

Education Commission Meeting Minutes

August 25, 2009

In Attendance: Mary Zielinski, Mary Powell, Sherry Campeau, Lisa Zastoupil, Jane Carroll (Staff Member), Katie Gebhard (Staff Member), Pat Bredekamp (Staff Member).

Absent: Tom Nathe

Hand Outs: August 2009 Faith Formation Report (electronic), August 2009 Principal's letter to parents, Faith Formation program and curriculum evaluation time line, Faith Formation staff list, MNSAA school strategic plan 2009-10, Archdiocesan Planning Process regional meeting time and locations, school enrollment as of 8/24/09.

1. Meeting called to order at 7:20 pm. Welcome Back! Reviewed and updated information on the membership roster.
2. June meeting minutes approved via email.
3. Nomination and selection of vice chair and minute taker. Mary Powell has agreed to serve as vice chair for this year. Tom Nathe was nominated to continue as minute taker. (NOTE: Tom accepted this position via email following this meeting.) Nominations were also accepted for the liaison position to the school advisory committee. Member's names will be forwarded to Fr. Zehren for his appointment.
4. Archdiocesan planning project. This was briefly discussed and members were encouraged to attend one of the parishioner meetings.
5. Ministry Fair (November 14-15): We discussed what had been done in the past, with some discussion regarding what to include this year. A display board will be created and commission members will do their best to be at the display booth during the fair.
6. Faith Formation: curriculum evaluation, recruitment. The religion curriculum is being reviewed for use in the 2010-2011 school year. A timeline of the process was reviewed and includes listening sessions, review of different models used in other parishes, and conversations with school staff who are also reviewing religion curriculum. Recruitment efforts continue. We are still in need of catechists, who have many resources available to them to assist them in their teaching including the ability to team teach. Current enrollment is approximately 540, with a few hundred more anticipated. Confirmation is scheduled for April 26 at Epiphany.
7. School updates. The school theme this year is "Be the Light of Christ." There are several faculty changes due to enrollment, personal decisions, and school needs. There are approximately 530 students currently enrolled in the school. Due to enrollment, 3 grades (i.e., 1, 6, 7) will have 2 sections while the remaining grades will keep 3 sections per grade.
8. Interfaith Hospitality Network (added item). Jane and Katie met with representatives from the IHN earlier this month to discuss possible schedules.
9. Adjournment with prayer.

Next meeting: October 13, 2009.

NOTE: There is a leadership meeting for the parish council (commission chairs), vice chairs, and staff representatives on September 12.