

# Education Commission Meeting Minutes September 26, 2023

Present: Debra Beaman, Linda Kramer, Nicole Keifer and Pat Bondi

## Committee Reports

### St Edith Parent Association (SEPA)

- School Raffle – The split of raffle earnings will be 75% for school and 25% for SEPA.
- Provided \$1500 for science – classroom lab/project materials - K-2, 3-5, 6-8 \$500 each group.
- Provided each teacher with \$200 to buy supplies and materials for their rooms.
- Coffee for sale! CYO \$10/bag.
- Hot lunch will start the first week of October with bagels on Tuesdays and hot lunch on Thursdays for K-Prep through 8<sup>th</sup> grade.
- STEM Night was held on 9/13 for school students. 150 people came and enjoyed the event.
- Halloween party for school students will be held on 10/27.
- Santa Shop will be on 12/1 for the school students.
- Cocoa and Cookies will be later in the evening following the Santa Shop. This event is for both school and parish families.
- School staff is planning a Sip and Shop for December 9<sup>th</sup>. So far have 27 vendors.
- SEPA will be using Group-Me for conversations between parents and take polls. Groups so far are by grade, but determining other groups such as SEPA, Mackinaw trip, etc.

### School

- A new tech company has been hired to maintain the network system in both the school and church.
- An early childhood playground has been developed in the grassy area between the school classrooms and music room/school library. The Knights donated money help pay for the playground.
- Teachers participated in the Into Reading and Into Literature professional development for new reading and writing curriculum.
- The teacher's lounge and art room have swapped rooms. The art room is next to the A/V room, which used to be the teacher's lounge. The teacher's lounge is now across from the gym. The teachers' lounge doubles as a resource room to pull small groups for help or testing.
- The media center (old computer lab) is getting updated with new paint and carpet and seating.
- Seven new smart boards have been installed. Two were purchased with funds from SEPA, four from private donations and one with money raised from pizza lunches. Will replace rest of smart boards as funds become available.
- New uniforms are being worn this year and look great.
- Student numbers are the same as last year.
- Now two adults working SEED – Beth Lampron and Natalie
- Stem/coding class added for middle school grades.
- 5<sup>th</sup> grade will be at camp on Oct 4-6.

## Religious Formation News

- Re classes resumed on Sept. 17th and 18th. At this time, we have 217 non-SES students enrolled on Sundays and Mondays.
- We have 5 new catechists helping this year and will be looking for additional subs and parent volunteers to assist on class days.
- Confirmation Prep and Reconciliation/Eucharist parent meetings were held during the first 2 class meetings on Sunday and Monday.
- A new attendance policy has been implemented this year for RE Classes.
- A formalized Sacrament class was added as an option for students needing to catch up on missing sacraments on the registration sheet.
- Altar server training has been offered by Zelma Isele on Sunday, Sept. 24th during class time and will be offered Monday, Oct. 2nd during class time.

## Adult/Family Parish Formation

- Oct. 7th is the next Pizza dinner and Oct. 1st is the next Spaghetti Dinner.
- New sessions for Divorce Care began Sept. 11 with 7 participants. A new session of Grief Share began Sept. 26.
- Walking with Purpose is on Thursday mornings using the study, Ordering Your Priorities from 10-11:30. Mary, A Biblical Walk with Mary is on Thursday evenings from 7-9PM.

## RCIA

- Easter is early this year (3/31/24), so RCIA started 9/20. Seven people are in the group this year, one catechumen and six candidates.

## Discussion

- Discussed ideas for how the school and parish can create more connections.

Next Meeting October 24, 2023, at 5:30 pm in the Religious Ed Office.