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REPORT OF THE MEETING OF THE COMBINED SCHOOL TASK  
FORCES OF THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF ENGLEWOOD  
WITH THE ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO SCHOOL BOARD.  
APRIL 19, 1969

In January of 1969, when the parishes of Chicago were forming Task-Forces to study and evaluate their own parish school, the Catholic Community of Englewood formed a combined Task Force to share ideas and information about the eight Catholic schools in the Englewood Community. Two members from each task force of Saint Anne, Saint Bernard, Saint Brendan, Saint Carthage, Sacred Heart, Our Lady of Solace, Saint Raphael and Saint Martin parishes met together on a number of occasions. They began to realize that the uniqueness of our effort of inter-parish cooperation, and the possibilities it offered, were worthy of special consideration of the Archdiocesan School Board. At the March meeting of the Catholic Community of Englewood the combined Task Force was commissioned to seek such a meeting and present our case. We did have this meeting with the entire School Board on Saturday, April 19, 1969 and we are issuing this report to share with you the enthusiasm we generated and the encouragement we received.

The representatives presenting the case for the schools of the Catholic Community of Englewood were: Mr. Thomas Jacks (Chairman of the CCE Task Force) Mrs Lela Marshall, Mr George Murphy, Mrs Margaret Riley, Sr. Karen Van De Loop and Fr. Jack Farv. We first presented an idea of what the Catholic Community of Englewood is and what it has done. This was followed by a statistical report of the eight Englewood schools (number of students, teachers, classrooms). We did not shy away from the problem of the deficits but presented a report of what the individual parishes were doing right now to pay their bills, and what could possibly be done if all parishes cooperated on one or two big fund raising events a year. We presented an evaluation of our schools, the reasons why we feel our efforts are worthwhile, and the need for not closing any school in the Englewood Community. A report was made on what the future possibilities could be for eight schools working together, the possible sharing of talents and resources to increase the educational effectiveness of all the schools, the hiring of a coordinator of education who would study and offer suggestions to the individual schools. We expressed the hope that we could work together with them and that we could learn from each other.

The School Board was impressed, to say the least. They praised the Catholic Community of Englewood for its initiative and ideas. They said that our positive approach was 'refreshing', that our cooperative effort was a hopeful sign, and that the Catholic Community of Englewood might well be a model for other parishes in the city. They offered us encouragement and their help in future efforts. They also had many questions because some of the ideas we presented were new and they were interested in hearing more. All in all, our meeting lasted an hour and fifteen minutes. We thanked them for listening. They thanked us for coming. After the meeting, individual members came up to us and offered their personal encouragement and approval. We congratulated ourselves too and decided to issue this report that you too might be encouraged.

If you have comments, questions or suggestions please call:  
Mr. Thomas Jacks 487-0486 Mr. George Murphy WA 5 1113 Fr. Farv TR 3 4464

## Document

Pope Paul warned a group of teaching nuns from all parts of the world.

"Do not let yourselves be led astray by the deceptive voices of innovation that are not always good or proven. Modernity is yes but not definitely. Stay from the balanced preservation of those things which form the essence of religious life."

In the Decree on the Appropriate Renewal of Religious Life # 17 we read "Since the signs of a consecrated life, religious habits should be simple and modest at once poor and becoming."

Those who want to make their habit, make it simple. They want to be like the world. Right to go back to world. P. + E. people say we are in the world.