



Diocese of Green Bay
PRESBYTERAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
August 17, 2017

Attendees: Bishop David Ricken, Very Reverends Daniel Felton and Luke Ferris, Monsignor James Dillenburg, Reverends Timothy Shillcox, O. Praem., James P. Leary, OFM Cap, Jason Blahnik, Philip Dinh-Van-Thiep, Robert Kollath, Richard Allen, Timothy Brandt, Robert Kabat and David Hoffman
Excused: Reverend Joel Sember

Opening Activities

- Meeting opened at 10:02 a.m.
- Bishop Ricken led the Council members in the Liturgy of the Hours.
- A motion was made to approve the agenda. Motion was seconded and approved unanimously.
- A motion was made to approve and adopt the meeting minutes of the June 8, 2017 meeting with one change to add that each parish is required to have a finance council under the Discussion of Parish Community Council section. Motion was seconded and approved unanimously with the change.
- Mission statement was recited by Council members.

Election of Chairman and Vice-Chairman

A motion was made and seconded to nominate Fr. Joel Sember as Chairman and Fr. Philip Dinh-Van-Thiep as Vice-Chairman. Motion carried unanimously.

Bishop's Opening Comments

Bishop Ricken discussed a draft of a letter recommending that going forward each parish celebrate a Votive Mass for the Blessed Virgin Mary on October 9th, beginning in 2018.

A draft of Diocesan Policy Concerning the Rite for Distributing Holy Communion outside Mass with the Celebration of the Word was discussed.

Looking for an alignment of curia to mission. We are moving from maintenance to mission and from corporate to mission church. Respond to the needs of the parishes. Need to repurpose with a clearer vision and mission. Partnership of moving the mission forward, having the resources to move forward, and getting a new generation engaged.

Update on Priests/Report on Priests who are Ill Fr. Luke Ferris

Fr. Luke Ferris reported on priests and deacons who are ill or recovering from surgery. Priest nurse hired and had a discussion on her role. The priest nurse will be at Clergy Congress.

Mission/Vision/Culture/Culture Values Bishop Ricken & Fr. Dan Felton

Bishop Ricken recited the Mission statement. Utech is helping to get the curia aligned with the mission, including the culture. The culture of the people needs to be similar. Need to know what culture you are trying to create. Group discussed the Green Bay Diocese Culture & Values presented. New Evangelization is a change of paradigm.

Fr. Dan☒ Everything today is being driven by the mission statement. The culture and values are emphasized currently to the curia. Move from maintenance to mission. Move from corporate to a missionary discipleship model. We are looking for feedback on culture.

Bishop☒ Move from departments to teams. Team work focusing on the goals.

Feedback was given that the word curia is hard to define. Curia is more of a corporate word. Recommend team members of the diocese to utilize and to put our gifts in line.

Fr. Dan☒ When you take the current values, they are not naturally fostered. Department heads sat down with Utech. They looked at how the group relates as a team. Need to create an environment of trust and honesty. Curia staff took a survey and this opens up what forms to have us align with the mission. Foster and empower the mission. The culture and values will put us much more in alignment with the mission. How do you operationalize those values?

Feedback was recommended that a sentence be added in the culture and values about trust.

Fr. Dan☒ We will need to communicate to parishes regarding curia changes.

Bishop Ricken☒ Build relationships that push us to be missionary disciples. The goal of the team is to invite others to join in and think outside the box. Create the climate and challenge one another to move the mission forward. Encourage and support.

Fr. Dan☒ There needs to be trust to be able to speak freely and challenge one another. Accompany and follow Jesus. We are looking at how we accompany our teams and the discussion today gives a base.

Realignment of Curia/Recent Changes in Personnel☒ Bishop Ricken & Fr. Dan Felton
Fr. Dan communicated a few changes on the staff.

Report on Catholic Schools Study☒ Alan Meitler and Todd Blahnik

A brief overview was given about the Catholic Schools Study. The planning process included finding data and telling the story behind the data. The study included site visits. A draft will be shared on September 22nd.

Alan☒ A case for change. There are financial pressures. Great deal of strengths for Catholic schools for making disciples. The plan shifts cultures. Core decisions will be made.

I. Schools of Discipleship

Intentional partnerships between parishes and schools

1. Catholic schools in partnership with parishes will embrace the mission and vision of the diocese to form missionary disciples of Jesus.

2. School families will be actively supported through many types of parish ministries.
3. Continue to define the role of pastors especially in school systems.

Formation for faculty, staff and administrators

4. Educators will understand and model the meaning of a missionary disciple, so they can lead students to become faith-filled followers of Christ.

Evangelization and faith integration for school families

5. Schools will be on the front line of evangelization and outreach to parents and families, drawing them into a closer relationship with Christ and His Church.
6. Each school will effectively provide ongoing discipleship formation for students that articulates the vision for Catholic schools.

II. Governance and Leadership

Boards and councils

1. Boards and councils will be actively engaged with forming strategic plans and overseeing implementation of the plan, including monitoring and updating the plan.
2. Boards and councils should understand their role, and in particular their role in furthering the advancement goals of the school in harmony with the larger stewardship goals of the parish(es).
3. In school systems, the respective role of the board of directors and the board of trustees should be reviewed and further clarified for more effective governance.
4. Boards and councils will be effective and prove themselves valuable to furthering the mission of Catholic schools.

Presidents and Principals

5. Provide for an ongoing program of leadership development for principals and presidents.
6. Create an intentional system to cultivate and recruit talented principals and presidents for the future.
7. A process for professional evaluation will be in place for all presidents of systems and all principals of parish schools.
8. All schools and systems need to be adequately staffed at the administrative level to accomplish all that is required to be successful.

Diocesan leadership and Office of Catholic Schools

9. Redefine the role and authority of the Office of Catholic Schools and give the office the proper authority to lead implementation of the plan and expect schools and systems to act in accordance with the plan.
10. Give the Office of Catholic Schools an appropriate role in the appointment of principals and presidents or releasing them from their positions to ensure that strong, effective, qualified leadership is in place.
11. Provide the right number of staff with the right expertise in the Office of Catholic Schools in keeping with the new role of the office and the commitments to fully implement the strategic plan.
12. Build collaborative relationships between departments and offices in the diocese.

III. Academic Excellence

Common standards and curriculum

Preparation for post-high school

Technology as a tool

New educational models

Programs for students with a range of learning abilities

IV. Operational Vitality

Enrollment management

Facilities

Collaboration and consortia

Financial viability

-What would the cost of education look like if schools had a budget that reflects their strategic plan?

-How do schools grow revenue to achieve their mission?

-How do we attract and retain the highest quality teacher possible with model discipleship in their classroom?

Look at the value of a Catholic education. Look at what is needed. January 1st, announce the plan and talk about the implementation.

Parish & Catholic School & Capital Campaign Planning Bishop Ricken, Fr. Dan Felton, Cindi Brawner, Josh Diedrich, Todd Blahnik and Alan Meitler

Bishop Ricken Approach for the financial resources as a whole. Raise awareness about all of the good that has been done. Participation on youth mission trips improving. We have a clear vision, mission and culture. Talk about money in the context of the mission. Mission supported by commitment to mission. Mission, ministry and funding go together. Streamline, simplify and serve. Resources needed to follow the planning.

Cindi Brawner talked about previous campaigns and the history. Josh Diedrich shared the Catholic Foundation mission and guiding principles.

Cindi Moving forward, the campaign is conducted by the Catholic Foundation. There are two companies that we are looking.

Josh Diedrich gave an overview about the two companies.

Cindi With the planning study, both companies are looking at interviewing pastors and lay individuals. A planning study looks at the case. There could be three waves. Diocese-wide plans would be known going into this. The parish plan will include the school plan and capital campaign plan.

Bishop Ricken Disciples on the Way is the delivery mechanism for the mission. Disciples on Mission campaign. Incorporate and continue to raise awareness. Launch New Evangelization 2020. There are many moving parts. A book that is a good resource is *Great Catholic Parishes* by William E. Simon Jr. Offer tools to parishes and work collaboratively. Involve those around that have the knowledge.

Planning Study (Feasibility Study) The planning process sets up the questions.

A motion was made and seconded to proceed with the feasibility study of the diocesan capital campaign. Motion carried unanimously.

Discipleship Leadership Formation Fr. Dan Felton

Fr. Dan went over the discipleship formation seminar waves. Leadership is critical. By November, a good portion of the leaders will have been through discipleship formation seminars and will lead into Alpha.

Q & A Bishop Ricken

Common mission is in Christ. Celebrate.

Meeting adjourned at 2:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Jami Rogne
Recording Secretary