



## TED Committee Report and Recommendations—Fall 2016

### 1. Principles and Practices Course

- a. We are planning on offering the History and Principles of Reformed Education course this coming winter, D.V. It will be held at the Prot. Ref. Seminary and again taught by Prof. Russ Dykstra. We are thankful for his willingness to again teach this course.
- b. This course costs the Federation approx. \$2,500. The funds for this expense are already in our account as it was budgeted for a few years ago. There is no fee for attending this course.
- c. Past offerings of this course: Summer 2015 (Hull, IA) and Winter 2013 (Grand Rapids, MI)

### 2. Writing Standards and Expectations-Summer 2015

During the summer of 2015, a group of teachers from across the country collaborated and developed a set of Writing Standards and Expectations. After reviewing the document, the TED committee decided that it needed further work before we could approve it and distribute it to our member schools. In light of this, we organized a Revision Team. This team consisted of 2 teachers from CCHS, 1 teacher from Heritage and 1 teacher from PRCS- Dyer. This Revision Team produced a quality set of Writing Standards and Expectations for the Protestant Reformed Christian School. Copies will be sent to all the member schools.

### 3. Website

- a. Mike VanderVeen (Principal at Randolph, TED member and website coordinator) has been busy over the last year keeping our new website filled with worthwhile information. A few benefits of this website that are worthy of mention:
  1. Prospective teacher database is easily created by having teachers input their data directly into our website which creates a database for member schools.
  2. History and Principles course participants can register for the course online.
  3. TED meeting minutes and Delegate meeting materials are posted for easy access.
  4. A compiled database of dozens of articles on Reformed education written by many Prot. Ref. individuals.
  5. Interested individuals can access information about who we are and what we do. For reference, Dr. Christine Faber from the Covenant Canadian Reformed Teacher College commented that she learned a lot about us by reading our website.

#### 4. Teacher Training Program

- a. Last October, the TED committee informed the Delegate board of their efforts in moving forward on a more “thorough training” of our teachers. A *Concept Plan for a Future Protestant Reformed Training Program* was distributed to each member school. Over the course of this past winter, the TED committee sent surveys out to each member school looking for input this Concept Plan. The input we received was compiled into a document that was presented to the member schools at this past Spring delegate meeting. The input we received was valuable and many different perspectives were received. Around the same time, a delegation from the TED committee made a formal visit to Covenant Canadian Reformed Teacher College (CCRTC) in Hamilton, ON. CCRTC operates along a model of teacher training that could very possibly be a model we could operate under. This visit proved to be very worthwhile. A good relationship was established with the brothers and sisters at CCRTC which may prove quite helpful in the future.
- b. At the last Spring Delegate meeting, the TED committee informed the delegates that we desired to see a formal committee organized under the Federation umbrella which has the sole task of focusing on a Teacher Training Program. A proposal for the establishment of such a committee has been submitted for the Fall 2016 Delegate meeting.

#### 5. Faith Christian School (Randolph) Hiring Dates

As most of you are aware, the Faith Christian School community is working hard to establish a distinctively Reformed high school for their children. The Faith Christian School Board approached us and asked for a variance in the hiring policy for the upcoming hiring cycle. The TED committee supports this variance and brings a proposal to the Federation delegate board for their approval.

**Proposal:** For the hiring cycle of 2017, Faith Christian School be able to offer contracts to **existing** teachers on or after January 15. If Faith does offer a contract to an existing teacher, Faith will notify that teacher’s school board within 1 business day so that school board may also have opportunity to extend a contract to that same teacher. All contracts will have a 15-day consideration period. The contract date for **new** teachers will remain April 1 for all member schools including Faith Christian School.

Grounds:

- 1.) *Randolph’s situation is unique in that they will not be able to open their new high school next year if they do not secure a teacher for that position.*
- 2.) *They specifically desire a teacher with experience.*
- 3.) *This will give their hire additional time to plan for the move (sell/buy house, etc.)*

#### 6. LGBT material

This past year, the TED committee compiled a list of relevant material regarding the LGBT threat to Christian schools. This material can also be accessed on the Federation website.

**Recommendations:**

- 1. We recommend to the Federation that we approve the hiring variance proposal which is included in this report above (see item #5 above).**
- 2. We recommend to the Federation that we move forward with the Teacher Training Committee Proposal as outlined in the proposal handout.**
- 3. We recommend the Federation approve the 2016-2017 budget.**