

## **19.2 REPORT 1: DEPUTIES CHRISTIAN EDUCATION – WEBSITE, INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION (Art 137)**

- A. Dr DJ de Kock tables the Report.
- B. The Report will be concluded during the Synod session.

### **C. REPORT**

#### **1. Mandate**

- 1.1 Maintain the Deputies Christian Education website with funds made available by the Synod (Acta 2012:217, 3.1).
- 1.2 Deputies to update churches and members on existing and new information relevant to Christian Education. Deputies are instructed to use appropriate, innovative ways to convey the information, including the CE webpage, letters, articles and electronic resources (Acta 2012:217, 3.2).
- 1.3 The existing database with names of Reformed teachers must be maintained in order to pass on relevant information on Christian education (Acta 2012:217, 3.3).
- 1.4 Church Councils are called upon to encourage members to make themselves eligible for election, and to participate in the election process of governing bodies at schools (Acta 2012:218, 3.4).
- 1.5 Church Councils are called upon to encourage Christian youths to equip themselves as Christian educators. Herein organizations like Aros and the NWU can be invaluable (Acta 2012:218, 3.5).
- 1.6 Church Councils are called upon to promote Christian values and ethical behaviour in communities through their own initiatives, so that teaching it in schools can be more effective (Acta 2012:218, 3.6).
- 1.7 Church Councils are called upon to support schools, governing bodies and teachers locally by determining what further assistance may be given to the schools within their congregation's boundaries (Acta 2012:218, 3.7).

**Decision: Points 1.1 to 1.7 noted.**

#### **2. Matters that the Synod take note of**

- 2.1 The Deputies attempted to activate the website by contacting previous webmasters namely dr HF van Wyk, mrs Anneke van der Walt and mr Pierre Joubert.
- 2.2 In liaising with the previous web masters, previous data could not be located.
- 2.3 A CD was obtained from Mari Kristen who works at ARSO. The CD consists of data on ARSO schools, meetings and other activities.
- 2.4 Your Deputies decided not to implement a separate CE website.
- 2.5 The Deputies have again put the website into operation in collaboration with dr Wymie du Plessis and mrs Anneke van der Walt at the GKSA Administrative Bureau. It therefore forms part of the GKSA webpage.
- 2.6 At this stage there are no costs associated with the webpage for Christian Education.
- 2.7 Your Deputies are busy compiling a database with names of Christian educators from anew.
- 2.8 The format for the database of Christian teachers has been sent by the Administrative Manager of the GKSA to all churches in the GKSA so that it can be compiled again.
- 2.9 Churches have already begun to provide data with names of Christian educators, teachers and retired teachers.

2.10 Your Deputies liaise with the Church Councils to make known information and the use of the webpage. The letter also acts on the instructions contained in 1.2-1.7.

**Decision: Points 2.1 to 2.10 noted.**

### **3. Matters that the Synod decide on**

#### Recommendations

- 3.1 The Deputies continue to work together with the GKSA website, to maintain the CE Deputies section of the website.
- 3.2 The Deputies consider anew what the purpose of this database of Christian educators should be. New initiatives can be taken to achieve the overall goal of the CE deputies.
- 3.3 Deputies update the congregations and members on existing and new information relevant to Christian Education.
- 3.4 Church Councils are called upon:
  - 3.4.1 to encourage members to make themselves eligible for election, and to participate in the election process of governing bodies at schools.
  - 3.4.2 to encourage Christian youths to equip themselves as Christian educators. Herein organizations like Aros and the NWU can be invaluable.
  - 3.4.3 to promote Christian values and ethical behaviour in communities through their own initiatives, so that teaching it in schools can be more effective
  - 3.4.4 to support schools, governing bodies and teachers locally by determining what further assistance may be given to the schools within their congregation's boundaries.

**Decision: Points 3.1 to 3.4.4 approved.**