

Catholic Education/Formation Committee (CFC)

Minute Summary, 9 January 2018

01. Prayer commemorated the Baptism of Jesus.

02. The article, "New Life for Catholic Schools" reflected on the application of the concept of the Notre Dame ACE (Alliance for Catholic Education) to schools that provides resources to support Catholic identity, finances, professional development and the expectation of family and community involvement in education. A cohort composed of administration and or faculty members study academic excellence, the development of a school culture, management skills, and finance, human-resource management education law, policy, and five retreats . . . the results they bring to their schools. The cohorts meet regularly. The general overview is that said process forms an administrative-faculty community with a common mind and focus on the individual child and the school as a community (akin to a lay religious community). Proposed by the CFC is a banner which reads, "Be it known to all who enter her that Christ Jesus is the reason for this school."

03. The elements for the celebration of Catholic Schools Week were viewed as weak and the bulletin insert without the two photographs of the chaplain and a liturgical procession could be an insert for any school. There seems to be an assumption that if we put an insert in the bulletin, "parents will enroll their children" which is a 1960s approach. There was no information regarding mission, values, expectations, focus that young parents might read that would invite them to consider Newman Catholic Schools.

04. The membership proposes that Project Milk (a diocesan program that funds the purchase of dried milk and ships said to the diocesan orphanage, Casa Hogar, in Peru. Mr. Romportl has three milk cans that we will have in the entrances of the church during Lent to receive contributions for the parish project.

05. Regarding teaching the history of the Diocese in Catechetics, the conclusion was that we will add this element to the catechetical program perhaps within the current curriculum or as part of a Focus Evening or as an element in the immediate preparations for the celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation. Father also noted that we should consider in this same manner the dissemination of information of how the Church approaches the preparation for the celebration of the Sacrament of Marriage.

06. The Concept of the Pastor's (Saint Mark) Standardized Test for Parish Members in Catechesis. The initial discussion was about developing twelve questions from each catechetical grades 1-9. The test/assessment tool would be administered at the end of each catechetical year and be accumulative . . . 12 question in grade 1; grade two would have 24 questions, the 12 from grade 1 and 12 particular to grade 2. This would follow though to grade 9

07. The DRE was complemented for the dedicated inclusion of practical hands-on social justice elements to the catechetical program in Grades 5-10. The memberships asked for additional information on the area-wide Teens Serving Others fair scheduled at Saint Anne Parish on 25 February. This involves social justice hands-on presentations by area organizations and is a effort of the Wausau Deanery Religious Educaiton Leaders (WDREL).

08. The NCS Education Commission report noted that NCS is in the strategic planning process which is to close on April 6 and 7. The minutes of the NCS Education Commission meeting of 28 November are not available nor are the minutes of the 26 September meeting of the NCS Finance Committee.

09. A monthly Adult Enrichment/Formation gathering is scheduled, a conversation time of one hour. An article will be provided to set the point of the conversation and registration will be expected. January 30 gathering will focus on the Church and immigration/migration

10. A request for a an open gym period one Wednesday evening per month prior to the religious session for the students in the program was accepted. An adult catechize or parish members will supervise.