

Education Commission Meeting Minutes

Tuesday September 24, 2019

Religious Education Office 7:00 pm

Attendees: Attendees – Debra Beaman, Linda Kramer, Georgene Wojciechowski, Pat Bondie, Melissa Niemiec

Welcome and Opening Prayer: Debra Beaman/Linda Kramer

Committee Reports

School:

- Faculty met August 15 & 19 for the 2019-2020 School.
- We had professional development on August 19 in the morning by one of our parishioners, Maureen Palmer, an Occupational Therapist. Maureen did a PD presentation on how the whole body works and its effect on the how the mind works. Maureen recommended the book *The Dominance Factor* by Carla Hannaford to help us better understand how some of our children are learning.
- Faculty & Staff retreat 8/21 – our retreat presenter was Angela Naylor from the Archdiocese of Detroit, Department of Catholic Schools. It was active, reflective and fun.
- Dorothy Korzym & Georgene Wojciechowski attended the Renaissance Star 360 training session at Sacred Heart Seminary on August 23. Dorothy and Georgene facilitated the teacher training sessions.
- Our faculty meetings in September on Tuesday after school have been training sessions for the new Renaissance Star 360 assessment. Our students in K-8 are taking the assessment. It covers early literacy for K & 1, reading for 2-8, math for 1-8. The assessment is taken September, January and April. Our dates for our first assessment are September 30-October 4. This is an online assessment taken in our computer lab.
- We have done 2 fire drills, 1 lock down/shelter in place and 1 tornado drill in September.
- Livonia Public Schools shared time program teaches: K-8 PE, art computers and music. Grade 7 & 8 electives: robotics, band, art and Spanish (taught 5 days a week). Advance Algebra 1 is taught five days a week to 8th grade for students who qualify based on math grades, IOWA scores and motivation.
- Redford Public Schools shared time program teaches Spanish 1 day per week to K-6.
- Our first Virtue assembly was on Thursday, September 26. 2nd grade presented the Holy Spirit.

- Teachers attended the Archdiocese of Detroit Catechetical Day on Friday; September 27 at U of D Mercy. There was no school for the students that day.
- Barnes and Nobles and Dine to Donate at California Pizza and Buffalo Wild Wings on Monday, October 21.
- SEPA Raffle ticket sales have begun.
- Ladies Night Out is Saturday, November 9, 6-9 pm. Billotto's Catering is serving the buffet. Fashions by Maurice's of Novi and MYZYIA.com. There will be raffle prizes, 50/50, cork pull, bonus games, and door prize.

SEPA:

- Most of the board members this year are new.
- Daddy/Daughter dance was September 20th.
- The following events are planned for the rest of 2019
 - October 25th – Halloween Party
 - November 6th – Ladies Night Out
 - December 6th - Santa Shoppe for St Edith Students
 - December 6th – Cocoa with Santa for all St Edith children
- The first meeting for the Wine/Beer Tasting and Auction was the first week of October.

Religious Education:

- Vacation Bible School was a roaring success. There were 175 students and helpers. Had lots of preschoolers this year. Next year's VBS will be 'Knights of the North Castle' and considering going to 5 days instead of 4 days.
- Still need some catechists for the Special Needs program.
- Catechetical classes start October 6th and 7th.
- R.C.I.A. First meeting was October 2nd. Sponsors maybe needed – the commitment is attending weekly meeting with candidates.
- Suggested that pamphlets about RCIA be handed out to parents of children in sacraments.
- Confirmation – A new Confirmation Prep program from LifeTeen is being used. It is a current up to date program that is available via an app on catechists, students, and parents' phones. All materials are available through the app. It is a 2 year program so the 7th grade school students will be invited to join the 7th grade RE students for Sunday or Monday classes. The 8th grade students will have an abridged version this year only.

Adult Faith Formation:

- We continue with the 1st Saturday Mass and Pizza dinner afterward and 1st Sunday 5 pm Mass with a Spaghetti dinner afterward.
- October's 1st Saturday Mass will be for the CYO teams. Movie Night for July was The Letters on Mother Teresa and August's was Breakthrough. Tomorrow's movie is Not Easily Broken.

- Coffee and Conversation with Fr. Jim on August 7th was Being Mortal is Not a Disease and Sept. 4th was Empathy: A Path to Love. On Oct. 2nd the topic is What Happens When I Die?
- DivorceCare began on Sept. 10th and runs through Dec. 3rd. Postcards were mailed to parishioners and emails were sent to all RE and school families per Fr. Jim's request.
- DivorceCare will have the Winter Session on Tuesday, January 14th through April 21st (with an Easter Break on April 13th)
- Walking With Purpose continues with a morning and evening session on Tuesdays. Morning session began today and the evening session begins Oct. 1st. Our topic is Walking in the Father's Love.
- Bible Studies
 - Great Encounter Bible Study is still very popular.
 - Women's Bible study will be studying the Gospel of Matthew this year.

Youth Ministry:

- The Youth Group Parent meeting turnout was limited but those who came were willing to bring their teens and participate.
- The Youth Group will participate in the upcoming Sunday evening Mass and have their first group meeting after the spaghetti dinner.

Family Life:

- Halloween Party planned for Saturday, 10/26, after the 5 pm mass.
- Nativity Pageant is planned for Saturday, 12/15, after the 5 pm mass.

CYO:

- No report

Misc.

- An article will be placed in the bulletin asking for other parishioners to join the commission.

Other Items of Concern/Interest:

- Parish Goals and Objectives for Education Commission
 - Reviewed the parish goals
- Closing Prayer led by Deb Beaman

Next Meeting: October 22, 2018