

Education Commission Minutes of Meeting

Date: October 14, 2017

Venue: Holy Angels School Library

Attendees: Tonya Forbes, Deacon Tim White, John Cebulski, Allison Kapitanoff, Bridget Stanislo, Jeff Roberts, Chuck Hilby, Bridgette Oester

Minutes Taken: Tonya Forbes

Topic	Presented By	Discussion Item	Decision	Action Needed	Deadline
Opening Prayer	Deacon White				
Introduction of New Members	Tonya Forbes	New this year is Allison Kapitanoff.	Allison has a kindergartener and a preschooler and is a teacher at the STEM school at Aurora University.	None needed.	
Enrollment	Tonya Forbes	Enrollment for 2017-2018 is 437.	None needed.	None needed.	
Budget	Tonya Forbes	Current budget shared with council members.	None needed.	None needed.	
Tax Credit Scholarship Program	Tonya Forbes	Information shared with council concerning the new voucher program that recently passed through the Illinois legislature.	Flyers provided by Diocese should be distributed to parents concerning the program.	Send parent and donor flyers home with youngest.	10/26/17

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Fee Day Feedback	Tonya Forbes	Fee Day procedures were changed this year.	More help should be provided on the first day of Fee Day to accommodate the long lines of waiting parents. Open house format was successful prior to the start of school.	Reconfigure placement of tables, add more volunteers, and continue the open house prior to the start of school.	08/01/18
Boostherthon	Tonya Forbes	Financial report presented.	School's profit was \$23,325 with a collection rate of 97.6%. This was the highest profit since the fun run began 4 years ago. 84% of students participated. Parents accounted for 34% of all pledges while other family members and friends accounted for 66% of the overall donations.	The fun run was successful and should be continued. The online payment option worked well and should be continued.	07/01/18

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Balancing Catholic Identity with STEM Education	Tonya Forbes	Parental concerns raised that the school has placed too much emphasis on STEM education losing its Catholic identity.	While explicit religious instruction minutes are less than other core subjects including STEM in the junior high, teachers are still meeting the Diocesan learning objectives and the total number of minutes devoted to religion is above the Diocesan guidelines of 150 minutes of religious instruction per week. In addition, all students begin the day with religion class, every core class devotes time daily to prayer intentions, school-wide prayer occurs every morning and afternoon, many projects in specialized classes use a Catholic theme in them, students are exposed to Mass weekly, Exposition, Adoration, Benediction, and Rosary monthly, along with Christian service projects. The saint of the day is taught	Continue to find ways with the staff to incorporate religion instruction along with ways to apply Christian principles daily. Address concerns raised by specific parents.	Ongoing 10/27/17

			<p>everyday as well as a special emphasis this year on popes of the church. 7th graders begin Confirmation instruction the last quarter of 7th grade to help prepare them for a possible fall date for Confirmation in 8th grade. In addition, Fr. Lavan is very present in the building. Based on these practices, Education Commission believes that Catholic Identity has not been compromised by the addition of a STEM curriculum.</p>		
Technology Upgrades to be 1:1 in Junior High	Sheridan Gurbal	Should every student in grades 6-8 have access to an electronic device to be used in every class?	More research should be completed as to various ways to fund this initiative as well as education of parents as to how these devices will be used in the classrooms.	More discussion with Education Commission, teachers, and Fr. Lavan. Contact ACC, Rosary & Marmion to determine how well prepared HA students are technologically for high school.	Ongoing

EC Members: Deacon Tom White, John Cebulski, Chuck Hilby, Beth Baker, Bridgette Oester, Margaret Vagnoni, Allison Kapitanoff, Jeff Roberts, Bridget Stanislo

Next Meeting: November 18, 2017