

ST. MICHAEL EDUCATION COMMISSION MINUTES

January 4, 2007

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: 7:10pm Opening prayer led by Sam Kemp.

IN ATTENDANCE: Jody Farrell, Anna Geoppinger, Audrey Clark, Susan Jansing, Steve Gehring, Sam Kemp, Laura Strachan, Jamie Alvord, Bridget Zentmeyer.

MINUTES: No December Minutes, Christmas/Thank You Cards signed by Commissioners, snacks shared.

PRINCIPAL REPORT:

-Many thanks to our wonderful PTO members who have worked very hard on creative ways to market our school. Approximately 75 yard signs have been purchased to advertise the February 1st Open House. They will be placed in West Chester area neighborhoods.

-St. Maximilian is having a school fair on January 21 after all masses, St. Michael has called, seeking permission to take part in the fair.

-A contract has been signed with Welcome Wagon in the West Chester area, St. Michael will be the only school included in their booklet.

-Current family registration will commence 1/05/07, open registration will begin 2/06/07.

-Tuition will increase by \$200.00 per child next school year. A Spanish teacher will be hired next year. The Spanish schedule has not yet been set but will probably be three periods/week for grades 6-8, 2 periods/week for grades 4-5, and one period for 1-3.

-Car stickers reading, "St. Michael School for all families" were distributed recently to school families.

-Catholic Schools Week will be held January 28 through February 3. This year's theme: "Catholic Schools: the good news in education." A day of recollection is planned, topsy-tervy day, performance by Cincinnati Opera of Little Red Riding Hood for grades 1 to 5. Volunteers will be recognized Thursday morning and Open House will follow that evening. Closing Mass will be Friday and a luncheon will be served to the teachers.

-Generosity abounds with our sixth, seventh and eighth graders! Each grade collected over \$400.00 as they teamed up with scout troops to help provide for adopted families during the Advent season. We have some great kids and families.

-National Vocation Awareness Week will be celebrated the second week of January and will be part of the school's week.

-The used coat drive that was held around Thanksgiving collected 5 to 6 huge boxes of gently used outerwear for Valley Inter Faith.

-The Futures Committee will meet January 11th.

-SAC: No meetings to date this school year.

AFF:

-Journeys into Luke, bible study is scheduled Monday evenings, 7:30 to 8:15 pm immediately following Evensong or Wednesdays mornings, 10:00 to 11:30am.

-RCIA has 8 going through the process.

-Evenings of Reflection:

-Tuesday, Feb 6: Preparing for Lent, presented by Fr. Norman Langenbrunner and Jeanne Hunt

-Tuesday, March 6: A Lenten Experience, presented by Fr. Jack Wessling

-Tuesday, May 1: The Pleasure of Her Company, Mary, Mother of God, presented by Jeanne Hunt and Mary Malloy

-Mission Trip has 30 adults leaving for New Orleans February 10, transportation provided by the individuals attending. A second collection January 27/28 will be taken. Dry good items will also be collected that same weekend.

YFF:

-Poster boards of students preparing for the sacraments of First Eucharist and Confirmation will be on display in the Gathering Space. Confirmandi Ritual takes place January 7 and renewal of baptismal promises for First Communicants January 13/14.

-Susan Jansing will be the Education Commissioner for the Confirmandi Ritual.

-REP eighth graders visited St Joseph Home residents recently, and received a service hour credit. The event was well received by residents and students.

-High School Sharing Retreat is planned for the weekend of February 16, Communication is the theme.

-High school mission trip to St Gabriel is planned for mid summer, awaiting confirmation of dates from Fr. Doussan.

-Valentine Angel Project planned for February 14. The Youth Group makes cards for parishioners who have lost a loved one during the past year. Representatives present these and an African violet to the bereaved.

COMMITTEE BUSINESS:

-Divine Mercy Sunday: Sherry will write a paragraph to explain this for an upcoming bulletin.

-Right-to-Life Project: A March is planned in Washington, DC (unsure of dates,) if parishioners cannot attend, they could look forward to the collection of baby items for the less fortunate from Mother's Day to Father's Day. Steve volunteered to write an article for the Messenger.

-Steve (whom we now call "blessed among women") inquired about ideas and ways to involve our youth and teens in May Crowning.

-Leadership Day: PPC has asked us to set aside March 3. After discussion, it was suggested that perhaps summaries from each commission could be written for the Messenger instead of an additional meeting date. Audrey will follow up with PPC.

-Education Commission Goals:

-Sherry: Divine Mercy Sunday and Right-to-Life collection are both underway.

-Sam: May Crowning is being planned by the Knights of Columbus. Parish Calendar should be included in the new/improved parish web site. Introduction for the parish is planned the third week of January.

-Laura: Generating new ideas with our new commission members, all present agreed we are steadily working to fulfill this.

-Susan: The general consensus of the group is that we are enjoying each other and have been respectful of each other in our discussions.

- Jody: We are asking for summaries of each commission in an upcoming Messenger.
- Anna: Communication continues to be stressed, the Messenger being a primary avenue for this, with new ideas and writers always welcome.
- Audrey: Partner's In Faith, will be available on the website.

NEW BUSINESS:

- February Education Commission Meeting has been cancelled due to impending Mission Trip and conflicts with Catholic Schools Week.

NEXT MEETING:

- Thursday March 1, 2007 at 7:00pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Susan Jansing