

FLGA Lutheran Administrators Association (LAA)
Educators Conference, Daytona Beach
September 28, 2012

- I. Words of Welcome: President, Bob Ziegler, opened with the words of II. Corinthians 5:20a (NIV): "We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making His appeal through us." Bob spoke about being Christ's Ambassadors in the time of a crisis, when meeting the needs of families. He commented that our Lutheran theology is seamless and one of our strengths. Bob ended with prayer.

II. District Report: Mark Brink

Mark spoke about Bill Cochran's retirement. Bart Day will be replacing Bill and has served as a pastor/principal for seven years. He is a straight forward person who is not replacing Bill as a Pastor, but as an educator.

Perry Breseman is also retiring. Perry has done a good job of training others around Synod in the area of technology. The plan is to replace Perry with a Pastor who can work with Pastors in congregations that have schools. Perry is currently contracted and will continue to offer the Funding Academy program.

Mark will be hosting a day of training for Admission Counselors on Friday, October 26 at the FLGA District office. No registration fee to attend.

PC Net is an effort to support workers in the FLGA District and offer them professional connections for those who may not be able to travel or attend conferences. The Athletic Directors, Musicians and Early Childhood workers have been connecting through the PC Net. Heather Olsen and three other E.C. Directors are meeting during the conference. Contact Heather with your ideas.

The Educator's Conference for 21st Century Educators is a change from the past. Young Lutheran Educators are taking the lead roles in the conference and playground. Attendance at the conference continues to decline. At one time over 600 Educators were in attendance and this year there are approximately 320. Most of the decline is due to the lack of finances. Once attendance at the Educator's Conference is out of a school budget, it is hard to get it back in. Mark encouraged us to talk to colleagues who are not here and encourage them to attend. Get it on the calendar early.

Technology can offer some great instructional tools, but some schools have serious funding problems. Several administrators shared ideas for funding that worked at their school including a Scholastic Book Fair and matching funds.

Jim Essig spoke appreciatively about the list serve. He shared how he needed a new bell system and through a lead on the list serve they now have a bell system through their computers and the cost was approximately \$500 through Bell Commander.

Melissa Bergholt, Principal – Trinity Lutheran School, Orlando mabeigholt@trinity shared a power point presentation and her insight into the Thriving Schools Survey through the Baker Strategy Group. The survey is on-line and can be sent to parents, staff and students. There are 16 categories and the administrator can customize the survey by selecting a variety of questions. Those taking the survey can do so knowing their responses are anonymous. Feedback includes comparison with other Lutheran schools and a detailed report of questions and responses. It uses a rating scale of 1-10 and comments can be made as well. The information obtained can be used for formation of goals for accreditation, providing information to the School Board and Church Council. It also includes a performance review of the Administrator. Both parents can respond to the survey.

III. Business Meeting

President, Bob Ziegler, introduced the current officers:

President Elect: Heather Olsen
Treasurer: Corrine Hoffert (Not Present)
Secretary: Dave Geidel

The Secretary Report from the January 13 meeting at the Wyndham at Lake Buena Vista was displayed on the screen. Bob also reminded administrators that these reports can be found on the Administrator's tab of the District PC Net.

Bob gave the Treasurers Report. As of August 31, 2012 there was \$2,489.21 in the account which is now deposited and accounted for at the District Office. Therefore the need of a Treasurer for the LAA no longer exists and Bob recommended.

Presidents Report

Bob reported on the Florida Educational Technology Conference (FETC) for 2012. Paul Schwan and Matt Bergholt coordinated times for those from Lutheran Schools to meet for debriefing and extended professional development. The FETC will be held on January 28-31, 2013 in Orlando and Bob encouraged administrators to send someone from their staff.

Bob Boyd, St. Paul-Lakeland attended the NAESP and his narrated report is posted on the PC Net.

Jack Hibbs, Faith Lutheran, Marietta, GA is planning on attending the ASCD Conference on October 26-28, 2012.

Elections

Heather Olsen, Zion New Life, Winter Garden, FL - President
Jeff Whitcomb, Grace, Winter Haven, FL – President Elect
Pat Weingart, Good Shepherd, Sarasota, FL – Secretary
Jesse Crosmer, Our Savior, St. Petersburg, FL – Communicator

Bob proposed the idea of appointing five Advisors/Ambassadors for the different regions. He will send out an e-blast asking for nominations or volunteers to be an Advisor/Ambassador for their region. These five regional Advisors/Ambassadors would work with the four officers.

Funding Academy III has been locked in for October 29 – 31. Normally the cost is \$250 but if it was booked for this time, the cost was reduced to \$150 for registration and the cost of the presenter travel is covered. Trinity Lutheran, Delray Beach has offered to host the event. Rooms at the Hyatt will be \$109 + tax. Registration can be done on-line at: <http://flgadistrict.org/> Contact Tim Leinberger, Trinity Lutheran, 400 North Swinton Ave., Delray Beach, FL 33444
tleinberger@trinitydelray.org

Bob has posted the President's Report presented at the FLGA Convention in June on the PC Net.

Deserving candidates were nominated this year for the Ben Eggers, Outstanding Lutheran Educators Award. Those not receiving the award this year will be considered as candidates again for 2013. The nomination forms are posted on the PC Net.

Bob encouraged administrators to consider using Teachscape for valuable teacher instructional feedback. There are six schools in the FLGA District currently using Teachscape. Contact Barb @ barb.shucy@teachscape.com for username and passwords. We will be part of the LCMS POLS Group.

Bob requested ideas for a winter LAA meeting. He offered the idea of planning the LAA meeting at the time of the FETC. Perhaps the LAA could be held in conjunction with the Early Childhood Conference. No definite plans were made.

Questions & Comments . . . Information to Share

The idea was suggested that the Ben Eggers Awards might be expanded to include Support Staff like Extended Care, Administrative Assistant, School Secretary and Bookkeepers.

President Bob Ziegler closed with some thoughts on the school terms/cycles and encouragement to "Keep the Main Thing, the Main Thing."

Respectfully Submitted
Dave Geidel, Secretary