



TED Committee Report and Recommendations—Fall 2017

1. History and Principles of Reformed Education Course

- a. We offered the History and Principles course to interested individuals this past winter. It began in January and ended in May. Class met approximately every other week in the evening for 2.5 hours. Professor Dykstra was our instructor.
- b. We had 28 individuals sign up for the course. Nineteen of them were teachers or prospective teachers, the rest were non-teachers simply interested in learning more about this topic.
- c. Schools could use this course for professional development credit which is required for teacher certification renewal in the State of Michigan.
- d. An “end-of-course” survey was given to all participants. Their feedback was reviewed by the TED committee and Prof. Dykstra. This feedback helps us as we plan future course offerings.

2. Writing Standards and Expectations

Last year, the Federation produced *Writing Standards and Expectations for a Protestant Reformed School*. This past spring the TED committee sent out a survey to each school asking for feedback. We received four returned surveys. Due to the lack of returned surveys, the feedback we received was of limited value. If you haven't done so already, we encourage you to respond to our survey since your feedback is important to us.

3. Website

- a. Mike VanderVeen continues to maintain the www.prcs.org website. Some of this work includes updating our blog, adding daily devotionals, maintaining member school information, keeping record of teacher hires, uploading TED minutes and delegate meeting material, working with our host to resolve technical issues, etc. We thank Mike for his good work!
- b. We encourage our member schools to visit this site and utilize the resources on it. As always, we welcome any feedback or suggestions for improvement.

4. Teacher Training Program

- a. Rick Mingerink gave a presentation at the 2016 Teachers Convention on the work of the Federation in regards to teacher training.
- b. Rick Noorman was hired as the Managing Director of the newly created Teacher Training Committee. We secured the following men to serve as the first committee members: Brendan Looyenga (Michigan), Joel Langerak (Michigan), Nate Vis (Indiana), and Kyle Bruinooge (Michigan). We also have been able to secure Duane Huisken (California) as an advisor to the committee on many aspects of the work.

- c. The TTC was officially organized as a body at their first meeting on June 17, 2017. They continue to meet on a regular basis and they supply the TED committee with written reports of each meeting. At this point, they are not able to make expenditures unless approved by the TED committee.
- d. With the TED committee's direction, the TTC is investigating the best methods for teacher training. The concept of a brick and mortar institution in the West Michigan area (as proposed in the March 15, 2017 SB) does not (at this time) align with the concept plan developed by the TED committee and as presented to the delegate board at the Fall 2015 meeting.

5. The Protestant Reformed School of Wingham

- a. The TED committee received correspondence from the Protestant Reformed School of Wingham this past year requesting membership in the Federation. They were given a copy of our handbook and are aware of our policies and practices. We are thankful that a school has been organized for the families of Wingham and are excited they desire membership in our organization.
- b. Membership requirements are as follows: *Any Protestant Reformed School Society accepting this Constitution is eligible for membership. Application shall be made to the Executive Director who shall refer this application to the Delegate Board for approval*

6. Federation Handbook reprint

- a. The TED committee thoroughly reviewed the Federation's Handbook this past summer and seeks approval on the suggested changes and updates. The current handbook was last updated in 2012.
- b. The cost to reprint would not exceed \$500. Physical copies would be mailed to each school and digital copies would be available for download on the website.

7. Federation Treasurer change

At our last delegate meeting, Phil VanBaren (Indiana) was elected Federation treasurer (see minutes). It became clear to the TED committee shortly after that meeting that an individual from outside of West Michigan would have a difficult time acting as treasurer. Due to this, Nate VanOverloop has been acting as treasurer this past year. Grounds.

1. *Federation's bank is located in Michigan only and would be difficult for someone in Indiana to access.*
2. *Disbursing of checks is more difficult for the treasurer since it is often done in person at meetings.*
3. *Phil would have to make a special trip to Michigan to sign paperwork making him an authorized user of the account.*
4. *Banking materials/records would have to be transported to Indiana and back to Michigan when Phil's term expires.*

Recommendations:

- 1. We recommend approving the membership of the *Protestant Reformed School of Wingham* into our Federation.**
Grounds
 - a. They have fulfilled membership requirements.**

- 2. We recommend approving the changes made to the Federation Handbook.**
Grounds
 - a. The current handbook was last updated in 2012. Changes in policy have been adopted by the Federation since then (i.e., TTC).**
 - b. Certain areas in the handbook were inaccurate, out-of-date, or the language was unclear.**

- 3. We recommend approving Mike VanderVeen for another 3-year term as the PRTI appointed teacher representative.**
Grounds:
 - a. Mike has served in this capacity for the last three years and we welcome the consistency he will bring.**

- 4. We recommend approving Rick Mingerink for another 3-year term as Executive Director.**
 - a. Rick has served in this capacity for the last three years and we welcome the consistency he will bring.**

- 5. We recommend the Federation approve the 2017-2018 budget.**