



THE DIOCESE OF BELLEVILLE

Diocesan Board of Education Diocesan Pastoral Center, Belleville, IL

Minutes of Meeting - Tuesday, November 16, 2010 - 7:00 P.M.

MEMBERS:

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

EX-OFFICIO:

Mr. Thomas Posnanski Mr. Russell B. Peterson

A. PRELIMINARY ACTIONS

1. The meeting was opened with a prayer at 7:00 p.m. by Rev. Matthew Elie.

Routine Matters

- 1.1 Approval of Agenda
There were two additional items added to New Business - 3.2 Policy 4112.1 - Personnel and 3.3 Discussion on Social Media and Faith Formation. Also under Old Business 2.1 it should read Second Reading.
- 1.2 Approval of Minutes
The minutes of the September meeting were approved.
2. Old Business
 - 2.1 SECOND READING REVISION – Policy 6161.11– Instruction-Approved Religion Textbooks
The policy was read and discussed. Mr. Peterson stated that there are more than eight different religion texts being used for grades K-8. 15 Elementary schools are using religion texts published by Sadlier. The three Catholic high schools in the Diocese of Belleville are in the process for implementing the 'Framework for the Development of Catechetical Materials for Young People of High School Age' has begun and that will guide the implementation of textbooks for the High Schools. Bishop Braxton and Mr. Peterson are in discussion about the process for the approving of religion textbooks for use in Catholic Schools and Parish Schools of Religion. The policy was unanimously approved. The policy will be forwarded to the Bishop for final approval.
 - 2.2 SECOND READING REVISION – Policy 2122.1– Administration – Parish Catechetical Leader – Appointment and Functions
The policy was read and discussed. The policy was unanimously approved and

will be forwarded to the Bishop for final approval.

2.3 Lay Salaries

Mr. Posnanski discussed with the board lay salary proposals for the 2011-2012 school year. There was a lengthy discussion and a proposal was offered for the following three year salary schedule: Year 1 – 2011-2012 would be the same as 2010-2011. Year 2 – 2012-2013 there would be a \$100.00 increase on the base and Year 3 – 2013-2014 there would be a \$200.00 increase on the base. A motion was made by Anna O’Gara to accept the proposal and seconded by Mary Ann Harla. The proposal will be again revisited at the next meeting and then forwarded to the Bishop for final approval.

3. New Business

3.1 Discussion on Policy on Managing Life Threatening Allergies

Mr. Posnanski stated that the State is requiring all public schools to have a policy in place. He inquired of the Board if they thought the Diocese of Belleville should have a policy in place also for our Catholic schools. All agreed that we should. Mr. Posnanski will present a draft of the policy at the next meeting.

3.2 FIRST READING REVISION – Policy 4112.1– Personnel – Teachers-Contracts/Personnel Records

The policy was read and discussed. The board asked that the policy be revised to make it more ‘user friendly’. We will vote on the policy at the January meeting.

3.3 Discussion on Social Media and Faith Formation

Mr. Peterson distributed two handouts on the topic; The Social Media Guidelines from USCCB and the text of a presentation by Bishop Herzog at the recent USCCB Fall Meeting. He asked the Board if we need a policy in place for the use of Social Media for Adult Catechesis and Parish Faith Formation efforts.

The policy, Policy 1152 – Community Relations – Social Networking by Employees and Volunteers addresses the appropriate and inappropriate use of social networking by employees and volunteers. It does not address the topic of using social media for catechesis in our parishes and schools. This will be discussed at the next meeting.

A. Religion Education Report

1. Confirmation

Mr. Peterson said that the documents distributed to parishes to assist in the celebration of the sacrament of Confirmation are being reviewed and revisions are being done as needed. One revision will be the Fruits of the Holy Spirit for the Worship Aide.

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 are being made to have regional training sessions on implementing the Roman Missal in late Spring of 2011 with at least one training session in each deanery and possibly three in the East Deanery. These sessions will be all day events.

3. High School Curriculum

Mr. Peterson reported that Mr. Posnanski and he have been working with the High School principals and religion teachers preparing to implement the Doctrinal Elements of a Curriculum Framework for 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. Mr. Peterson gave out the handbook and reported that Bishop Braxton was very pleased with the progress made by our three high schools.

3. Catechist Certification Update

Mr. Peterson reported that we will be conducting Regional Days again this winter with Erin Hammond as the presenter. The Flyer will be in the Monthly Mailing

4. Lay Ecclesial Ministry Report

Mr. Peterson reported that there will be a book discussion on Community and Growth with Lay Ecclesial Ministers on December 7th. The diocese is offering scholarships to professional lay ministers to attend specified workshops and we have one scholarship left. He also mentioned that he is finalizing the Pastoral Council Guidelines.

D. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

1. School Enrollment & Tuition

Mr. Posnanski provided handouts of this year's enrollment for the elementary and high schools in our diocese. The report showed this year's enrollment and compared it to the past five years. Mr. Posnanski stated that the key to increasing and stabilizing enrollment is for our elementary schools and high schools to provide an increased amount of tuition assistance for families that have legitimate financial need.

2. Planned Giving

Mr. Posnanski reported that he has been recommending that all school board's have a Development Committee. In addition the development committee must also have a sub committee for planned giving. Catholic Schools need to market their Endowment and he is working with Randy Flashbart from the Diocese of Belleville Development office to assist school's in the Diocese of Belleville to develop plans to grow school endowment's.

3. Technology Plan

Mr. Posnanski reported that a committee of principals have submitted a Technology Plan for all schools in the Diocese of Belleville to the State of Illinois for approval.

4. Principal Retreat

Mr. Posnanski reported that the principals attended the retreat on October 4th and 5th. Dr. John James from St. Louis University spoke on "Evangelization in Our Schools." There were a significant amount of ideas generated by this presentation and School's in the Diocese of Belleville will be implementing many of these ideas for this school year and beyond.

The next meeting is scheduled for January 18, 2011. The meeting was closed with prayer by Reverend Matthew Elie at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Schilling, Secretary