BDFHSA Executive Council Meeting February 25, 2014

Attendees: Sr. Carol, Cyndi Horrigan, Ginny Wallace, Mary Alice Bagwell, Chris Riso, Kellie Ulrich, Jean Comer, Patti Otto, Rob Patkalitsky, Bonnie Ann Glica, Ginny Winkworth, Harold Erbacher and Andrea Foglia

Торіс	Discussion	Action/Follow-up
Opening Prayer	Opening prayer led by Sr. Carol	
Revitalization Update	Sr. Carol gave an update on the Revitalization process. She	Sr. Carol
	noted that 195 teachers were affected by the school closures	
	with some opting for retirement or placement outside the	
	Catholic school system. Assistance is being provided via	
	severance and unemployment benefits. Current enrollment	
	estimates are being tabulated; thereafter it is expected by mid-	
	March that the open teaching positions will be posted and filled.	
STREAM	Jean Comer was introduced as the new STREAM Coordinator.	Jean Comer
	She explained that STREAM programming (Science-Technology-	HSA Representatives
	Religion-Engineering-Arts-Math) is an evolution of STEM;	
	describing its core concepts to include innovation, creativity,	
	critical analysis and associated learning to be hands-on and to	
	occur across the curriculum – not in just one class. She provided	
	a sixth grade teaching plan of Ancient Greece as an example.	
	HSA's accountability was noted to be one of a shared focus to	
	assist in promoting knowledge about STREAM as well as	
	supporting it conceptually for program development within	
	Catholic schools.	
	Sr. Carol noted that a meeting is scheduled to be held on 3/6/14	
	with the Executive Council of Principals to discuss academic	

	programming with a special focus on the standardization of Catholic school content. She noted that there has been an alignment with the Common Core Standards over the past 3 years to support a Diocesan-wide curriculum.	
Reports		
• Invest in Education Tax	Chris Riso gave a status report on the pending Education	Chris Riso
Credit Legislation	Investment Tax Credit Legislation noting it to be a critical year for the bill citing that if it doesn't pass this year it will most likely go away after this session. Chris cited that the Senate Republicans are key in getting the bill passed and asked the group to communicate the need for support and legislative outreach by sharing the prepared memo with all of the families within each of the schools. April 1, 2014 is the deadline for the state budget to be passed thus making it critical to act by the third week of March 2014. Chris noted that Public Policy Days will be held on 3/18 and 3/19/14 and indicated that although the sponsored buses no longer had any open seats, individuals can join up with the group in Albany once they arrive by their own transportation.	BDFHSA Executive Council Members
	Chris also provided information on upcoming Independent and Religious School Advocacy Days and a training being held in Albany on March 3 and 4, 2014. Chris noted he can be reached via <u>CRISO@Buffalodiocese.org</u> for support and/or to answer any questions. Kellie Ulrich outlined the Catholic Charities Appeal goals for	
Catholic Charities	2014 noting a \$10.8 million goal which will serve as the operating budget. She indicated that there are more than 70 Catholic Charities programs that have helped more than 130,000	Kellie Ulrich BDFHSA Executive Council Members

• Snowball Update	 people in all counties collectively. She cited individual school goals to be set at \$900 and noted that friendly competition among schools was supported and recognized by the presentation of certificates of achievement to the top fundraising elementary and high schools. Kellie noted that last year, St. Marks and St. Francis H.S. won the awards, respectively. Kellie offered fund-raising ideas for each of the schools to consider and recommended to try to schedule one fundraising activity each month and send out the message that "No gift is too small!" Jean Comer provided an update on the SNOWBALL Dance noting that the dance was expanded to two sites (Northtowns and Southtowns) with 25 schools participating and over 800 attendees. She indicated that ticket purchasing was enabled through a web-site noting that half the children purchase tickets on-line. She stated that Nativity of Our Lord, the new Southtowns contingent, did an exceptional job at decorating the facility which greatly added to the initiative's overall success. More than \$30,000 was raised for scholarships which will provide scholarships for an additional 30 students. She said it was quite evident that the kids had a wonderful time and she extended an invitation to all schools to participate in the next Snowball function. 	Jean Comer BDFHSA Executive Council Members
BDFHSA • Calendar for 2013-14 and 2014-15	One more meeting of the Board for calendar year 2013-14 was noted to be required and is scheduled for April 29, 2014. The first meeting of the 2014-15 year was recommended to be an open meeting for all HSA Presidents along with one guest; pre-	Sr. Carol Cimino Cyndi Horrigan Ginny Wallace Mary Alice Bagwell

	registration for a head count was recommended and it was noted that a vote to change the bylaws would be held at this meeting. This first general meeting was targeted for October 2014. A recommendation was put forward that the current sitting Board members remain in position for the 2014-15 calendar year to allow for effective start-up activities.	BDFHSA Executive Council Members
• Dues Structure	A recommendation for a \$25 fee per HSA was put forward and accepted and will be presented as an addendum to the by-laws at the October meeting. It was also recommended that a member needed to be selected for the record keeping of dues paid.	Sr. Carol Cimino Cyndi Horrigan Ginny Wallace Mary Alice Bagwell BDFHSA Executive Council Members
• Committees Within Council	 Discussion occurred relative to identifying standing and ad hoc committees that would be of value in providing direction and leadership to accomplish outlined goals and objectives. The following examples were offered: Communications Legislative Action Committee Speaker/Event Committee Snowball Planning Committee By-laws Catholic Charities Appeal The group has been asked to come to the next meeting prepared to further expand ideas on how to outline the committee structure with consideration to function, membership and required resources. 	BDFHSA Executive Council Members

• PR for BDFHSA	Discussion occurred regarding how to promote an awareness of BDFHSA and its activities. It was noted that information can be found on the WNY Catholic website but some found difficulty in navigating the site. To make it user-friendly, a recommendation was put forward to add a tab to readily access the Federation. A recommendation to hold an event which would highlight the accomplishments of the HSAs in May 2015 was also put forward.	Sr. Carol Cimino Cyndi Horrigan Ginny Wallace BDFHSA Executive Council Members
News		
 Taping of Easter Mass NCEA Conference 	Easter Mass will be taped at St. Joseph's Cathedral at 10 am on March 8 for national viewing. Registration is to be done via <u>www.daybreaktv.org</u> . Although registration is closed, it was recommended that those BDFHSA members who would like to attend the mass call 847-8745 and identify themselves as a member of the newly created board to obtain tickets. The NCEA Convention is being held Easter week (4/22- 4/24/14) in Pittsburg, PA. It was noted that recognition awards will be given to two local educators: Paul Schuster (teacher – DeSales Catholic School , Lockport) and Principal Patty Freund, St. Gregory the Great, Williamsville. All members were invited to participate in this event.	BDFHSA Executive Council Members
Discussion	Datti Otto no common dod that a gurren ha anaturata d ta su	Cinny Wallass
• Fundraising Exchange	Patti Otto recommended that a survey be constructed to query fundraising ideas as well as other operational details (ie. parental activity requirements, buyouts, amount and process of collecting HSA dues, what HSA funds can be used for, ideas to get more parents involved in HSA meetings, etc.) from all schools	Ginny Wallace BDFHSA Executive Council Members

	that could be shared collectively. Ginny Wallace indicated that she would facilitate the development of a survey for the group to review and approve.	
Adjournment		
	Respectfully Submitted,	
	Bonnie Ann Glica	