

The Advent School

Community Engagement Coordinator: Application Case Study

Please read the following case study. Write a brief response that addresses the following questions:

- What are the governance implications?
 - What are the Nominating Committee implications?
 - How do you keep Sandra happy? Would you replace her as chair of the 5K?
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Sandra Johnson is deeply involved with every aspect of her children's education. A single mother with three children enrolled at the Brooks Community School (BCS), Sandra serves as a class parent, treasurer of the Parents Association, chair of the annual Hearts & Flowers Dance, coordinator for the rummage sale, and head of the Brooks' 5K. Sandra's parents recently co-chaired the Grandparents Fund, which raised a record amount for the BCS Annual Fund.

Sandra adores the school's director of development Barbara Smith, Sandra's college roommate and long-time running partner. Barbara pulls into the parking lot at BCS and spots Sandra's car, bedecked with BCS bumper stickers.

Barbara sees her old friend and, without saying a word, she can tell that Sandra is very upset.

"I just can't believe it!" blurted Sandra.

"Can't believe what?" said Barbara.

"I can't believe the ingratitude of that school." Sandra suppressed a sob.

"What do you mean?" queried Barbara.

"After all I've done. Hearts and Flowers raised \$23,000, the rummage over \$50,000, and my parents gave who knows how much this year!"

"And we appreciate it, we really do." said Barbara reverently.

"Well, if you appreciate it so much, why wasn't I nominated?"

"Nominated for what?" asked Barbara.

"School Parent of the Year, that's what. I gave my all and who got the nod? Diana Metcalf, that's who. One food drive by the 9th grade and she gets all the credit. Picking up some spare change for hurricane relief while I do everything for the school. Well, I've had it. Everybody assumes that I'll do everything. I haven't had a free weekend in seven months. You can go to your development committee and tell them they'll have to find somebody else."

The next day, Barbara met the BCS Development Committee at their weekly coffee meeting. Barbara explained the situation to the three remaining members of the committee.

"I mean, do you think she's serious?" asked Janet Jenkins.

"Absolutely." said Barbara. "I've never seen her so angry."

"Well, Diana did do a great job and the school got some wonderful press coverage too. So, what are we going to do?" said Janet Rodgers.

"The 5K is only six weeks away and we've got to figure out how to make things up or who's going to replace Sandra." Barbara concluded.