

Tri-Parish Education Committee Meeting Minutes  
5/22/23 @ 6pm, Holy Rosary School Library

Committee Members Present: Father Emmanuel, Mary Lansing, Erik Reuter, Mary Zika, Diane Weiss, Nancy Bechel, Benjamin Mitchel, Taylor Stewart

Meeting called to order by Erik at approximately 6pm

Opening Prayer by Father Emmanuel

Minutes from meeting 2/20/23 were reviewed.

Spelling errors were corrected. Open gyms on no school days was corrected to 18 students from the Tri-Parish which included 4 Sacred Heart members and guests.

Updates from 2/20/23 meeting:

- \*Corpus Christi procession will take place June 10<sup>th</sup> at Lima and June 11<sup>th</sup> at Sacred Heart.
- \*Mary Lansing did not attend the Family Faith Night 3/29/23 but flyers about ACS were put out.
- \*Family with four children coming to ACS have changed their mind and did not enroll.
- \*Mary Zika has not yet approached the Knights of Columbus about private donations. Information about the Knights of Columbus and Daughters of Isabella was given by Mary Zika and Nancy.

Faith Formation Report: Taylor and Benjamin

\*10 responses from Sacred Heart families about attending ACS. 6 responses did not have school aged children and grandchildren and responses were not shared. Of the 4 responses given, 2 would consider sending children to ACS if transportation was provided and would like to receive information about grants and scholarships. Reason given to not send children to ACS is that they are happy with the Mondovi School District. Only 1 response provided contact information.

\*The Last Family Faith night had approx 60 people in attendance. Received good feedback.

\*Summer schedule:

\*Youth Group Tuesday nights @ Lima, outside between church and rectory. If rains, will be held in Church basement and gym. Concerns if that would conflict with Pickle Ball. Night will include food/Holy Heroes/discussion.

\*Canoe Trip, Valley Fair, Trap Shoot, Open Gyms, Young Adult activities are being planned.

\*There are 14 youth going on the Steubenville trip. There are 2 spots still available. Father Emmanuel and 5 other adults will be chaperoning. Busing cost has been paid for.

\*Fall Classes:

\*HS students will use Life Teen. There will be Catechist prep/walk thru this summer.

\*7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade will be using Dynamic Catholic by Dr Allen Hunt. Program starts with Genesis, has videos which have biblical basis, and is not homework based. After this program the students will go back to the current program. 7<sup>th</sup> grade will be one class and the 8<sup>th</sup> grade will be one class.

\*McDonnel HS/MS currently uses the Edge Program which is a Life Teen program for MS which will be a good resource to help with the Life Teen program and possibly Edge program in the future. It was determined that Life Teen would not be an option for ACS classes.

\*Confirmation Interviews went well and 3 youth are interested in being a Catechist in the Fall.

#### Pastor's Report: Father Emmanuel

- \*Confirmation Interviews were good and positive. All students are ready to be confirmed.

- \*First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion also went well.

- \*Father would like to have someone from the Diocese to do Catechist training.

- \*Father thanked Ben & Taylor as their presence has impacted and encouraged students to know Christ.

- \*Nancy is working on improving the Tri-Parish website. Let her know if you see anything that needs to be updated.

- \*Eucharist Revival to focus on the Real Presence of the Body and Blood of Christ was discussed. This will be done in the coming year. Father would like to have Chris Carstens from the Diocese of La Crosse as a guest speaker,

- \*Father thanked Mrs Lansing and the teachers for preparing students for Sacraments.

- \*Discussion of bringing the Eucharist Miracles Exhibit to the Tri-Parish. Possibly having several exhibits at each Parish and rotating the exhibits. This could be done at Advent, Catholic Schools Week, or Lent. Information should be put in bulletin and announced at Mass. Father would like to put a committee together. Mary Lansing will call to see how many exhibits we could get and for how long we could have them.

#### ACS Report: Mary Lansing

- \*2 of 8 surveys to former ACS were returned. Both responses were positive & felt they were well prepared for public school. Most prepared in English/Literature. Least prepared for Social Studies.

- \*Iowa Test Results taken in Spring were passed around and discussed. All grade levels were above the average score. Families received each child's individual results.

- \*Fifth & Eighth grade Religion Assessment for ACS were discussed. Fifth grade is proficient in all categories except The Commandments. Eighth grade is proficient except for Church History of Saints, Scripture, Traditions, Doctrine, and Apologetics. There was discussion on the difficult way some questions were phrased and this has been brought to the attention of the Diocese.

- \*There is one Candidate for MS Religion Teacher for the Fall.

- \*New program for Religion Grades K-6 is "Word of Life" by Augustine Institute. Grades 7-8 will keep the same Religion book, but will have new books for Fall 2024.

- \*K-2 Literature/Reading Program is "Super Kids" which has Catholic Connection Crosswalk.

- \*Future books to be replaced are Social Studies and Math.

- \*Fun Fest parade and 3 on 3 Basketball tournament were discussed.

- \*Folders for New ACS Families is to be an ongoing discussion with Erik and Brittany.

- \*Service Hours for ACS Students was discussed. Currently Grades 6,7,8 have service hours to do per Quarter. Suggestions made were for the 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade students to sign up for Time & Talent and to help PCCW's. If students are not Catholic they could help out at Fish Dinners. If cannot do service hours could they pay a fee?

- \*Taylor mentioned that RE students will be doing more for Church/Community. Confirmation students will be required to sign up for an activity that relates to the Church, such as server, reader, etc.

Discussion on Mass Schedule for the Tri-Parish. Mass schedule must be made doable by one priest, even though there are two Tri-Parish Priests. A Sunday Evening Mass or 9:00am Mass at Lima was discussed. It was stated that Sunday Morning Religious Ed classes at Sacred Heart will continue to be on Sunday morning.

No new meeting date was set.

Closing Prayer and Meeting Adjourned @ 8:10pm  
submitted by Diane Weiss