

Education Commission minutes from 01/09/10 meeting:

Present: Jim Soisson, Peggy Casing,
Absent: John Naperkoski, Tom Wietchy, Linda Griffith

We discussed the budget for the 2010/2011 fiscal year. After the numbers were reviewed, it was decided to keep line-items as they are, unless the RE staff foresees a needed change.

GIFT continues its focus on the Creed. It was proposed that the theme for next year be the Church (Liturgical) year. Each session will feature a major feast or season.

The new adult bible studies are in the early stages. Peggy hopes to promote them more heavily in mid to late January, so they can all be running by mid February.

Women's fellowship is doing well. The theme for February will be "love" in honor of Valentine's day. Peggy hopes to get a guest speaker.

Jim gave a report from Holy Family School:
Catholic Schools Week is January 1st – 5th. There are many special activities planned
The Christmas prayer service was held on December 18th, very nice, as always.
CYO sign ups are going on for the upcoming season
Sr. Karen recently delivered her annual "State of the School."
The Annual Dinner Dance is being held on February 5th at Petrezello's
The Pancake breakfast is being held on January 24th
And, as an aside, the K of C free throw contest is coming up as well.

We looked at the brochure for the upcoming open house at HFRS –Sunday, January 31, 2010. A comment was made that brochures were included in all take-home packets for the families at GIFT.

The following is a report from the preschool:

Dear Education Commission:

January brings our annual Open House and registration time at the Preschool. We will be hosting our Open House on Jan. 27th from 6-8PM. Volunteers from Holy Family who were stuffing the bulletin this weekend were kind enough to add our fliers in as well. I have never tried that route before and thought maybe it might help in getting a better turnout for the Open House. We will see. I did send an article off to about 8 local parishes asking them to place an ad in their bulletin regarding the upcoming Open House as well. I am currently putting together the informational packets for not only the Open House, but the Rochester Hills Public Library Preschool Fair as well. In addition, I am working on the registration packets and have already received calls from families requesting one. Hopefully, that is a good sign!

In preparation of the packets, I needed to review tuition so that we could determine if we needed to increase it. After reviewing everything, I did determine that we needed to make a change. We have not had an increase in two years and when I compared our rates to numerous

local preschools, even with the additional increase, we were still on the lower end. These rates have been updated and will be distributed to the families prior to registration. The registration deadlines for this year are Feb. 10th for the currently enrolled families and then Feb. 24th for all others.

This month, the four-year-old groups will learn about the Three Kings and Jesus' baptism. They will role play a baptism in the classroom and make a "Children of God" poster to display. They also work on a monthly character trait and this month it is truthfulness and honesty. The three-year-olds will continue to visit the church and work on understanding how Jesus teaches us how we should treat each other as friends.

That is it for now. As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please let me know.

Sue Willcock, Preschool Director

All were encouraged to attend the council meeting. There, the council and commission members were encouraged to participate in the ministry fair which is scheduled for Feb. 5th and 7th. (See PC minutes for details)

Respectfully submitted,

Peggy Casing, MAPS, EMCF
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