

Catholic Education/Formation Committee (CFC)

Minute Summary for 13 September 2022

01. Present: Amy Adamus, Mary H. Hart, Shirley Heise, Albert Romportl, and Father Slowiak. Excused: Rick Svenes. Absent: Jason Vanden Elzen.

02. Prayer marked Ordinal 24

03. Minutes of the February 8, 2022 meeting. The minutes were accepted as written.

04. Regarding the discussion about critical race theory . . . a) Noted, first, was the word ‘theory’ and that a theory is not taught. Critical race theory is obviously a sociological theory that is raised from the observations and experiences of persons and communities. 2) The point of a theory is to discuss and understand the observations and experiences of the person or community from which the theory originates. A theory does not accuse or judge. 3) Regarding the critical race theory, some of the information does accuse and judge, criticize and make demands and make no room for conversation and discussion that could yield positive results. 4) a. Some of the information carries a politic of resentment, i.e., someone got something that I don’t have and did not earn, b. Some reactions to the concept of critical race theory seem to be founded on fear, c. Can we deny aspects of racism in our culture and society in the States? d. Crucial and perhaps what needs to be stressed in education formats and catechesis is the need to cultivate profound respect for each person.

05. Youth Ministry and Youth Minister . . . Developing a Vision. This initial conversation was about the concept of youth ministry, what might be involved and what might be some objectives. The membership will contact St Anne and Agnes Parishes and Saint John the Baptist Parish in Marshfield about ministry and job descriptions and their realized youth ministry.

06 Religious Education/Faith Formation. 1. Catechetical/Faith Formation Session will begin on 28 September. 2. Sarah Hart, a Catholic music artist, and speaker will be in the parish for a family night on 12 October. 3. Noted were the activities of parish members who with other parishes in the area participate in the Neighborhood Catholics in Service in August. 4. A Wausau Area Middle School Rally is scheduled for 12 April and a parent night, on 11 April. Three catechist enrichment sessions are scheduled for 7 September, 29 October and 4 January.

07. NCES St Mark. 1. Principal Tina Meyer retired, and Principal Shirley Heise reported that the enrollment of NCES: St Mark is 115. 2. Mikki Fronck retired from her position in music education, Kay Pope has been hired. Barb Schwingle has been hired part-time to the hot lunch staff. 3. NCS has adopted a new Reading/Language Arts Series for grades 5K-6.

08. NCS Education Commission. The minute summary was from the 31 May 2022 meeting and will be archived in the CFC file.

09. Future discussion items: 1) Critical Race Theory in education and 2) Catholic Identity. . . what constitutes this identity in today’s world?