

Education Commission Meeting MINUTES

1/08/2019, 6:30pm

Education Commission Members Present: Amy Jost (Chair), Sarah Farmer, Amy Fisher, Monica Smith, Jeff Stern, Sharon Bresler, Theresa Kearney, Fr. David Doseck,

- Welcome Education Committee members
- Gospel Reading and Reflection: *How would you like to enrich your prayer life this year?*
- Review and Approval of November Minutes
- Principal's Report, Sharon Bresler (See Attached)
- Children's Faith Formation Report, Theresa Kearney (See Attached)
- Youth/Young Adult Faith formation, Fr David Doseck:
 - Overarching theme for Middle/High School: Living, Teaching, and Proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ
 - 2nd Sunday of the month, meets with Jr. High and Middle School students
 - 4th Sunday of the month, meets with the High School Students
 - Currently building attendance/rapport, next steps continue with meetings, add parents into the mix, encourage small groups at parents' houses
 - Dec: went to Sky Zone, simple fun activities, all together, rooted in Christ, "Living the Gospel"
 - Jan: Focus on "Teaching the Gospel," walk through the Mass in the Sanctuary, follow the Missal
 - Feb: Begin Focus on "Proclaiming the Gospel", more service-oriented events planned, such as visiting local nursing homes, and over the summer: home repairs, etc. with IPM (Inter-Parish Ministries)
 - Discussion about how to keep our parish youth engaged/involved with the Catholic church
 - Budget approved to move forward with two big events:
 - Five-day Retreat/Mission Trip this summer, Middle School kids, YNIA (Young Neighbors in Action), Cleveland
 - Informational Leadership, Focus on liturgy and growing in faith, learning to participate in various parts of the Mass: Server, Lector, Eucharistic Minister of Holy Communion, etc.
 - Lovely discussion about how we, collectively as EC members but also individually can help evangelize to our Parish Youth. Some of the ideas were: intercessory prayer, identifying/assigning several people dedicated to praying; resources, such as *Growing Young* book by Kara Powell, Jake Mulder, and Brad M. Griffin; create a mentoring model focused on faith; identify top five things to talk about to the teens in the next pew; developing family questions/topic of the week (much like our question of the week) to engage parents/kids in faith-filled conversations at home
- Liaisons' Reports:
 - **Athletic Boosters/** Monica Smith/Sharon Bresler –
 - Discussion about probationary status related to grades/attendance/behavior; Ms. Bresler attended Booster meeting recently to walk through the process; process well-received and understood
 - Survey of the coaches coming out soon, fall sports, allowing parents to share comments on their kids' experience; explain process: go to coach first, then to Boosters with a reportable issue
 - Discussion about parents' behavior in the stands... discussed ways we could maximize respectful, supportive behavior: Review the covenant all parents must sign upon registering for a sport, encourage the coaches to set expectations of the parents and athletes, have signs at the check-in table about BE KIND (or similar message), coaches could invite all people present to join in the pre-game prayer; share positive message in the announcements if available.

- **FAB, Theresa Kearney-**
 - St Veronica Band performing at Archdiocese Band Festival at McNicholas HS, Jan 30
 - FAB Day at Butterbeers is Jan 15
 - Mary Poppins, Jr musical is progressing nicely; dates: March 15-17; tickets go on sale soon.
- **PTO, Sharon Bresler – Many exciting events happening soon:**
 - Walk-a-Thon, funding going towards safety precautions (more cameras, bulletproof glass, better locks on doors, etc.); last year’s funding went towards reconstruction and better drainage of playground area- contracted with Bzak Landscaping, work to start this spring
 - Father Daughter Dance, Feb 2, Luau theme
 - Mother-Son event being planned
 - Euchre Tournament
 - Volunteer Celebration Night, May
 - President resigned, plus other board openings end of school year: Discussions included options for either EC to appoint an interim President vs. hold Elections.
 - Request for nominations for interim PTO President, with intent of additional full term of President next year
 - Hope to hear from an interested party once she verifies her ability to commit
 - Have Education Commission appoint new President once interest is confirmed in the interim
 - Ms. Bresler offered to run the PTO meetings through the end of the school year or until new President is appointed/elected, whichever comes first
 - Collect nominations for the other board positions that may be opening when terms of current board members are completed (President Elect, VP of Fundraising, Public Relations Chair)
 - Upcoming PTO meeting dates will be published in the Thursday School newsletter and on PTO FaceBook page: Feb 7, Mar 7, Apr 16, and May 16, 6:30pm at St Veronica Ministry Center
 - We also discussed:
 - Review and build awareness of the PURPOSE of PTO: Fellowship, building relationships, supporting school/teachers, sponsor activities for parish families
 - Ways that we can communicate better what the PTO is doing and the success we have had
 - How to get more people to attend the meetings – Ms. Bresler shared some of my thoughts that worked at her other school
 - Current board/committee chairs are doing a truly fantastic job with getting events organized, participants are happy
 - Train incoming committee chairs, create and share helpful hints, timelines/guidelines
 - Stewardship Commission may be a good resource in recruiting and matching volunteers
- **Cub Scouts/Boy Scouts/ Venture Crew, Amy Jost –**
 - Scouts had record breaking year, sold over \$20,000 in popcorn sales, with higher bracket able to keep higher percentage in the Pack- better funding for Scouts in financial need and for Pack activities
 - Pancake Breakfast was a huge success, after costs paid off \$515 was generated. Due to extra popcorn funding, pack leadership decided to share extra funds, donated \$515 to Outreach Commission. Scouts presented the check and helped with PowerPack Build on Dec 19, 2018 along with the REP students.
 - Pinewood Derby was this past weekend: Open Derby Sat, Jan 5 and official Pack Derby was Sun, Jan 6. Great fun, well-organized. District PWD official was on site, loves our Derby. Top 6 fastest racers will advance to the District Pinewood Derby on April 13.
 - Having girls in the Pack has been a great success. They’re loving it! We have 9 girls in Pack 135.

- **Girl Scouts**, Sarah Farmer-
 - Girl Scout cookies are for sale!!
 - December had Unit Christmas Party , all nearby Troops attended, party, crafts, service, fun, and Santa!

Upcoming EC meeting dates and events:

- In general EC meetings are scheduled on the 2nd Tuesday of the month, 6:30pm: 2/12, 3/12, 4/09, 5/14
- FAB Butterbees day, January 15, 2019
- Jeanne Hunt will be here speaking on Wed, Jan 16, 2019
- Chili Cook-off, January 19, 2019
- School Open House, Jan 27, 2019, 12:30-3pm
- Italian Fest and School Art Show, January 30, 2019
- Mass Walk-through, Wed, February 6, 2019
- Confirmation, Sunday, February 17, 2019 at 11:30am Mass
- Donut Social, EC's turn to host, Sun, March 3 after all Masses. A sign-up will go out closer to the date
- Mary Poppins, Jr the musical, March 15-17, 2019

Meeting adjourned at 8:40pm

Respectfully submitted by Education Commission Chair, Amy Jost