



The Church of the Holy Redeemer

**We, the diverse faith community of the Church of the Holy Redeemer,
are called to be church through Baptism to continue the mission of Jesus Christ.
With the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we gather for word and worship.
We use our gifts to reach out in service to all.**

**Education Advisory Committee
Monday, May 3, 2010 - 6:00 pm at (RR)**

Opening Prayer:

Education Advisory: Members Present: Becki Johnson, Cindy Sanders, David Johnson, Gabe Pieper, Carol DeSmet, Lori Timmerman, Ryan Langr, Ruth Larson, and Kirstie Meyer

Review of Minutes:

Approval of Agenda:

Reports:

School:

1. **School Improvement Plan:** The annual MNSAA report is due June 15th. Final revisions to the School Improvement Plan is in process and will be sent as an end of the year report to the families in May. The School Improvement Plan is posted on RenWeb under newsletter.
2. **Calendar Items:** Students in grades 5-8 will go on the Middle School Field Trip on Wednesday, May 5th. Students in grades 5, 7, 8 will travel to Sioux Falls and students in grade 6 will make the annual trip to St. Paul to visit the Capitol and the Cathedral. The students in K-4 will be attending the MACS concert in the afternoon on the fifth. Grade 6 students travel to Camp Foley the week of May 10-14th. Track and Field Day for 7th & 8th graders will be Tuesday, May 11th. The Teacher Appreciation Luncheon has been set for May 19th. The Kaleidoscope Concert will be May 21st. Kindergarten Graduation is on May 27th at 8:30 a.m. The Talent Show is on May 28th, in the afternoon. Grade 8 will graduate on June 1st, and the last day of school is June 3rd.
3. **Walkathon Results:** The gross profit from the Walkathon was almost \$18,000. Although this is short of our school goal, we are very grateful for your efforts and believe this is a wonderful start to the walk-a-thon legacy. We had approximately 73% of the student body participate. Our top student fundraisers were Isabelle Tomoson with \$500 and Christian Sanders with \$378. Our top teacher fundraisers were Mrs. Sodemann with \$2,050 and Mrs. Gregoire with \$250. Thanks to everyone for their help.
4. **Computer Use Policy for Teachers:** I have attached a possible policy for teacher computer use.
5. **NWEA Tests** were completed on April 28th.
6. **Staffing:** Contracts have been offered and are due back for Father's signature by May 14th. We are looking for a long term vocal music substitute and a Spanish teacher.

Faith Formation (Primary):

1. **Vacation Bible School** will be High Seas Expedition (the Catholic Version). It will run June 7-11. We have ordered supplies and are recruiting volunteers.
2. **First Communion** was on April 25th. It seemed to go well with a few small glitches. If you have comments, please let me know.
3. **The Faith Formation classes** are over for the year. We will have registration in August. We have pulled together the calendar for next fall. We will begin earlier and end in mid April. First Communion will be on April 10th next year.
4. **Children's Liturgy** will go through May. It is not scheduled during the summer months. About 25 – 30 kids attend. We have talked about trying to schedule one on Saturdays. Finding the volunteers is the challenge.

Faith Formation (Secondary/Youth):

1. **Mission Trip:** Most people are mostly paid or completely paid, but we're trying to see if there are any other opportunities open.
2. **Youth Leadership:** Applications for *Teen Action Group (TAG)* are out.

3. **Outdoor Retreat:** I am looking into planning an outdoor camping retreat in late May or early June. The retreat would be camping at Camden for 8-12th graders and would roughly focus on various forms of communicating with God in the Catholic Faith. I am still seeing if there is any interest.
4. **Baccalaureate:** We should have final numbers concerning attendance after May 12th. We have received support from the knights, CDA, and CCW.
5. **Middle School Youth Rally:** Went very well and three youth attended. They stated that they wanted to return next year and wanted to bring friends with them. We are looking at making something like this required for certain grades next year.
6. **Upcoming Youth Events** Includes a farewell bonfire for the seniors, Valley Fair, and possibly the outdoor retreat. Additionally, over the summer, I plan on having the youth center open once a week for a couple of afternoon hours (3-6pm?), and also planning occasional Friday activities including an outdoor movie and game nights (which are an apparent success).

RCIA:

1. **Mystagogia:** We are in the final stage of the RCIA process and have two sessions left. Nine parish organization representatives will speak to our newly confirmed. They will address areas of interest and involvement opportunities available for them within the parish.
2. **Thank You's :** Forty six individuals have been involved in some capacity this year with the process.
3. **RCIA Workshop:** August 6th and 7th the North American Catechumenate is presenting a workshop focusing on initiation: Concerning the Baptized. It is a great opportunity to have training available in our diocese.
4. **Candidates for next year:** During the month of May, I will be phoning and scheduling appointments with those persons who expressed interest in being a part of the process next year.
5. **Rite of Christian Initiation of Children:** Two sixth grade students were prepared for the Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Eucharist.

Adult Education: No Report

Sub-committee:

Home & School:

1. **The walk/work-a-thon** is complete. Almost \$18,000 was brought in through pledges. Overall it was very successful. There are things that we can improve upon for next year which we will discuss at a follow-up meeting on May 11.
2. **Staff appreciation** luncheon will happen in May.
3. We are currently reviewing the **Kids with Kindness** program and the **New Family Mentoring** program for next year.
4. **Bonna Fischer** will be the new H & S chair next year and Alana Ratz will be the treasurer. We are currently looking for a vice-chair and secretary.
5. We discussed the **Special Education** issues currently facing HRS and some possible options.
6. Some **playground improvements** (sandbox, benches) were also discussed.

Technology: No report. Next meeting

Recruitment: No report. Next meeting

Unfinished Business:

1. **Early Catholic Family Life program (ECFL).** Set to begin in Mid-September, early October
2. **Budget:** Approve for coming year.
3. **Vacation Bible School.** VBS sign up is due on May 12. Parents are strongly encouraged to get their paper work in on time due to the number of program supplies that are purchased.
4. **Evaluating present structure of EAC.** There was a discussion on the present structure of EAC and what changes can be made in order for the group to be an effective and sufficient group for both Faith formation and School. Fr. Paul would like to have three names from each break off committee by June. Strategic planning, goals, job descriptions will be worked on and implemented by Oct 2010.

New Business:

1. **Policy: School Computer.** Approved. Add: no personal laptops or computer equipment devices to be used within the school.

Closing Prayer:

Next Meeting: August 2, 2010