

**Regis Catholic Schools
Education Commission Meeting Minutes
Regis High School, Room #107
Thursday, February 21, 2013**

Present: Becky Alexander, Denise Boos, Renee Cassidy, Barb Haag, Rev. Paul Hoffman, Val Knobloch, Very Rev. Brian Konopa, Chuck Larson, Howard Ludwigson, Gina Ostrowski, Rev. Derek Sakowski, Rev. Georgekutty Thayikuzhithottu, Kelly Bowe, Anna Sizer, Gayle Flaig

Absent: Rev. John Schultz, Todd Fischer, Rev. Eugene Klink, Rev. George Szews, Mark Seyer, Patty Usher

The meeting was called to order at 5:05pm by Chuck Larson, Chair. Fr. Paul Hoffman led the opening prayer. Minutes from the meeting of January 17 were accepted as distributed.

I. Administrative Report – Howard Ludwigson

- a. The Focus on Energy Project has been completed; Genesis CDC's project cost about \$9,000, replacing lights and bulbs; a savings should be seen from this update.
- b. The Knights of Columbus have been incredibly generous with their help (painting, refinishing doors, etc.). We need to acknowledge their donations.
- c. In response to the Newsletter Survey, a Bathroom Project Committee has met with contractors; the projected cost is \$80,000 and \$30,000 has already been pledged. The goal is to complete the renovations of the main floor bathrooms over the summer. We are looking for 30 people willing to pledge \$2,500 each and for contractors willing to donate supplies and/or labor.
- d. The Commission gave approval to Mr. Ludwigson to speak with the Guidance Counselor to have the requirement for Phy Ed changed to include information that students in a WIAA sport may count that as .5 credits of Physical Education. The purpose of this change is to allow students' schedules to accommodate electives and advanced coursework which may not otherwise have fit into their schedule. The Course Catalog will need to be updated to reflect this change.
- e. In two separate incidents cars ran through the fence at Regis; we had the incidents on the video camera but the results were not clear enough to identify the drivers or the license plate numbers. We have \$1,000 deductibles to repair the fence; if you know anyone who would be willing to help with the repair, let us know.
- f. Gayle Flaig has been in conversation with the EC schools to add a 4K program at Genesis. This would be a good thing for our system. Gayle will keep us posted.
- g. Plans are moving forward to have grants for iPads to use next year. There are 39 foundations to contact for start-up funds. These groups typically donate to non-profits but do require a report of sustainability so they are assured we would be able to keep the program going after their initial investment. In addition to the donors, Mr.

Ludwigson reports working closely with Patty Usher, Holly Hart, Keith Glassow from the Technology Charter School. There is a teleconference set up with WalMart so things are “ready to go.” Mr. Ludwigson also thanked Anna Sizer and Bill Uelmen for their work with this project. Mr. Hehli from the Regis Foundation will be at future meetings.

- h. Accreditation Report – Renee Cassidy says the groups are busy working on Standard 3; the goal is to have the Language Arts Quarter 1 completed by March 4. The work will continue for quarters 2 and 3. Hopefully there will be work in the summer and teachers will receive credit to complete the work through Edgewood College. The next focus will be the Science curriculum. Eventually all curriculum will be up to state standards with accompanying scope and sequence. Mr. Ludwigson recommended that assistance with curriculum coordination needs to be considered in the near future.

II. Financial Report – Denise Boos

- a. The budget to the Diocese will be finalized next week; the new 4K sections in Altoona have been worked into the budget. The next Finance Committee meeting will be in two weeks so there will be more to report after that.

III. Discussion Items

- a. Parish Recruitment/Retention Steering Committee – Mr. Larson passed out a paper with names of members, parish reps, additional resources (administration) and suggested adding the names of the Education Commission members. An orientation meeting is scheduled; Central Office will notify members with the details. All Education Commission members are welcome and encouraged to attend, if they are available.
- b. Strategic Planning Feedback (Chuck Larson) – a handout was distributed which listed “brainstorming” ideas brought forth from the planning session. A mission and a vision were discussed as well as Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats. Larry Doyle did a great job as facilitator; there was good participation and many ideas were brought forth. It is important that people are involved and engaged; all ideas are welcome.
- c. Search for President (Fr. Konopa) – A Search Committee meeting is scheduled to follow the Education Commission meeting tonight. Those invited to interview will come on Friday, March 8; there may be two to four interviewees. The plan is to begin with a Mass at one of our elementary sites and visit all the campuses before lunch. After lunch there will be a cycle of interview stations. Several groups will meet with the candidates: parents, faculty, administration, pastors, and Education Commission members. There have been nine applicants. The emphasis will be on district-level experience, experience with a high school, exposure to Early Childhood education, Catholic organization experience, personality/communication skills, awareness of budgets, education, Catholic identity, stability of employment, respect for tradition and culture.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, Thursday, March 21, 2013 at 5pm. If you have agenda items to submit for the meeting, please contact Howard Ludwigson or Chuck Larson two weeks prior to the meeting.

Very Rev. Brian Konopa led the Closing Prayer.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathy Long