



All Saints Catholic Academy
All Saints Parents' Association (ASPA)
Meeting Minutes
September 16, 2025

Meeting Called to Order

Ms. Melanie Lucero and Ms. Katherine Preze (Co-Presidents) called the meeting to order.

Introduction to All Saints Parents' Association (ASPA)

Ms. Preze discussed the role of ASPA and how it supports the school, students, and staff. ASPA also encourages community within the school. It is open to all parents or guardians of current All Saints Catholic Academy (ASCA) students. The 2025-2026 ASPA Executive Board includes Ms. Lucero and Ms. Preze as Co-Presidents; Ms. Deanna Duncan as Treasurer; and Ms. Therese Berger as Secretary.

New Business

Book Club/Speaker Discussion

Ms. Lucero discussed how ASPA is trying to gauge the interest level among school parents/guardians regarding a possible book club or speaker about the popular new book by Jonathan Haidt called *The Anxious Generation: How the Great Rewiring of Childhood is Causing an Epidemic of Mental Illness*. This event would likely be held in January or February 2026. Some parents attending the meeting expressed interest and said a workshop would also be helpful. ASPA will also send out an electronic survey to the school community to get more feedback.

After Mass Coffee Social Hour Discussion

Ms. Preze discussed the possibility of ASPA hosting an After Mass Coffee Social Hour outside the school twice a year. Meeting participants gave feedback that they don't think this would be a successful event because most parents need to leave immediately after Mass to go to work. Childcare is also a concern. ASPA will wait until spring to revisit this idea.

Social Chair Discussion

Ms. Preze discussed the possibility of ASPA bringing back a Social Chair. Meeting participants gave feedback that they don't think this is necessary because there are already enough events and they don't think new events would be well-attended.

Giving Tree Discussion

Ms. Duncan and Ms. Abigail Flynn are two of the Teacher Appreciation Committee Chairs. They discussed upcoming changes to the Giving Tree. The Giving Tree is displayed during Fall Parent/Teacher Conferences and encourages parents to donate items to teachers from their Amazon Wish Lists. Instead of having a posterboard tree stapled to the wall, Ms. Duncan discussed possibly displaying an artificial tree that would be more noticeable in the school entryway.

Faculty Christmas Bonus Collection

Ms. Preze discussed the Faculty Christmas Bonus Collection. ASPA collects money from school families and uses the money to give Christmas bonuses to all teachers and staff. Forms will be sent out in early November. The bonuses are typically distributed the week before Christmas break.

Holiday Shop Co-Chair

Ms. Lucero announced that ASPA is still looking for an additional Holiday Shop Co-Chair. The current chairs are Ms. Shannon Rosiak and Ms. Jaclyn Fleck. The Holiday Shop Committee plans and oversees the annual Holiday Shop. The Holiday Shop is typically held the week after Thanksgiving. It is a shopping event for students so that they can purchase gifts for family and friends. Proceeds come back to ASPA. Please reach out to Ms. Lucero and/or Ms. Preze if you are interested in joining the Holiday Shop Committee as a chair.

Budget

Ms. Deanna Duncan (Treasurer) reviewed the ASPA budget for this school year.

Volunteer Reminders

Ms. Preze reviewed volunteer requirements and reminders. All volunteers must be up to date on their Virtus account and have their background check complete. Additionally, volunteers must always wear their volunteer badge while in the school building. The badge should be in a visible place so that teachers and staff can see it. Volunteers must also stay in their designated volunteer area and arrive at the school at their scheduled time. If it is your first time volunteering at the school, you will need to bring your photo identification.

Committee Overviews and Updates

Art Awareness

Ms. Lucero discussed the Art Awareness Committee. The committee co-chairs are Ms. Lucero and Ms. Terri Hannemann. Art Awareness is a program that introduces K-5 students to the great artists of our past. Classroom/grade level volunteers are needed to coordinate and lead lessons two to three times per year. The committee is still looking for parents to lead third grade Art Awareness.

Book Fair

The committee chairs are Ms. Lisa Hajek, Ms. Jenn Venta, and Ms. Carolina Zavala. ASPA hosts two Scholastic Book Fairs each school year. All proceeds from the sales go directly to the ASCA Library. The book fairs are the only source of funding for the school library. Each homeroom is invited to preview and shop the book fairs with their class. Students can also shop with their parents during after-school shopping hours. The book fairs need many parent volunteers. The Fall Book Fair set-up will be in the afternoon on Monday, October 20th. Preview Day will be on Tuesday, October 21st. Shopping days will be Wednesday, October 22nd – Friday, October 24th.

Catholic Schools Week

Ms. Bethany Howe (Committee Chair) discussed the upcoming Catholic Schools Week. Catholic Schools Week is led by the teachers and supported by ASPA. In the past, ASPA has provided snacks, lunch, and assemblies throughout Catholic Schools Week. Every year, Catholic Schools Week is held the last week of January. Ms. Howe said that she has secured an exciting assembly (Scott Green Magic) and is still planning the food/snacks.

Community Outreach Committee

The committee chairs are Ms. Therese Berger, Ms. Kendele Hickombottom, and Ms. Krisan Richardson. Ms. Berger and Ms. Hickombottom discussed the role of the committee and upcoming committee events. Bernie's Book Bank Used Book Collection is scheduled for Monday, October 6th – Friday, October 31st. Operation Support Our Troops Halloween Candy Collection is scheduled for November 3rd – 4th. Cradles to Crayons Children's Coat Drive is scheduled for November 17th – November 21st. The Hesed House Advent Collection is scheduled for December 1st – 5th. Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service will be on January 19, 2026. There will be Feed My Starving Children time slots to sign up for, as well as the card-making event at the school.

Daddy Daughter Dance Committee

Ms. Katherine Preze and Ms. Melanie Lucero are the committee chairs. The annual Daddy Daughter Dance is held each spring in the ASCA gym. All current ASCA girls are invited to attend with their father or father figure. There will be snacks this year but no large appetizers.

Grandparents Day Committee

The committee chair is Ms. Jackie Hasse. Grandparents Day is always a well-attended event. ASPA will plan to have additional coffee and donuts this year.

Holiday Shop Committee

The committee chairs are Ms. Shannon Rosiak and Ms. Jaclyn Fleck. They are looking for an additional committee chair.

Mother & Son Event

The committee chair is Ms. Ashley Canty. The Mother & Son Event is typically held offsite in the spring.

New Family Welcome Committee

The committee chair is Ms. Melanie Lucero. Ms. Lucero explained that the role of the committee is to reach out to all new families at ASCA and be their point of contact. Each grade level has two volunteers who assist in welcoming new families and planning a grade level get-together over the summer. Ms. Lucero said that the summer meet-ups were successful. The New Family Welcome Committee was also present at the Uniform Resale to answer questions about uniforms.

Room Parents and Room Parent Manager Committee

The committee chair is Ms. Heidi Sawko. All room parents have been selected. Halloween party planning will begin. Junior High Halloween Party information has been sent to Mr. Tuttle for approval.

Scrip/Raise Right Committee

The committee chairs are Ms. Michelle Ling and Ms. Bethany Davis. Raise Right (formally Scrip) is a great way to earn tuition credit. Reach out to Scrip@ascacademy.org to get started.

Sunshine Committee

The committee chairs are Ms. Therese Berger and Ms. Heidi Sawko. Ms. Berger explained the role of the committee, which is to embrace all members of our school community to celebrate with them or remind them that they are supported in life's difficult moments. The committee recognizes members of the ASCA family that are going through big life events, such as marriage, birth of a child, illness, or death.

Teacher Appreciation Committee

The committee chairs are Ms. Deanna Duncan, Ms. Abigail Flynn, and Ms. Lauren Kelly. The Teacher Appreciation Committee plans, coordinates, and executes four to six teacher/staff appreciation events throughout the school year. Some events include the Back to School Lunch in August; Parent/Teacher Conference Dinner and Giving Tree in October; Christmas Party in December; and Teacher/Nurse Appreciation Week in May. The committee partners with the teacher liaison and school principal to ensure events are well-received by teachers and staff.

Trunk or Treat Committee

The committee chairs are Ms. Carolina Zavala and Ms. Lora Van Arsdell. This year's Trunk or Treat event is scheduled for October 25th from 11am-12:30pm. The committee is currently looking for a coffee truck vendor to provide hot drinks during the event. Registration information will be released soon.

Uniform Resale Committee

The committee chairs are Ms. Laura King and Ms. Melisa Zeunert. Parents donate gently used uniform items by placing them in the bin at Door 1. ASPA hosts two to three uniform resale events each school year. Ms. King and Ms. Zeunert discussed the committee and said that the June 2025 Uniform Resale Event brought in \$1,933 and the August 2025 Uniform Resale Event brought in \$1,770 for ASPA (nearly double last August's event which brought in \$900). Success is attributed to structured layout and clear signage. There was positive parent feedback. The next Uniform Resale Event is scheduled for October 23rd. This is to help meet demand for "warmer weather" items as it gets colder. Please remember to only donate gently used items with no holes.

Upcoming Events and Volunteer Opportunities

Ms. Preze reminded everyone that the Fall Book Fair will take place on October 20th – October 24th. The Trunk or Treat Event is on October 25th. Grandparents' Day is on November 25th, and the Holiday Shop is scheduled for December 1st – 5th. Ms. Preze and Ms. Lucero thanked everyone for attending and concluded the meeting.

Next Meeting

The next ASPA meeting is scheduled for January 14, 2026, from 8:15am-9:45am.