



THE DIOCESE OF BELLEVILLE

Diocesan Board of Education Diocesan Pastoral Center, Belleville, IL

Minutes of Meeting - Tuesday, May 19, 2009 - 7:00 P.M.

MEMBERS:

Mrs. Barbara Conrad (East St. Louis) (<i>Excused</i>)	Mr. Troy Heitmeyer (East) (<i>Excused</i>)
Mr. Dale Dieters (North Central)	Ms. Kris Hill (Principal) (<i>Excused</i>)
Mr. Ben Fuehne (North Central)	Mrs. Janet Janson (DRE)
Rev. Gary Gummersheimer (Pastor)	Mrs. Anna O'Gara (Belleville)
Mrs. Mary Anne Harla (Belleville)	Mrs. Julia Pluff (West) (<i>Excused</i>)

EX-OFFICIO:

Mr. Thomas Posnanski Mr. Russell B. Peterson

A. PRELIMINARY ACTIONS

1. The meeting was opened with prayer by Rev. Gary Gummersheimer at 7:00 p.m.

B. RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

1. Routine Matters
 - 1.1 Approval of Agenda
The agenda was approved as presented.
 - 1.2 Approval of Minutes
The minutes of the March meeting were approved.
2. Old Business
 - 2.1 FIRST READING REVISION -- Policy 5125.1 – Students - Video/Photograph/Taping of Students
The policy was read and discussed. The policy will be submitted for second reading at the September meeting.
 - 2.2 SECOND READING REVISION – Policy 4116.1 – Personnel – Responsibilities, Duties, Code of Ethics
The policy was read. A motion was made by Ben Fuehne to accept the policy and seconded by Rev. Gummersheimer. The motion was passed and the policy will be forwarded to the Bishop for final approval.

Office of Education

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The Office of Education is funded by the Catholic Service & Ministry Appeal

- 2.3 SECOND READING REVISION – Policy 2430 – Administration – Governance: Catholic High School, Elementary and Parish School of Religion
The policy was read. A motion was made by Rev. Gummersheimer to accept the policy and seconded by Ben Fuehne. The motion was passed and the policy will be forwarded to the Bishop for final approval.

3. New Business

- 3.1 First Reading Review – Policy 3240.2 – Business and Non-Instructional Operations – Tuition Fees – Parish Assessment for Neighboring Parishes of Elementary Schools
The policy was read. The policy will be submitted for second reading at the September meeting.
- 3.2 First Reading Review – Policy 4116.11 – Personnel - Responsibilities, Duties, Code of Ethics – Supervision of Students
The policy was read. The policy will be submitted for second reading at the September meeting.
- 3.3 First Reading Review – Policy 4116.2 – Personnel/Students – Personnel – Responsibilities, Duties, Code of Ethics – Racial/Sexual Harassment
The policy was read. The policy will be submitted for second reading at the September meeting.

B. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

1. ITBS Report
Mr. Michael Buscher gave a power point presentation on the ITBS scores. The presentation emphasized how high our schools are scoring above the national average in all subject areas.
2. High School ACRE
Mr. Russell Peterson reported that the High School Grade II ACRE scores were above the National average in each of the four pillars of the Catechism of the Catholic Church. Results revealed significant advances in the religious instruction to students of other denominations and religions. The full PowerPoint is available on the Office of Education portal www.diobelle.net or contact Russell to have it e-mailed to you.
3. Adolescent Catechesis
Yes! Congress - Russell Peterson reported about “YES! Youth Engaging Scripture” which will be an event coming this fall. This program enables youth to come together around the Word of God to collectively seek direction in their lives. The Yes! Congress on the Bible is a one-day event that is sponsored by the diocese and underwritten by a grant.

Using Web 2.0 for Effective Faith Formation – Russ Peterson reported that we will have presentations in each of the five deaneries this fall. This is for catechists and teachers of 6th through 8th grade Catholic Schools and Parish Schools of Religion. It replaces the yearly Confirmation meeting for this year. The presenters will be Paul Masek and Gretchen Pacheco from the REAP Team.

4. JustFAITH

The Diocese of Belleville and Catholic Charities Archdiocese of Saint Louis are hosting a Saturday workshop introducing *JustFAITH*, a program that empowers people of faith to develop a passion and thirst for God's justice.

Jack Jezreel will facilitate the workshop on June 20, 2009. Anyone interested in learning more about *Just FAITH* or just curious to learn more about our faith tradition should attend.

When: Saturday, June 20, 2009 – 8:45 AM – 1 PM (register 8:00 – 8:45 AM)

Where: St. Francis Xavier College Church, 3628 Lindell Blvd., St. Louis, MO.

Contact: Vickie Korte (618-235-9601, ext. 105) or vkorte@diobelle.org

Cost: \$10.00 per person (includes materials & snacks) (\$20.00 cost for four persons registering as a parish group)

For more information about JustFAITH contact one of the following persons:

Mike McGinty – St. Teresa Parish – Belleville, IL (618-416-0776)

Cheryl Sommer – St. Clare Parish – O'Fallon, IL (618-632-3562)

Lou Slapshak – Queen of Peace Parish – Belleville, IL (618-234-8334)

Just FAITH Ministries (www.justfaith.org) – Chris Breu (502-429-0865)

Russ Peterson – Diocese of Belleville (618-235-9601, ext. 104)

5. Lay Ministry

Mr. Peterson has started conducting Pastoral Council training workshops. He plans to have a revised training manual for Pastoral Councils available for the next meeting. The goal of these training sessions is to clarify the role and responsibilities for Pastoral Council members and define a practical committee structure to insure ongoing effectiveness and efficiency.

6. School Report

Mr. Posnanski reported on the upcoming enrollment at the three high schools. He said at this time, Althoff Catholic High School anticipates a decline in enrollment while the enrollment for Gibault Catholic High School and Mater Dei Catholic High School will remain close to this year's enrollment numbers.

Mr. Posnanski also stated that many schools are reporting an increase in requests for tuition assistance especially at the three Diocesan High Schools.

Mr. Posnanski said that there were five parish Catholic elementary schools searching for principals. Those schools are St. Joseph, Freeburg, St. Peter Cathedral, St. Mary-St. Augustine, and St. Bruno, Pinckneyville and St. John the

Baptist West Frankfort. St. John and St. Bruno have recently hired new principals while St. Peter Cathedral is conducting final interviews. Mr. Posnanski clarified the role the Office of Education in the selection process. The primary responsibility to hire a new principal rests with the Pastor of the Parish. The parish school usually sets up a search committee and makes a recommendation to the Pastor. The Office of Education interviews all principal candidates and verify all credentials and certifications. The school search committee, pastor and the Office are to conduct background checks.

Mr. Posnanski also reported that Holy Rosary School, Fairmont City would be closing at the end of this school year. Fairmont City petitioned to State of Illinois to be removed from the East St. Louis Public School district and be assigned to the Collinsville school district. Their petition was granted this past January. In addition the city is unable to continue providing grants to the school and parents. There were only 27 students registered for next school year. There were 97 students enrolled for the current school year.

The next meeting is scheduled for September 15, 2009. The meeting was closed with a prayer by Rev. Gary Gummersheimer at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Schilling, Secretary