Catholic schools play in providing a values-added education for our young people. During this week, we host an Open House to showcase our school and encourage parents to take advantage of the benefits of a Catholic school by enrolling their children in St. Augustine's.

Ideal for: Working Parents Non Working Parents Fathers

Assistance needed with: Greet and register visitors
 Provide tours to interested families and answer questions

Class Parents - Class parents play an integral role in assisting the teachers throughout the year with a variety of class specific events and functions. This is a wonderful way to become more involved in your child's class.

Ideal for: Working Parents Non Working Parents Fathers

Assistance needed with: Assist in coordinating class specific events and parties
 Create class collage for annual yearbook
 Assist with certain social/fundraising events by class

Fall Carnival – Our Fall Carnival is generally held the week of Halloween during the regular school day. The students have an opportunity to play various games of skill and chance and participate in other fun filled activities.

Ideal for: Working Parents Non Working Parents Fathers

Assistance needed with: Event Coordinator
 Shop for prizes
 Set Up / Clean Up
 Supervise games and activities
 Supervise prize and or concession tables

Fall Catalogue Sale - Our annual Fall fundraiser is a catalog sale generally consisting of wrapping paper and house wares. It starts the first week of the school year and runs for approximately three weeks. Each student / family is requested to sell as much as they can as the school receives 50% of total school sales. Students with high sales receive free gift from catalog company.

Ideal for: Working Parents Non Working Parents Fathers

Assistance needed with: Verify orders & payment for submission to Catalogue Co
 Unload truck and distribute to students

Family Night Bingo – This fun filled and exciting night of action packed Bingo is held annually, generally in the Fall. Bingo knows no age limits so this is an excellent opportunity for all of the St. Augustine’s families to come together in a social environment with their friends and families and even have a chance to win great prizes.

Ideal for: Working Parents Non Working Parents Fathers

Assistance needed with: Shopping
 Set up tables and chairs
 Kitchen duty (8th Grade families only)
 Cleanup

Field Day - Generally held just before finals, this off site Student Appreciation Event is a fun filled day of friendly competition through a variety of games and activities of skill, stamina and strength. Upon returning to school, the students are cooled off with ice cream treats and more fun in the gymnasium.

Ideal for: Working Parents Non Working Parents Fathers

Assistance needed with: Event Coordinator
 Food Shopping / Order Placement
 Serve breakfast and/or lunch
 Supervise activities / games
 Class chaperones / assistants

Grade 5-8 Dances - These themed dances for students in grades 5-8 are held twice a year in the evening.

Ideal for: Working Parents Non Working Parents Fathers

Assistance needed with: Decorating / set up
 Baking
 Chaperones

Memorial Day & St. Patrick’s Day Parades – Each of these annual parades is an excellent opportunity to market our school to the communities in which we server and to showcase the pride and compartment our students.

Ideal for: Working Parents Non Working Parents Fathers

Assistance needed with: Event coordinator (i.e. registering, permission slips, banners, flags)
 Chaperone

Mother / Son Golf Outing - A social evening of mini golf and a barbeque for moms and their sons.

Ideal for: Working Parents Non Working Parents Fathers

Assistance needed with: Shopping (prizes and food)

BBQ/cook

Parish Bingo – Held every Friday night throughout the year, Bingo is a welcome event by the community at large and a major contributor to our schools financial needs.

Ideal for: Working Parents Non Working Parents Fathers

Assistance needed with: Selling Bingo cards and confirming claims of a win

Pizza Teams – Pizza is available for purchase every Friday at lunch time (occasional Thursdays). In order to facilitate this weekly fundraising event, Pizza Teams are formed to serve the pizza, snacks, drinks and ice cream. Each team is on duty once a month from approximately 11:15 AM – 1:15 PM. Following lunch, team members are asked to supervise the students at recess.

Ideal for: Working Parents Non Working Parents Fathers

Assistance needed with: Set up

Kitchen duty

Clean up

Supervise children on playground

Father/Daughter Snowball Dance - This wintry themed dance is for all girls and their fathers (or father figure) in Pre K – 8 in both the school and religious education program. This fun filled night includes dancing, individual portraits and lots of great prizes.

Ideal for: Working Parents Non Working Parents Fathers

Assistance needed with: Shopping

Set up

Clean up

School Photos / Picture Day - This annual event ensures that each child has an individual portrait taken in their choice of either their uniform or dress down clothes (parent choice). Class photos are taken a few weeks later in full school Uniform as are group photos for all clubs and extracurricular activities including CYO, SASAL, Band, Girl Scouts, and Boy Scouts.

Ideal for: Working Parents Non Working Parents Fathers

Assistance needed with: Order verification
 Assist students and photographer as necessary

Women's Expo – While the Women's Expo is our foremost fundraiser each year, it is also an opportunity for the women of St. Augustine's School and Parish to join together their families, neighbors and friends to relax, laugh and hopefully get lucky, while demonstrating their commitment to Catholic Education and SAS. The highlight of the evening is fabulous gift basket raffles, complimented by a delicious, full course hot and cold buffet in the elegant setting of a local banquet facility.

Ideal for: Working Parents Non Working Parents Fathers

Assistance needed with: Shopping
 Basket preparation
 Soliciting prizes
 Moving baskets to location of event
 Set up day of event
 Execution and clean up night of event