



THE DIOCESE OF BELLEVILLE

Diocesan Board of Education Diocesan Pastoral Center, Belleville, IL

Minutes of Meeting - Tuesday, January 18, 2011 - 7:00 P.M.

MEMBERS:

Mr. Ben Fuehne (North Central)	Ms. Kris Hill (Principal)
Rev. Matthew Elie (Pastor) (Excused)	Mrs. Janet Janson (DRE)
Rev. Gary Gummersheimer (Pastor) (Excused)	Mrs. Anna O'Gara (Belleville)
Mrs. Mary Anne Harla (Belleville)	Mrs. Julia Pluff (West)
Mr. Troy Heitmeyer (East) (Excused)	

EX-OFFICIO:

Mr. Thomas Posnanski Mr. Russell B. Peterson

A. PRELIMINARY ACTIONS

1. The meeting was opened with a prayer at 7:10 p.m. by Russell Peterson. Mr. Posnanski reported that Rev. Gary Gummersheimer would be coming back to serve on the Board. He said that Fr. Gary would like to discuss Hispanics in Catholic schools at our next meeting.

Routine Matters

- 1.1 Approval of Agenda
A revised agenda was handed out. This agenda was approved.
- 1.2 Approval of Minutes
The minutes of the November meeting were approved.
2. Old Business
 - 2.1 SECOND READING REVISION – Policy 4112.1 – Personnel – Teachers – Contracts/Personnel Records
The policy was read and discussed. The fourth paragraph, number 1 had a grammar error and it will be changed. In paragraph six, sentence two the “C” in church should not be capitalized. In same paragraph, sentence three it should read – *In order to insure that every teacher in a Catholic elementary school in the Diocese of Belleville understands that he/she is a vital part of the environment of the school, responsible to add to the atmosphere of faith and charity, every principal should discuss this matter with each prospective teacher before he/she is hired or rehired.* A motion was made by Mary Ann Harla to accept the policy with these changes and seconded by Julia Pluff. The motion was passed and the policy will be forwarded to the Bishop for final approval.

2.2 Lay Salary Schedule – 3 Year

Mr. Posnanski distributed the proposed 3 year lay elementary salary schedule for the board to approve. The schedule for 2011-2012 would be the same as the schedule for 2010-2011. The schedule for 2012-2013 would have a \$100 increase in the base salary and the schedule for 2013-2014 would have a base increase of \$200. A motion was made by Julia Pluff to adopt the salary schedule and seconded by Janet Janson. The salary scheduled was unanimously approved. The proposed salary schedule will be forwarded to the Bishop for final approval

3. New Business

3.1 FIRST READING – Policy 5145.5 – Students – Food Allergy Management

Mr. Posnanski distributed a proposed policy and regulations. The policy and regulations were read and discussed. A suggestion was made to change the title from Students to Elementary, High School and PSR Students. In paragraph three, first sentence someone suggested it read – *The principal or designee shall develop and implement a Food Allergy Management Program for each allergic student that includes:*

The policy will be changed and submitted for second reading at the March meeting.

3.2 FIRST READING – Policy 6179 – Instruction – Curriculum Extension – Social Media

Mr. Peterson created this policy after the last meeting because Policy 1152 did not address the topic of using social media for catechesis in our parishes and schools. The policy was read and discussed. It will be submitted for second reading at the March meeting.

3.3 TBS Results

Mike Buescher provided handouts on the ITBS testing. He reported that our Diocesan schools scored significantly about the national mean in all subjects. This is the fourth year our schools used ITBS Riverside. The schools in the Diocese of Belleville are providing excellent results with limited resources.

A. Religion Education Report

1. Religion Textbooks

Mr. Peterson reported that the first meeting to look at the PSR religion textbooks will be held on January 31, 2011. A committee of eight DRE's will review the textbooks. The criteria are: Conformity to the Catechism of the Catholic Church, Quality of Catechist Resources, Excellent Webiste, Aides to assist in Empowering Parents as the Primary Catechists, Effective use of Quality Religious Art to Assist in Faith Formation, and a Variety of Artwork and Stories which Reflect the Diversity of Catholicism.

2. Roman Missal

Mr. Peterson reported that they are moving forward with the plans on implementing the Roman Missal with the implementation of the changes taking place on the first Sunday of Advent 2011. Plans for the regional training sessions on implementing the Roman Missal have been announced and they will be held from March 26-June 18, 2011 at five locations across the diocese. These sessions will be all day events.

3. High School Curriculum
Mr. Peterson reported that he met with the religion faculties from the three Catholic high schools on January 3, 2011. He has been working with the High School principals and religion teachers preparing to implement the "Doctrinal Elements of a Curriculum Framework" beginning in the 2012-2013 school year. The schools will be implementing the "Doctrinal Elements of a Curriculum Framework" which was approved by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops in 2007. This will result in a meaningful change to the school religion curriculum. Mr. Peterson and Mr. Posnanski will be meeting with Bishop Braxton and the three high school principals in March to discuss the implementation of the Framework.
3. Catechist Certification Update
Mr. Peterson reported that the deadline for catechists to turn in their credits for renewal or to move to the next level is the end of February. The list of the Summer Courses for the Catechist Certification Program will be distributed at the Principals' Overnight Meeting in November. Registrations for the Tier II retreat are now being accepted.
4. Lay Ecclesial Ministry Report
Mr. Peterson reported that he is finalizing the Pastoral Council Guidelines. The booklets will be mailed to all pastors, parish life coordinators, trustees and parish council presidents in the next few weeks.

D. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

1. Belleville Schools Meeting
Mr. Posnanski reported that this year represents the three year anniversary of decision to merge ST. Mary and St. Augustine elementary schools and develop a more collaborative relationship among all of the Belleville Catholic Schools. Mr. Posnanski has been meeting with the Belleville principals reviewing and discussing the current status of each of the five schools and will be reviewing these discussions with Bishop Braxton. He stated that from the six Belleville parishes the Sunday collections totaled over \$4 million last fiscal year and \$1.4 million was used to financially support the five Belleville Catholic schools.
2. Technology Plan and E-rate
Mr. Posnanski reported that the Technology Plan was submitted to the State of Illinois and was approved for another three years. He also stated that last year we only had eight schools involved with e-rate but now have fourteen schools receiving financial benefits from e-rate.
3. Mid-Year Principals' Meeting
Mr. Posnanski reported that the principals will be meeting on February 23 and 24th at Rend Lake.
4. School Calendar
Mr. Posnanski handed out the 2011-2012 School Calendar for review and approval. It was suggested that the dates for Christmas Break should be added to the calendar. With this change Julia Pluff approved the calendar seconded by Mary Ann Harla.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 22, 2011. The meeting was closed with prayer by Russell Peterson at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Schilling, Secretary