

New Haven Teachers Association/CTA/NEA

Representative Council Meeting

Wednesday, March 4th, 2009

I. Call to Order Charmaine Kawaguchi, president

4:03 pm

II. Additions to the Agenda

- A. *Motion:* Adopt the Agenda. Moved: Pace Lash, seconded: Rodana Breen, all in favor.

III. Approval of the Minutes Jennifer Carini

- A. *Motion:* Approve the Minutes of February 4th, 2009. Moved: Pace Lash, seconded: Jen Nemecek, all in favor.

IV. NHTA Executive Director Sam DeHaven

Sam presented a PowerPoint report on the budget for 2009 – 2010 and 2010-2011. There are revenue increases and cuts. The state is still likely to run out of money even though this is passed, because it took them so long to pass this budget. The revenue part is based on 5 initiatives passing on the May 19th special election. All of them must pass. If not, there will be more cuts!

New Haven impact: the board meeting was moved from last night to next week, to make sure they didn't make a rash decision. So, at least the district the district was being cautious. Also, Charmaine asked them to make the worst cuts in 2010 – 2011 so that we have time to deal with it. For this year – 8.5 counselors are being released. We will still have 17 counselors. We are applying for an elementary counselor grant, if we get it we can bring back some of the counselors. The D.O. didn't want to just release these counselors, so they will be laid off rather than released, giving them rehiring rights. There will be NO TEACHER layoffs. Prob 1's and 2's and permanent employees will be coming back next year. The Superintendent has been very responsive to Charmaine's requests.

V. Information/Action Items Charmaine Kawaguchi

- A. State Budget Update – Rich Boyd CTA NODD Specialist – See Sam's report above

- B. State Budget Crisis Activities – Pink Friday – Pace Lash

Walk and talk – the videos are on the Pink Friday website (Jerri, Sara, and Patsy) – there are PINK fliers for teachers' mailboxes, leaflet in the morning or afternoon, there are stickers, wear pink all days, we can get picket signs for our site if we want, estimated 18,000 teachers laid off statewide. We will

be asking EVERYONE to join us on Pink Friday. The leaflets are being translated right now, they will be in pink. The leaflets ask parents to wear pink. Since they will already be on their way to work, we will have pink stickers for them. Each school will get 500 leaflets and 200 stickers. Please join the “pink” website and include a story.

- C. NCLB – ESCA reauthorization information – more schools are failing AYP in more states than in previous years.

VI. School Reports

AE: nothing

EAS: 2 hours of observations per day/the principal feels that she must do this (rather than a guideline) – last month’s tracking wasn’t typical of the complaints. K and 1st were more like the rest of the grade levels. Now it is back to what they were accustomed to. Charmaine suggests putting the calendars back up. Report cards were supposed to be turned in to the office early, according to the principal. Charmaine: they do not have to be turned in a day early because the principal wants to look at them. Charmaine requests that Eastin cc’s Charmaine and the Superintendent on emails, to help show that things are not going well. The district office seems to think things are all going fine. Have been asked to have an early release times election – other elementary sites have been asked this as well.

EM: not here

HVC: substantial issues about expectations and school climate – they are working very hard for a resolution. They were having concerns about the American Fidelity representatives; one was bad mouthing The Standard. Wacky Wednesday did not pass at 80%.

KIT: calling in for a half-day sub with plenty of time, the person’s class was farmed out instead, so all their plans were scrapped. They called again and were told that they didn’t even staff half-day subs until the full-day subs are done. Kinders without bathrooms are having a lot of accidents still.

PIO: alignment concerns

SEA: Wacky Wednesday is not a popular idea. A student was supposed to be seen by an occupational therapist once a week, hadn’t been seen since January, the principal met with the therapist and now the child is being seen. Speech students are not always being given appropriate hours.

AMS: Wacky Wednesday was brought to them, not going to do anything with it until CCMS says something. Department heads do not “have duties as assigned.”

CCMS: ongoing mold situation, Wacky Wednesday is not popular, band room was checked for mold,

CCHS: not here

LOG: benchmark stuff is annoying – Algebra people are supposed to work on the benchmark, but now there’s no CL2, and now they’re supposed to be in a certain format when it was supposed to be determined by them – just do the benchmarks that make sense to your curriculum.

VII. Officer Reports

A. President Charmaine Kawaguchi

1. Grievances and arbitrations - 3 items to arbitration, 1 grievance at KIT about kinder paras
2. Retiree Trust Fund Update – 1/30/09 balance was \$2.592 million. In Dec. '07, it was \$3.976 million.
3. School Board/Community Outreach – Charmaine is proud of us, walk and talk, parent meeting at district office, the parents are riled up, there will be a parent meeting, they want a parcel tax because they don’t want to rely on Sacramento -
4. Temps/Layoffs –not ALL the temps will be released, some will get to go around again and be promoted to probationary, a few will keep their jobs, Charmaine is hoping these people will know before Tuesday. This is a legal technicality, not that some teachers are being chosen over others.
5. CTA Human Rights Award – Paul Stickland has awarded a CTA Human Rights Award the presentation luncheon will be in San Jose.
6. WHO Award – Rodana Breen is the NHTA WHO Award recipient.
7. Retirement and Recognition Dinner – May 29th -
8. Website Review – it has Sara’s video and some other cool things.

B. Vice-President Pace Lash

C. Treasurer Jeff Ustick

Motion: to direct Charmaine and Paul to vote in favor of the state propositions at the upcoming CTA council. Moved: Jeff Ustick, seconded: Pace Lash, all in favor.

Motion: to approve the Treasurer’s report. Moved: Jennifer Carini, seconded: Pace Lash, all in favor.

VIII. Committee Reports

A. Contract Tidbit Rodana Breen

Rodana passes to Charmaine. Buy-back days: are on the cut list.

Members stated that the most important thing in our last bargaining: health care is paid for. We knew things would be bad this year. We wanted a multi-year deal. We knew the district had enough \$\$ to pay for the health care increase this year. If there were 2 bad years in a row, they might not have enough \$\$ to pay the health care increase, so then the district could ask for the buy-back days back. We will still have the June 15th buy back day. We will have to see what the monies look like for next year if the conditions are not met in the contract then the buy back days will still be on for next year.

B. NEA RA Election reminder

David Cole

Encourage site members to turn in their ballots. They are due to the NHTA office by 3/11. Ballots will be counted on 3/12 in the evening. They can also be delivered by hand to the NHTA office. They should be mailed this weekend in order to make sure they are here in time.

XI. Announcements

XII. Adjournment

Move to adjourn at 5:53pm. Moved: Pace Lash, seconded: Jeff Ustick, all in favor.

Respectfully,

Jennifer Carini

NHTA Secretary