

Committee Planning Guide
EDUCATION / CAMPUS MINISTRY 2013

Parochial Education 2013

Objective 1: To encourage, support and promote Lutheran parochial education in the LCMS MT District in the manner of Matthew 28:19–20, “to go make disciples”, and Proverbs 22:6, to “train up a child in the way he shall go.”

Goal 1.1: To recognize the Lutheran Day Schools in the MT District and Lutheran educators for their service.

Activity 1.1.1: To recognize parochial school teachers/administrators on their 25th year of service.

Activity 1.1.2: To publish in the Montana Reflections Feature Articles of each Day School including names of all teachers and administrators.

Goal 1.2: To encourage Lutheran Day Schools to provide high quality Christian Education as we give support in maintaining their programs.

Activity 1.2.1: To continue and partially fund a spring Administrators Conference for the MT Day Schools every other year on the odd year. Each school is encouraged to bring the principal and one other delegate (pastor, member of the school board, or called teacher) for the spring 2013 conference.

Activity 1.2.2: To strongly encourage teachers who are not on the synodical roster to complete the colloquy program offered by the Concordia University System through www.cuenet.edu. The Concordia University Systems offer scholarships for this program. (Convention Resolution 4-04A). Since former implementation, three teachers have completed colloquy.

Activity 1.2.3: To encourage and support the all-workers conference within the MT District for pastors and educators every 3 years, that will include a workshop in the understanding of Scripture and Lutheran Confessions (2015).

Activity 1.2.4: To encourage National Lutheran School Accreditation within the Montana Day Schools.

Activity 1.2.5: To encourage use of the Lutheran School Portal and provide ideas for fundraising and marketing our schools.

Activity 1.2.6: To encourage Day Schools to become members of the Lutheran Education Association (LEA).

Activity 1.2.7: To offer assistance to Day School administrators in planning for conferences.

Activity 1.2.8: To encourage professional growth among educators and communicate the availability of resources and web sites to schools.

Activity 1.2.9: To provide input into the Board of Directors in administering the MT District Education Fund.

Activity 1.2.10: To pay membership fees for the Montana Federation of Private Schools each year for all MT District—LCMS parochial schools so that each school is represented by this

organization. In so doing, keep informed of the public education sector as it relates to the Christian Day School.

Activity 1.2.11: To encourage the continued use of a physical and sexual abuse/misconduct policy, including a statement requiring the reporting of incidences to the President of the MT District of the LCMS, in each of our Day Schools. Inform the schools of any updates needing to be made in the policies to protect themselves and the Montana District. This information will be put on the District website.

Activity 1.2.12: To watch for possible grants that might be available for parochial schools and pass on said information as it becomes available.

Goal 1.3: To promote Christian education through our Day School programs as outreach.

Activity 1.3.1: To encourage each of our Day Schools to function as a Christian resource for home school families in its respective areas and to make contact with Montana Home School Associations to pass on any updates.

Activity 1.3.2: To encourage Day Schools to participate in the Lutheran Malaria Initiative for mission and outreach.

Activity 1.3.3: To encourage each school to have a website and to link it to the LCMS-MT District website.

Activity 1.3.4: To encourage schools to participate in the National Lutheran Schools Week each year and provide advertising/promotional materials and ideas to interested schools.

Early Childhood (ECH) Education 2013

Objective 2: To promote Lutheran early childhood education in the MT District in the context of the primary objective.

Goal 2.1: To encourage, support, and assist existing LCMS-ECH centers in networking and provide high-quality programs.

Activity 2.1.1: To establish an annual conference for ECH directors, teachers, and workers of the MT District in the fall of each year.

Activity 2.1.2: To encourage preschools and child care centers in the MT District to adopt the curriculum of the LCMS (One In Christ, Voyages, and Little Lambs) by offering 6 month trial sessions of the curriculum for use in their programs and to give exposure to the curricula at the ECH conference.

Activity 2.1.3: To subsidize synod provided ECH education mailings for any interested ECH centers for the first year of use.

Activity 2.1.4: To promote and encourage the use of the Lutheran School Portal by subsidizing 50% of the first year cost to any ECH center. (Shared cost with Parochial Education)

Activity 2.1.5: To encourage each ECH center to have an adequate physical and sexual abuse/misconduct policy, including a statement requiring the reporting of incidences to the President of the MT District of the LCMS. This information will be put on the District website.

Activity 2.1.6: To provide input into the Board of Directors in administering the MT District Fund and make known any other grants or programs available to ECH.

Goal 2.2: To encourage congregations to start ECH programs and preschools for outreach.

Activity 2.2.1: To invite ECH workers, Sunday School superintendents, and church representatives of all MT District congregations interested in starting ECH programs to attend the ECH conference.

Activity 2.2.2: To invite ECH workers, Sunday School superintendents, and church representatives of the Wyoming District to attend the ECH conference.

Activity 2.2.3: To provide pamphlets and educational materials at the ECH conference and materials for use in individual ECH centers.

Goal 2.3: To encourage ECH centers to hire LCMS members as teachers when possible and to provide resources, necessary training, and orientation to any nonmembers that are hired.

Goal 2.4: To establish ECH advocates from each circuit to form an ECH cabinet to be future coordinators of ECH conferences.

Activity 2.4.1: To establish phone conferencing among ECH directors and teachers in the MT District two or three times a year to provide instructional information on topics and materials beneficial to ECH.

Sunday School and VBS 2013

Objective 3: To revitalize Sunday School (SS) and Vacation Bible School (VBS) teacher training and mission outreach by giving support to pastors and congregations in encouraging, informing, and training teachers.

Goal 3.1: To utilize the parish education link on the MT District website as a means to communicate parish education information with congregations.

Activity 3.1.1: To provide our mission statement, names of members, and chairman's e-mail address as the contact for our committee.

Goal 3.2: To offer to equip SS teachers and VBS teachers through e-mail and/or Sunday School teachers newsletter to circuit counselors.

Activity 3.2.1: To encourage circuit Sunday School teachers' rallies by sending information to each circuit counselor urging them to plan circuit-wide SS rallies with Parish Education acting as resource/support with ideas, materials, and presentations.

Activity 3.2.2: To offer assistance to VBS resources and training. (part of activity #1)

Goal 3.3: To help congregations to instill in their members the value of the LCMS in preaching the Word in its truth and purity and in the proper administration of the sacraments.

Activity 3.3.1: To provide informational materials to congregations via e-mail and MT District website as well as materials distributed at conferences.

Goal 3.4: To encourage congregations to have adequate physical and sexual abuse/misconduct policy in place, which apply to Sunday School teachers and anyone working with children. Also, the policy should include a statement requiring the congregation to report incidences to the President of the MT District and to encourage the congregations to audit and monitor the policy annually.

Activity 3.4.1: To provide a sample form and policy to the District Office that can be downloaded from the District website.

Campus Ministry

Objective 4: To study resolutions of the Synod and District Conventions to carry out duties relating to campus ministry.

Goal 4.1: In accordance with 2012 MT Res 2-04 and the general intent of the Campus Ministry Subcommittee, to survey existing campus ministry efforts throughout Montana and to encourage congregations situated near any campuses of higher education to engage in campus ministry.

Activity 4.1.1: The subcommittee will compile a database of university, college, business and technical campuses, residential and non-residential, within the geographical boundaries of the Montana District, with basic demographic information on the students in attendance (residential or non-residential; regions of origin; program length and on-campus time; etc.).

Activity 4.1.2: The subcommittee will contact at least annually, by e-mail or phone, pastors of congregations most nearly collocated with campuses: (1) to inquire as to campus ministry efforts ongoing; (2) to suggest these campuses as within the mission field of local congregations; (3) to commend appropriate materials and programs and to offer the support of the Campus Ministry Subcommittee in establishing or furthering any such work.

Goal 4.2: In accordance with 2012 MT Res 2-04, to investigate, within the 2013 triennium, the possibility of establishing “an on-site campus ministry at either or both of the Montana universities in Missoula and Bozeman,” and to report findings at the 2015 convention.

Activity 4.2.1: The Campus Ministry sub-chair will, in fall 2013, visit congregations and campuses in Missoula and Bozeman, as well as the campus in Dillon, to which the congregation in Ennis is considering outreach. He will assess ongoing campus ministry and opportunities on each campus, in consultation with the local congregations and the Missions and Evangelism Committee. The visits to Missoula and Bozeman, and other campuses where work might be established, will be planned annually through the 2013 triennium. As ministries develop, this visitation would be for the purpose of advice and encouragement.

Activity 4.2.2: So as not to neglect another major concentration of students and congregations in the Montana District, the Campus Ministry sub-chair will, in fall 2013, coordinate a visit with Billings area pastors to investigate and further campus outreach to the various campuses, residential and non-residential, located in the Billings area, with the intention of making this visit an annual event through the 2013 triennium.

Objective 5: To inform and encourage congregations in the use of God pleasing campus ministry programs by acting as a clearinghouse for synodical and other useful resources.

Goal 5.1: To connect congregations with information on synodical schools and LCMS campus ministries at secular institutions of higher education.

Activity 5.1.1: The subcommittee will evaluate communications from the Concordia University System and be ready to answer further questions from congregations and will make congregations aware of promotional materials available from the Concordia System.

Activity 5.1.2: The subcommittee will familiarize itself with LCMS campus ministries at secular institutions of higher education frequented by Montana District students and serve as a clearinghouse for congregations, pastors, parents, and students.

Goal 5.2: To facilitate campus ministry efforts by evaluating and commending materials and programs for campus ministry.

Activity 5.2.1: The subcommittee will remain in contact with LCMS-affiliated campus ministry groups (LCMS Campus Ministry, Higher Things, Lutheran Student Fellowship, etc.) and offer in annual communications with congregations to connect them with resources suited to their particular situations.

Activity 5.2.2: The subcommittee will, at its option, if possible, send a subcommittee member, or a member of the Montana District engaged in campus ministry, to the LCMS Campus Ministry Conference, to report back to the Montana District and its congregations engaged in campus ministry.

Activity 5.2.3: The subcommittee will, in consultation with campus ministries in Montana, subsidize catechetical books and materials for use in campus ministry efforts.

Objective 6: To develop and implement programs specific to campus ministry for the Montana District. (For example, assisting campus congregations in identifying Lutheran students on campus, and supporting and encouraging Lutheran students from the Montana District that are studying for full-time church work.)

Goal 6.1: To encourage pastors to connect students going off to college to LCMS congregations in their campus communities, and to encourage campus pastors to communicate with home pastors of affiliated students.

Activity 6.1.1: The subcommittee will continue to maintain the student reporting form on the district web site, and will annually publicize the need to report students by this, or other, means to campus pastors.

Goal 6.2: To encourage church work students from Montana District who are attending synodical colleges, universities, and seminaries.

Activity 6.2.1: The subcommittee will annually solicit names and e-mails from district congregations of member students in church work programs, and provide this list to the office of the District President for periodical encouraging e-mail communications.

Goal 6.3: To encourage the presentation of a biblical, confessional worldview on the campuses within the boundaries of the Montana District

Activity 6.3.1: The subcommittee will offer to subsidize an annual presentation or debate of topics addressed by the biblical, confessional worldview (doctrine of God, doctrine of Man, Creation, Bondage of the will, Theology of the cross, Sanctity of life, Church & State, etc.), geared toward college students, in Bozeman, Missoula, or Billings, to be hosted and publicized by a local congregation.

Activity 6.3.2: The subcommittee will, as it has opportunity, investigate, consolidate local reports on, and provide intelligence on other religious organizations active on campuses in the Montana District, to warn pastors of false preaching and teaching that competes on our campuses with the truth of God's word and with full communion in Christ Jesus.