



ST. CLAIR CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
Lighting the Way ~ Rejoicing in Our Journey

MINUTES

CATHOLIC FAITH ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday, January 23, 2012 – 5:00 pm

Main Boardroom – Catholic Education Centre

Chair: Dr. Frank Leddy, Superintendent of Education

Present: Daniela Azzolina – Chaplain, St. Christopher Catholic Secondary School
Brendan Deery – Principal, St. Christopher Catholic Secondary School
Adrien Gagnier – Vice Principal, St. Anne Catholic School, Blenheim
Gloria Knoll – Teacher & OECTA Rep, St. Matthew Catholic School
Christine Lambert – Vice Principal, Holy Trinity Catholic School
Joan Martell – Teacher & Faith Ambassador, St. John Fisher Catholic School
Kerry Matthyssen – Principal, St. Ursula Catholic School
Margaret Palmer-McCann – Chaplain, Ursuline College
Cindy Waddick – Elementary Chaplaincy Leader
Richard Whitney – Chaplain, St. Patrick's Catholic High School

Regrets: Michelle Parks – Trustee
Liz Bujaki – Consultant, Catholic Curriculum, Elementary

Recording Secretary: Josselynne Segeren

1. Welcome and Introductions

Dr. Frank Leddy, chair of the meeting, welcomed and thanked those in attendance and called the meeting to order.

2. Opening Prayer - All

3. Introductory Remarks

Dr. Leddy led introductions once again as there are new members on the committee this year.

4. *Approval of Minutes*

Motion: (Joan Martell, Brendan Deery) That the Minutes for the Catholic Faith Advisory Committee Meeting of Monday, October 17, 2011 be approved as presented. Carried.

5. *Approval of Agenda*

Motion: (Margaret Palmer-McCann, Christine Lambert) That the Agenda for the Catholic Faith Advisory Committee Meeting of Monday, January 23, 2012 be approved as amended. Carried.

6. *Review of CFAC's Role in the 4 Key Goals*

The committee reviewed their combined responses from the last meeting.

- The committee members commented on the use of the website to share information.
- Parent nights could include faith formation activities.
- The chart had “sharing” numerous times; the committee was like minded in including ways to share our faith.
- Invite partnerships – we need to come up with something that they will remember and associate with Catholic Education. We need to articulate this, not just see it.
- Open to all – but model our faith. We still need to show faith.
- Students need to see themselves regardless of level of ability – more inclusive.
- “To know, to do, to be” – this covers a lot, all encompassing. “To be”, see what it really means to us.

7. *Consultation: System Belief Statements*

Dr. Leddy shared his presentation that he has been using at numerous board committee meetings throughout the Belief Statements Consultation Process. The committee was divided into 4 groups. They presented their thoughts on two questions: What are the gaps; what is missing? What needs to be added or changed to address the gaps; what would you recommend?

Overall comments included referencing the triad, but also including the community. Faith needs to be referenced in all the points. Find a balance so the points cover all aspects but are not overly repetitive or overlapping. It was mentioned that the triad is growing, perhaps future conversations could address if it is time to use something different. Perhaps there is a new piece that encompasses the home, school, parish and the wider community.

Final comments included that responsible stewardship of resources also includes how we treat one another. It applies to both the school and the board levels. If we treat each other well and with respect, we will stand out. It goes beyond fiscal resources, it is also

part of human resources.

8. *Review of CFAC Policy 6.4*

The committee felt the policy appears to be heavy on curriculum. They commented the committee membership has greatly evolved making the composition very far off from the current members. Suggestions for the new draft policy included:

- Eliminating point 4.2.3
- We should tie the Belief Statements to our committee
- Include faith formation of our students and staff
- There should be an outline of the role of the Faith Ambassadors
- Note that Faith and Catholicism are different when wording the policy
- The Faith Day should be linked to the CFAC Committee, presently they are not connected
- 2.1 – Should be about Catholicism
- 2.2 – Shaping faith formation for students and staff
- Our aims should include having a connection between the home, parents, school and community – this could tie in to our membership of the committee
- As an advisory committee we should be advising those who will carry out the promoting (current wording is advisory committee is promoting)
- Provide consultation for issues (part of “advisory” committee)
- Become familiar with the diocesan plan and wider church initiatives, and make sure we are supporting them
- Align curriculum and school board with Diocesan plan

A draft policy will be presented at the next CFAC meeting for review. We will also discuss memberships at the same time. Once we discuss the draft policy, it will go to the Management Advisory Council, and then to the Board Meeting to be approved by the Trustees.

9. *Board Theme – Preliminary Discussion*

Cindy Waddick led the discussion and presented the 4 year plan. It was decided last year that the general consensus was to keep the “Live Like Jesus” theme. The new 4 year plan keeps the main theme and then branches off each year with a tie to the Diocesan plan.

Live Like Jesus:

- Rooted in God’s Word (Goal #2)
- Rooted in Worship (Goal #4)
- Rooted in Social Justice and Service (Goal #3)
- Rooted in Community (Goals #5 and #6)

The picture of the tree will evolve each year with the addition of the new theme, and more colour will be added. This year, Rooted in God’s Word ties in with worship and the changes in the Masses. Comments included that the order was nice, moving from smaller to greater, very logical. It was asked if there is more accessible language than “service”,

what is the meaning of service? A recommendation was Rooted in Action, all children can easily understand this. This year is Rooted in God's Word, with the focus on the use of scriptures. This is noted in the morning prayers, there is a greater reference to the theme.

The four years are in line with the diocesan plan, and essentially has a new expression each year of the same theme. In addition to the banners and morning prayers, there is a greater need in the schools to focus on the theme at every opportunity. Teachers need to be encouraged to read more in the Bible in the classroom, using parallel stories. Students should also be encouraged to read more in the Bible.

The four themes were well received, the committee agreed they like the four year plan.

10. A Framework for Auditing Catholic Schools

Examples from the book, "Auditing Our Catholic Schools" were handed out and the committee discussed in groups/partners if they thought a similar template would work for our schools. It is a great tool that we could modify to suit our board. Comments from the committee included that they reasonably capture the various items, and the scale works well. They agreed that there is merit in exploring this tool further at the next meeting. Members will bring their example copies with them for further discussion.

11. Next Meeting Date and Focus

Next Meeting: Monday, April 23, 2012.

Motion: (Brendan Deery, Margaret Palmer-McCann) That the Catholic Faith Advisory Committee Meeting of Monday, January 23, 2012 adjourn at 7:34 p.m. Carried.