**Mothers’ Association Meeting**
**Minutes**
**Tuesday, September 13, 2016**

“Be simple, be humble and bring joy to others” ~ St. Madeleine Sophie Barat

**Officers:** Donna Britt, Alayne Bell, Sloane Davis, Seana Martinelli, Patty Szipszky, Deirdre Cryor, and Kathleen Gallagher,

**Attendees:** Kara Albanese, Katie Backe, Jen Baggini, Alayne Bell, Corinne Benditt, Amy Bounds, Donna Britt, Erin Brophy, Mufeili (Mandy) Chen, Melissa Clark, Nancy Conway, Sloane Davis, Elaine DiCocco, Jane Dooner, MariBeth Doyle, Natalie Dowd, Christine Farrell, Mary Fitzhenry, Nancy Franz, Kristine Freind, Mary Jo Fry, Caroline Gagliardi, Michele Gorski, Nicole Gress, Zuriash Hailu, Tammy Hart, Oxana Holubowski, Meghan Houder, Christine Kinslow, Kathleen Knowlton, Pat Lewers, Carol Lilley, Donna Lockings, Staci Loranca, Carrie Magee, Seana Martinelli, Dana Mejzak, Betsy Moore, Jessica Murdolo, Christi Neilly, Sarah O’Keefe, Maleita Olson, Sharon Paoli, Katie Pryma, Carol Rafferty, Jen Reid, Teresa Renzi, Monica Robinson, Suzanne Robinson, Christy Rodia, Susan Schuller, Susan Stull, Patty Szipszky, Analia Tarantino, Rosanne Terzian, Jill Thompson, Michaeune Tillman-Tate, Nicky Verna, Vicki Warner, Kathy Watkinson, and Christine White.

**Welcome and Opening Prayer:**

Donna Britt

St. Madeleine Sophie’s Daily Prayer

O Sacred heart of Jesus, give me a heart that is one with your own:

A humble heart that knows and loves its nothingness;  
A gentle heart that holds and calms its own anxieties;  
A loving heart that has compassion for the suffering of others;  
A pure heart that recoils even at the appearance of evil;  
A detached heart that longs for nothing other than the goodness of heaven;  
A heart detached from self love and embraced by the love of God,  
Its attention focused on God,  
Its goodness is its only treasure in time and eternity.

Amen.

**Introductions:**

**Donna Britt, President and Alayne Bell, Vice President**, introduced themselves and told us a little about their families and their daughters at Sacred Heart. Donna and Alayne shared with us their vision for the Mothers’ Association for the 2016/2017 school year and their desire that everyone join together and enjoy working together in this community of love. They plan to feature a different prayer of St. Madeleine Sophie’s at each meeting. Donna and Alayne both emphasized that the goal of today’s meeting was to meet and connect with other SHA Mothers, share ideas, generate excitement and plan for these events that will benefit our daughters, our school and our community.

**Deirdre Cryor, Head of School**, spoke about her transition from Saint Mary’s in Colorado to Sacred Heart this summer. Miss Cryor told us that when the girls came back in the fall, the “heart” came back to campus. She also emphasized how important “word of mouth” is to enrollment.
Betsy Moore, Assistant to Head of School, spoke about the Miss Pat Run, which is scheduled for April 22, 2016. The Miss Pat Run was started by the Ryan Family and is in its 7th year. There is a 5K run, a one mile fun walk around the upper field, DJ, face painting, a bounce house and treats for the children.

Suzanne Robinson, Director of the Middle School and Director of Safety, spoke about snow day protocols and ongoing safety initiatives in coordination with the Radnor Police Dept and Delaware County DA's Office. Suzanne emphasized the importance of visitors using the red door entrance, signing in and wearing a visitor badge.

Kathleen Gallagher, Director of Institutional Advancement, reminded us all of the Installation of the new Head of School ceremony and reception on Friday, September 30th. Kathy discussed how the money that was raised by the Mothers' Association last year was allocated. The school invested in a new water heater, roofing, tree removal, a firewall for technology and improved wireless access ports. Kathy also informed us that there are now 10 alumnae on staff.

Additional Introductions of the Leadership Team:

Treasurer – Sloane Davis
Secretary – Seana Martinelli

Homeroom Mothers:

Lower School HR Captain - Lisa Wanner
  Kindergarten - Christy Rodia
  First Grade - Sloane Davis
  Second Grade - Marianne Vickers and Meghan Houder
  Third Grade - Katie Pryma
  Fourth Grade - Kim Palladino and Barbara Forte DiGiuseppe

Middle School HR Captain - Mary Lesutis Fitzhenry
  Fifth Grade - Patty Hicks and Nicole Gress
  Sixth Grade - Jill Thompson and Tammy Hart
  Seventh Grade - Christine White and Stephnie Krug
  Eighth Grade - Karen Casale

Upper School HR Mom Captain Team - Katie Backe, Monique Dowd, Staci Wilhelm Loranca and Nancy Conway

- Katie and Staci opened up to the group about their wonderful experience volunteering at Sacred Heart, beginning when their daughters began in 6th grade and all of the friendships that they have made. They also brought up their HR Mother motto, "Tighter Connections, Stronger Community". In addition to their Upper School Captain responsibilities, Katie, Staci, Nancy and Monique are planning a "Moms' Afternoon Out" and some philanthropic opportunities for SHA moms of all grades.

Ninth Grade - Caroline Gagliardi and Carrie Weimer
Tenth Grade - Katie Backe and Monique Dowd
Eleventh Grade - Michelle Harris and Zenell Dear
Twelfth Grade - Rosanne Terzian and Lisa Brairton
Coordinators:

Hospitality and Decorations Coordinator: Melissa Clark
The hospitality committee provides food and drink for the MA meetings/socials, Back to School Night, and other events on an as needed basis. Hospitality also decorates the entrance to the mansion for various holidays throughout the year.

Volunteer Coordinator: Terri Prendergast
Terri will assist the various coordinators/cha in obtaining and organizing their volunteers through emails and links to Sign-Up Genius.

Marketing Coordinator: Jessica Murdolo
The marketing committee is a new committee this year! It has been organized in order to promote events within the Mothers' Association, our school, and into the community. The group will work closely with our Director of Communications, Marketing and PR, Lisa Brairton.

Event Assessment Coordinator Kim Palladino

Online SCRIP Coordinator Patty Szipsky

Faculty Bonus Coordinator Tammy Hart

Box Tops Coordinator Dana Mejzak
CDSSH participates in "Box Tops for Education". BoxTops from General Mills products are collected by Sacred Heart Families all year. The BoxTops are submitted in exchange for school funding.

Artistic Coordinator Heidi Sharkey

Fundraising Coordinator Elaine DiCocco
Fall and Spring Fundraisers are being planned. The Fall Fundraiser will be an opportunity to “Buy a Pie ~ Give a Pie” by purchasing a Linvilla Orchards pie for Thanksgiving for yourself and your family and at the same time order a pie to be donated to the Thanksgiving Baskets that our school’s Community Service Corp is putting together.

Discussion of 2016/17 Events:

Christmas at the Mansion November 18, 2016 Chairs: Carrie Weimer/Tammy Hart
Christmas at the mansion is a special holiday event for adults held in the schoolhouse mansion. The mansion will be beautifully decorated for Christmas by parent volunteers and attendees are treated to a night of delicious food, drink, raffle prizes and early Christmas shopping. Our very own choir kicks off the holiday season with a performance of Christmas carols. Volunteers are needed for decorating, set-up and registration during the event. Volunteers are also needed for taking down the decorations at the end of Christmas break.

Secret Santa Workshop December 7, 2016 Chairs: Jill Thompson/Seana Martinelli
Santa’s workshop is a very special day for the lower school students. Tables of small gifts are set up in the sun porch. Each of the grades is given a time to come to the workshop and buy gifts for friends and family members. Volunteers are needed to shop, set up for the workshop on the afternoon of December 6th, act as facilitators in shopping, as cashiers during the workshop and help break down the workshop after it is over.

Fall and Spring Book Fairs December 5-9, 2016 / May 1-5, 2017 Chair: Jill Thompson
Volunteers are needed to set up the book fair, act as facilitators for girls buying books, act as cashiers during the fair, and help break down the fair after it is over.

Annual Dinner Dance and Auction  February 11, 2017  Chairs and Co Chairs Needed
The Annual Dinner Dance and Auction is the Mothers’ Associations biggest fundraiser and “friend-raiser” of the year!! It is a themed event that will be held at Overbrook Golf Club. Guests enjoy cocktails, a delicious dinner, live music and raffle prizes. There is a silent and live auction. This event requires the help of many volunteers! Volunteers are needed for silent auction table captains, procurement of live auction items, set up, registration, check out and clean up.

Mother-Daughter Mass/Brunch  April 30, 2017  Chairs: Christine Bass/Heidi McIntyre
This is a festive and special Mother-Daughter event held each year close to Mother’s Day. The event begins with mass and is followed by shopping, a delicious lunch, music, dancing and raffle! Volunteers are needed to help organize the event including invitations, coordinating 8th grade and senior gifts and organizing gift baskets for the raffle.

Teacher Appreciation Week  May 1-5, 2017  Chairs: Jill Thompson/Meghan Houder
The week is organized to show our appreciation for all that our Sacred Heart teachers and staff do for our daughters. The faculty and staff are treated to a special breakfast on Tuesday and a delicious lunch on Wednesday. Volunteers will be asked to set up, serve, clean up and provide various breakfast and lunch items.

Senior Graduation Reception  June 8th, 2017  Chairs: Melissa Alexander/Liz Magnotta
This reception is held in the mansion dining room immediately following Commencement. Graduates and families gather to celebrate with food prepared by SHA families. The tenth and eleventh grade parents and other volunteers are needed to set up, clean up, and contribute food. The eleventh grade parents will train the tenth grade parents on how to host the next years’ reception.

The next Mothers’ Association Meeting will be:

Tuesday, October 4th, 2016
8:30 am

~~ Also coming up is the Mothers’ Association Fall Social ~~
      Friday evening, October 21st 6:00-8:00
An evening of simply snacks, drinks and conversation … all fun … in appreciation of YOU … our Sacred Heart Moms!