

Education Commission Meeting Minutes

April 12, 2018

Members Present: Father William, Mike Tenneson, Bill Manthe, Jeanne Reidl-Zenz, Kitty Mumm, Lynn Crooks, Marianne Giesen, Nick Crosby, Michelle Strobush, Josh Jensen, Gretchen Hauck, Juli Boughton

Members Absent: Gretchen Hauck

The meeting was called to order at 6:06p.m. and Father led the group in an opening prayer.

Members approved the April agenda with the following corrections:

- Religious Education, K-6: Kitty has been communicating with parents to help them understand the children's weekly lesson on an adult level and to provide parents with information to help with the homework.
- Father William – St Clement Parish School: The school received some generous donations for new touch screen smart boards, not TV screens.

Kitty Mumm reported on Religious Education, K-6:

- Kitty held a meeting for parents on April 11th. Key topic of discussion was reverence.
- The Bishop has asked that for First Communion, all First Communicants kneel and receive communion on the tongue as it is the most reverent way of receiving the Eucharist. Confirmation students were asked to do the same.
- Father William stressed that receiving the Eucharist can be done standing or kneeling, in the hand or on the tongue. Most important is that people show reverence.
- A question was asked around how many children of parishioners are either not going to St. Clement school or participating in the religious education program. If these families can be identified it might be a way to welcome some students and/or families back into the religious education program.
- Michelle reaches out to past students when she can to invite them to continue participating in the furthering their religious education. Michelle and Kitty will work together to discuss ways to encourage and invite families back into the program.

Nick Crosby – Religious Education, 7th - 12th:

- Confirmation will be held Saturday night, April 14th.
- Confirmation is not meant to be "graduation". The hope is that students will continue to be active in the parish and continue their religious education.
- Next year, we will be looking to have two catechists for both the 7th and 8th grade religious education classes.

Josh Jensen – St Clement Parish School:

- The Celebration of Giving auction went very well. All involved seemed to enjoy the sense of community and support of the school.
- Pizza sales will kick off next week
- Mrs. Krueel is back working full time.
- The 2019 National Catholic Education Association Conference will be held in Chicago. The Diocese strongly encourages all principals and teachers to attend the conference.

- Student numbers are looking good for next year.

Bill Manthe - Adult Faith Formation:

- Bill would like to continue to promote the “Formed” website and resources.
- “Word on Fire” is also another resource parishioners could utilize.
- Bill is considering sending out a weekly email to all parishioners

Education Commission Bylaws

- The Education Commission Bylaws were reviewed and discussed.
- Mike Tennesson’s term on the commission is up in May.
- The Bylaws state there should be nine members, however, most recently we have only had seven.
- The original intention was that there was a rotation where the term for three members was up each year. The group of three was to be composed of one person representing each of the following groups; school families, religious education families, and “at large” families.
- Each year three commission members would roll off and three new members would join.
- This year we have met about once every other month. Recommendation is that going forward the commission meet every other month from September through May.
- Special commission meetings could be called outside of the schedule if they are needed.
- Kitty, Bill, and Josh will bring the names of possible commission candidates from each of their respective areas to the next meeting. Approval of the commission members is done in May and the new members will join the group during the following September meeting.

Father William:

- Father would like more active participation and feedback from the Education Commission.
- Next meeting Father William asked that the commission members come with some ideas about how to get more actively involved in the education process. Will be a topic of discussion for the May meeting.

Next regular meeting will take place on May 10, 2018 at 6:00 p.m.

Closing Prayer lead by Father.

Adjournment at 7:01

Respectfully submitted:
Marianne Giesen