

Saint Mary Parish, Milton
Parish Education Commission Meeting

January 24, 2012

Chair: Joyce Albright
Recorder: Jennifer Fanning
Prayer: Father Jim

Time: 7:00
Place: Ark

I. Attendance

Present: Sabrina Elsen, Jennifer Fanning, Father Jim, Mike Sessler, Joyce Albright, Deb Krausse, Tom Westrick, Sister Carol Hanus

Excused: Dianne Philipps, Rod Montanye

II. Prayer

The meeting was opened with a prayer by Father Jim.

III. Minutes

All minutes were approved.

IV. Administrative Reports

A. Preschool and Elementary

The Tuesday *Venture* group is going to be doing more actions such as cards for shut ins. *Michaels* of Janesville has donated over 12 boxes of crafts for the church to use! April 21st and 22nd are the Open House dates.

B. Youth Ministry

The students are learning and living the faith by helping at various places in the community. St Joseph's in Edgerton is the site for the Confirmation retreat on March 24th and 25th.

C. Parish involvement in Catechetical Programs

The parking lot supervision has been a challenge to fill. Perhaps a reminder in the bulletin will spark some interest.

D. Trusting in the Spirit Status

Next Tuesday (Jan. 31) the Cluster Core Committee will meet at Nativity of Mary parish to discuss the recommended linkage for our cluster. The pastors are recommending a linkage between St. John Vianney and St. Patrick. These churches are close to each other.

E. Comprehensive School Study

Continuation of this process has been waiting for the linkage recommendation.

F. Registrations for 2011-12

See lime handout for updated numbers.

V. Policy Development

A. Policies for Catechists and Youth Ministry Leaders

Sabrina is working on the statement for parents to take responsibility for the faith formation of their children. She will continue to work on the wording as well as the format. Items to consider are standards such as actively living the Catholic faith. We will refer to the October meeting minutes for suggestions.

B. January 9, 2012 Letter from Bishop Morlino regarding ACRE testing

This letter is directed primarily toward schools, all of which will use the ACRE standardized test (for fourth and eighth graders) during the current academic year. The letter also informed all faith formation programs in the diocese that the ACRE test will be administered to students in faith formation programs during the 2011-12 program year.

VI. Discussion

A. CYO – St. Mary Basketball Team Guidelines

The guidelines have been given to Father Jim, and appear to be standard guideline for the sport.

B. Youth Ministry Home Schooling

Sabrina contacted a home school parent about using the T3 program. She is combining the other children's curriculum as a family.

C. Special Needs Program

Sabrina also spoke with another parent of a child with special needs. This parent is willing to speak with us and explain her situation. Along with other families, this would be an opportunity to have a discussion about their needs with materials, opportunities to work together on special projects, etc. This is a great idea for a support group.

VII. Task Assignments for the Next Meeting (February 28, 2012)

Chair: Deb

Recorder: Sabrina

Prayer: Sister Carol

VIII. Adjourned at 7:35 p.m.