



TED Committee Report and Recommendations—Fall 2015

1. Principles and Practices Course—Summer 2015

- a. At the Fall 2014 Delegate Board meeting, the Federation approved offering this class in Northwest Iowa in Summer 2015 with a minimum registration of 5 students. We are happy to report this course was taught and the report from our contacts in Iowa and by Prof. Dykstra is that it was successful and beneficial.
- b. We produced an advertisement packet that was sent to the Iowa community which contained a poster, an introduction letter to the course and various letters of recommendation from past participants. We have been informed that this packet was helpful in securing participants for this course.
- c. Three of the days were open to visitors and on one of the days we had 36 visitors including the Education Dept. head of Dordt College.
- d. Jim Regnerus, administrator from Trinity HS, was able to secure state credits for this course which apply towards teaching licences.
- e. We want to thank Jim Regnerus for being our organizer and contact in Iowa. He was our “boots on the ground” guy which made this course possible.
- f. The expense for this course was \$3,000.

2. Writing Standards and Expectations-Summer 2015

- a. A set of K-12 Writing Standards and Expectations were developed this summer. Jen Knott (CCHS) and 11 other teachers from various parts of the country worked on this project collaboratively. The goal was to develop a list of writing expectations for each grade with the idea that member schools will be able to use this information as a guide for their own school’s curriculum.
- b. Since each school has their own unique curriculum, we wanted to create a document that would help shape that school’s curriculum, not replace it. It is our hope that member school’s will take a serious look at what we put together and use it in conjunction with their own writing curriculum.
- c. We hope, D.V., the Writing Standards and Expectations document will be distributed this Fall. It will also be posted on our website.

3. Digital Church History Lectures

- a. Our goal of producing video lectures to accompany a church history book the RFPA is working on has been postponed for a later date. The RFPA has communicated to us that the publication of this book is further down the road than what we had previously thought. Since we need a copy or draft of this book before we can start putting lectures together, we will have to wait until such a copy or draft is available.



4. Website

- a. We have contracted with Spectrum Net Designs to redesign our website at a cost of \$1,540. In effort to make our website more relevant and useable, we needed a web platform that would allow us to make changes and additions in-house. Our new website will do just this. We are of the opinion that if our website is to be of benefit to our member schools, it must be able to provide a service to them. With that in mind, we are going to be adding various new pages to this website that previously did not exist. Since this website is still in the works, we cannot report many details, but please look for an announcement later this school year.
- b. In order to keep our website current and to provide good, useful information, we are convinced a website director is needed. Such an individual will load the content onto the website and ensure that it is always up-to-date.

5. Teacher Training Program

- a. This is a project that we have been investigating since early winter 2015. At that time, Rick Noorman (principal, CCHS) approached the TED committee with a proposal on a formal teacher training program for Protestant Reformed schools. His proposal was very well thought out and contained enough detail to convince the committee this program was needed and within our capabilities to establish. We thank Rick for his work on this proposal.
- b. Taking the lead from Rick Noorman, the TED committee has worked on a program outline and a plan of action which we will be presenting at the Fall 2015 delegate meeting. It is our purpose to present this plan to the delegate board so that the member schools will have opportunity to review this program and bring any questions and concerns to the attention of the TED committee. We will be sending out a form/questionnaire to all the member schools later this fall which will serve as a vehicle for gaining input from member schools. We are also planning on holding an open forum meeting at our Spring 2016 delegate board meeting where such questions and concerns can be addressed.
- c. Our goal, D.V., is to come to the Fall 2016 delegate board meeting with a final proposal to be voted on.



Recommendations to the Federation delegate board:

1. We recommend to the Federation that we hire a Website Director with the following job description and salary:

The website director will input, modify, or remove content on the website as directed by the Federation through her working committees and/or executive director. The website director will ensure the content on the website is fresh, relevant and accurate. The website director will work with the web developer to ensure the site is working as expected. The website must at all times be kept in harmony with the Purpose and Basis of the Federation. The website director will furnish regular reports to the TED committee which communicates the activities, progress achieved and/or difficulties to overcome.

The yearly pay will be \$2,000 for the first year and \$1,500 for each year after. This will be payable in 4 equal installments each quarter.

Adjustments to this pay schedule may be subject to yearly review.

2. If the above recommendation is approved, we recommend the Federation hire Mike VanderVeen as the newly created Website Director.

Grounds: Mike is familiar with the technology and is currently working with Spectrum Net in the design of our new website. He is also a TED member and familiar with the purpose and basis of the Federation.

3. We recommend the Federation approve the 2015-2016 budget of \$8,340.

4. We recommend the Federation approve Mr. Pete Adams as the teacher representative on the TED committee. Pete is currently the administrator and teacher at Eastside Christian School (Grand Rapids). This individual replaces Jon Mingerink whose term has expired.