

Education Commission Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, December 9, 2008

In Attendance: Jane Carroll (Staff Member), Pat Bredenkamp (Staff Member), Katie Gebhard (Staff Member), Bruce Roles (3yr), Mary Zielinski (3yr), Susan Crook (2yr), Mary Powell (2yr), Mike Nowak (1yr), Ann Rotondo (1yr)

Absent: Tom Nathe (3yr), Sherry Campeau (2yr), Lisa Zastoupil (1yr),

Hand Outs: December 2008 Faith Formation Report (electronic), December 2008 Principal's Report (electronic), Recruiting Catechists / Core Team and Other Volunteers Idea list.

1. Meeting was @ 5:30 pm this month. Commission members will attend other commission meetings at 6:30pm.
2. November meeting minutes approved via email.
3. Continued review of the Education Commission's strategic plan. We reviewed Objective 3 (goals and action plans) and will finish up next month due to time constraints at this meeting.

Katie discussed planning a "Walk Thru the Mass" with Fr. Campbell for helping to educate Epiphany parishioners on aspects of the Mass. Scheduled time is for the Fall of 2009. Space availability to hold this event has been an issue.

Katie is also investigating making available through the gift shop the book "At Home With The Word". Other liturgical resources are already available.

4. Open mic policy and procedure.

The Commission decided to rework the Open Mic Policy of the past. Jane C. and Ann R. will draft a policy and procedures providing for an Open Mic time at monthly meetings.

5. Updates on focus groups:
 - school accreditation (group will meet)

Members who volunteered to meet with Jane regarding school accreditation issues are Bruce R., Susan C., Mary Z., Tom N., and Lisa Z. This group will be meeting Tuesday, January 6, 6:00 PM, in Jane's office.

- Recruiting volunteers for Faith Formation. An education ad hoc committee has met and created a list of recruiting ideas to help Epiphany recruit and retain catechists and core team members. Many good suggestions were identified.

Katie will discuss the ideas with her staff and Mary Powell, Sherry and Katie will meet again to continue planning ways to recruit more volunteers. This ad hoc committee plans to continue its work and create a year round plan for recruitment of teachers.

6. Religion books: scope and sequence

Katie handed the scope and sequence chart for the religion program used in the school and faith formation from Harcourt. Both the school and faith formation staff will be evaluating religion curriculum next year. Katie pointed out the various themes covered at over the course of a year and how the program spirals topics.

8. Commission meeting attendance tonight

Education commission members attended other commission meetings this evening. One of the purposes is to introduce the education commission to the other commissions to see if there are areas where we can help each other meet some goals or objectives defined last year. The intent is to create an avenue for dialogue for future efforts.

9. Reports

A. Parish Council (Mary Zielinski) - Highlights will be noted. Complete approved minutes can be found on the Church website a few days after the meeting.

B. Faith Formation (Katie Gebhard) - see Katie's emailed report.

C. School (Jane Carroll) - see Jane's emailed report. Jane requested to brainstorm ideas for recruiting students be on next month's agenda

10. Adjournment with prayer.

Next meeting: January 13 at 6:30/7:20-8:20.