

New Haven Teachers Association/CTA/NEA

Representative Council Meeting

Wednesday, February 4th, 2009

I. Call to Order Charmaine Kawaguchi, president

4:03pm

II. Additions to the Agenda

- A. *Motion:* Adopt the Agenda. Addition: "Letter of Intent" next to the "Temps" section, VII.A.4. Moved: Vince Rosato, seconded: Pace Lash, all in favor.

III. Approval of the Minutes Jennifer Carini

- A. *Motion:* Approve the Minutes of January 7th, 2009. Moved: Pace Lash, seconded: Penny Johnson, all in favor.

IV. NHTA Executive Director Sam DeHaven

CTA region staff have been dealing with the state budget. We have a meeting here on the 19th Alberto Torrico. We are working with other locals (Fremont/Newark/Oakland) to get petitions about not having CSR cut. In Sacramento, the leaders are meeting in secret with the governor; they don't want things being leaked out because the assembly members don't want to be pressured. Teachers and community members are calling their legislators, and it is having an impact. We are NOT going to like the budget, it will not be enough, we will be opposed to it.

Hayward update...district wants to eliminate high school block schedule, this eliminates ¼ of high school options, band and art kids are up in arms about this, also they are talking about eliminating CSR, a demonstration will be coming up before 2/11 (their next board meeting).

V. Information/Action Items Charmaine Kawaguchi

- A. State Budget Update – Rich Boyd CTA NODD Specialist

What is NHTA doing:

Dec. - inform staffs, talk to five people

Jan. - fliers, phone calls

Feb. - legislator meetings, walk and talk

School board voted unanimously on the resolution to withhold monies from legislators when they are not passing a budget. The school board has requested community input as to what should be saved/cut. Charmaine is helping run the meeting at the ESC next Tuesday and will direct the community's anger towards the state

B. State Budget Crisis Activities Phase 2 –

Walk and talk activity. Wednesday 2/18/09. Have teams take a digital camera with them and document their adventure.

VI. School Reports

Copies: DON'T MASK THE PROBLEM DURING FEBRUARY

AE: reaching toner/copy crisis, copies have been cut off. A meeting is being scheduled for tomorrow.

EAS: admin classroom visits, what is the new directive (2 hours per day), how is the time supposed to be divided up (K-1 visited twice a week, upper grades maybe once a month), they don't HAVE to be there 2 hours per day, it is just a suggestion, if they are there they should be helping kids, not just sitting with a clipboard, the time should be equally distributed between teachers, please gather data. 2 classrooms with 21 students. Their PTC has had a flurry of emails and have been advertising about the Tuesday meeting. RSP teacher – concerned about inequity about where he is on what days. Carol Rhode has promised to redistribute the people.

EM: no more docutech. 2 kinders are at 21. Upper grade teachers have changed their recess time to the end of the day at 1:45pm, it is OK with the contract. Temp teachers have questions about sick days if they are let go...the sick days will go with them. Sick days follow you as long as you don't retire from education.

HVC: monthly consult has been delayed, so issues will be brought up next month if necessary

KIT: kinder teachers are not getting their aides all of the time, Seth has filed the grievance for this

PIO: no more docutech, pressure to align curriculum by grade level, other schools are having this pressure as well, will probably take this to SBDM, staff meetings – no time for discussion, homework – letter going home in 2nd grade about no more photocopied homework, were given permission to photocopy/docutech Writing Workshop materials only.

SEA: there was a parent staying in the classroom all day/intimidation/no 24-hour notice – the principal put up the policy, it has helped the situation – the principal should set time-limits (short time-limits) – attempting to have a monthly SBDM meeting

AMS: once numbers run out you're done, dept. head and John have to sign off on all docutech,

CCMS: copies are still a go, docutech a go, Charmaine has been asked to have a message on the automatic dialer about the walk and talk by the principal

CCHS: got 40 – 50 new students from Logan last week, have received a teacher schedule, working on getting a supervision schedule, teachers would like to plan community service activities with students on the weekends

LOG: copies are a go, docutech a go, same old mess, GroupWise stinks,

VII. Officer Reports

A. President Charmaine Kawaguchi

1. Grievances and arbitrations - 3 items going to arbitration, 1 grievance in motion at Kitayama
2. Retiree Trust Fund Update – one account had a 45% reduction, the year-end statements are depressing, at the current decline we have 5 years left instead of 10
3. School Board/Community Outreach – movers and shakers coming in to meet Ellen Corbett and Alberto Torrico
4. Temps. – will all be noticed before our next meeting. Our temps are very important and valuable in our system. Do outreach to your temps, let them know this is a standard procedure and that it is not personal. Perhaps your site could organize a snack day or something on 3/3/09. An official letter will come before 3/15, but the board will act on it on 3/3/09. ALL temps will be released, and depending on what the state does, it will be a very hard time for our temps. We don't know at this time if there will be RIF's. Derek and Charmaine talked about it last night, Derek talked with the attorney about it today, it depends on how cautious the new superintendent is, on whether the worse case scenario would happen. If there are RIF's, Charmaine will know ahead of time. At 3/3 board meeting, the teachers will be notified that they will be laid off. There is paperwork that we will have to get to them, that will have to be sent to the district and back, etc. Charmaine thinks she can convince Derek that it is unnecessary. 5/15 is the actual action of the RIF notice. Charmaine will be working for the next 2 weeks to see if we can avoid this. RIF's have rules about hiring back, on a hiring back list for 39 months, can collect unemployment.

Letter of Intent – are in our boxes. Tell your staff: these are non-binding notifications so the district can do its staffing for next year. Since we're in a crisis that we may have RIF's, please tell the district if you're planning to retire, move, leave, or stay. The Letter of Intent is NOT binding.
5. Website Review – scholarships that are being offered by CTA are due this week,

B. Vice-President

Pace Lash

Flyer for mailboxes, with call numbers for state legislators, and also for the retiree dinner

C. Treasurer Jeff Ustick

We finally came to an agreement as to what Charmaine's release is. Because we have no interns this year, her cost was \$8000 higher than last year. The *Motion*: to approve the Treasurer's report. Moved: Jen Nemecek, seconded: Vince Rosato, all in favor.

VIII. Committee Reports

A. Contract Tidbit Rodana Breen

Full Day Kinder letter – was designed to bring back all the things that couldn't be done in a ½ day program. Currently, HVC, AE, and KIT are in their 1st year of full day kinder, and PIO is in their 2nd year.

B. NEA RA Election Timeline David Cole

The timeline for the local elections is in the packet. David is the new Election chairperson, and Sonia Wong and Karen Lance are the members. Charmaine thanked David for doing this, because Vince, who was the chair, plans to run in all of the upcoming elections. *Motion*: to approve the Election Timeline. Moved: Pace Lash, seconded: Penny Johnson, all in favor.

C. State Council Report Paul Stickland/Charmaine Kawaguchi

Held over until next month

XI. Announcements

FUDTA is offering a free conference, the deadline is this Friday.

XII. Adjournment

Motion: to adjourn at 6:28pm. Moved: Jen Nemecek, seconded: Pace Lash, all in favor.

Respectfully,

Jennifer Carini

NHTA Secretary