

Report of the Christian Education Committee

October 15, 2022

To the One Hundred Forty-Second Diocesan Council
of the Diocese of the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic
of the Reformed Episcopal Church:

The Christian Education Committee was reorganized in 2017 and given the new task of assisting existing diocesan parochial K-12 schools to continue to grow towards maturity and of seeking opportunities to encourage and support rectors in the establishment of new schools.

The membership of the committee, and the schools they currently represent, consists of the Rev. Andrew Brummett (Chair; Atonement Academy), the Very Rev. Dr. Eric Jorgensen (St. Stephen's Christian Academy), the Very Rev. Jason Patterson (St. Mark's Classical Academy), Mr. Millage Holloway (Atonement Academy), and the Rev. Justin Forsberg (St. Matthew's Day Care).

The committee still desires to fulfill a previous plan to gather faculty from all our schools for mutual edification and fellowship. We believe one of our diocesan gifts is the cluster of parish schools in and around Southeastern Pennsylvania, including St. Stephen's in Maryland. We hope to better support and grow this network in the future.

Last year, Atonement Academy was our newest parish school, formed in 2020. It continues to grow and develop, adding several new faculty and staff this year and serving more families. It plans to register as a full-time school for Fall 2023 while continuing to offer the two-day program for homeschool students. Both will be taught concurrently.

This year, our diocese has opened two new schools and closed an old one.

At Grace Collingdale, the vestry and school board decided to close Christ Academy. Supporting a full-time school that was significantly impacted by COVID proved to be more than the church could handle, but under the leadership of the Rev'd Shawn Riley, Rector, and Mr. Erik Landstrom, formerly head of the

Lower School at Christ Academy, Grace Academy was opened this fall. It is a collaborative/hybrid model, holding classes three days per week and serving grades K-8.

Additionally, in partnership with Atonement Academy through the Wayside Educational network of micro high schools, Grace Scranton opened King Alfred's Academy this fall meeting the same days as Atonement: Tuesdays and Thursdays. Mr. Jared Lovell leads the school and teaches his students and those at Atonement through Zoom on Tuesdays. The Principal Teacher at Atonement, Mr. Brandon Munson, teaches both sets of students also, while the Campus Director of Atonement, Mr. Millage Holloway coordinates the operations of both schools. The Rev'd Andrew Brummett teaches a leadership course at both schools through Zoom from Austin, Texas, where he relocated to help his father, who has survived two round of throat cancer and needs additional help and the ministry of presence.

The Anglican School Association hosted its annual Banquet of the Bedes (our annual meeting of our professional association for teachers, the Society of St. Bede) in Dallas, Texas during the Society for Classical Learning conference. The Rev'd Andrew Brummett attended on behalf of this committee. He finished a two-year commitment as Executive Secretary this year. Mr. Erik Landstrom now serves in this role.

Our ASA schools receive a 20% discount to join Alliance Defending Freedom to receive its legal help, including a full review of founding documents to ensure maximum legal protection. Membership dues are based on annual budgets and start at only \$500 per year (before the discount).

For a second year, faculty from our diocese—from Grace Collingdale and St. Mark's—visited Appomattox Christian Academy at St. Andrew's Anglican Church (REC) in Appomattox, Virginia (Diocese of Central States), and led an in-service faculty training during the summer. Video from this training will be made available to ASA schools and sent to the ASA list-serve. If you would like to be added to this email list-serve through Google Groups or want to explore the establishment of a parish school, please contact Mr. Erik Landstrom at eclandstrom (at) gmail (dot) com.

All parishes are encouraged to read the excellent article on parish schools by the Rev. Canon John P. Boonzaaijer, published as part of the [ASA report](#) to the General Council in 2021 (password for the link is: asa).

Parish schools provide parishes with excellent opportunities to fulfill their baptismal vows, to evangelize, to catechize, to contribute to the growth of their congregations, and to offer gainful employment to qualified members of their parish. Please pray for our diocesan schools and support them in whatever ways you are able. Let us know how we can serve and assist you in exploring or starting a new school!

Respectfully Submitted,

The Rev'd Andrew Brummett
Chairman