

Executive Council Minutes
Open Session
November 26, 2007

Officers present: President Marc Houle, 1st Vice President Bob Ruark, 2nd Vice President Terri Jo McNaul, Communications Secretary Naomi Lukaszewski, Treasurer Kelly Logan, 6-12 Director Candy Smiley, K-5 Director Karen Wusthoff

Reps: D. Thompson, ABES

Meeting called to order: 4:10 p.m.

Handouts: Letter from Syracuse Teachers' Association

Building Teacher Leadership

DRAFT: Strategic Planning Meeting Agenda

Agenda: PFT Calendar

Strategic Plan

Teacher leadership

Fire Relief Fund

Labor Issues-Confidential Session

SPED testing- Confidential Session

I. Minutes

A. November 5 Executive Council Meeting approved with amendments.

B. November 8 Representative Council Meeting approved with amendments.

II. PFT Calendar

A. Election Timeline

1. November 28: Petitions for candidacy for office due

2. December 3: Ballot statements due

a. Arguments for/against proposed amendments

b. Candidate statements

3. December 4: All ballot statements due to Becky Kealy, PFT Administrative Assistant for formatting and printing.

4. December 7-10: Distribute ballot to sites

5. December 11-12: Elections held

6. December 13: Final vote tallies due to PFT Office.

III. Strategic Planning Meeting-see *handout*

A. Last Strategic Planning Meeting in 2002

1. Resulted in Focused Literacy Goals

B. Meeting on Tuesday, November 27, 2007

1. Revisiting, refining previous work

2. Common understanding of "college readiness"

IV. Teacher Leadership-see *handout*

A. Beginning to build capacity

1. Teacher voice included in Strategic Planning

B. Continue to explore ways to build capacity

1. Leadership not limited to management/administrative positions

V. Fire Relief Fund-see *handout*

A. Letter from Syracuse Teachers' Association (STA)

1. President, Kate McKenna a.k.a Mrs. Don Raczka

a. STA has donated \$3400 to PFT for teacher fire victims.

Discussion: How to distribute money equitably?

- Use AFT relief application as a template.
- The Poway fund is being divided equally, do we do the same?
- We have about 30 teachers who were affected. That would be only about \$100 per person.

- \$100 is still something. Lots of people are waiting on insurance checks and have immediate needs like clothing.
- If we do it according to the amount of loss we would need to define “significant loss”.
- We also need to know exactly how many teachers were affected.
- Let’s get that list from Bill Chiment, then send out the applications and then distribute the money according to who applies.
- Should it be to members only?
- This money was donated by union members. I think it should go to union members. What does the council think? (*Nods in agreement*).

Consensus: Money donated to PFT for teachers who experienced loss due to the recent wildfires should be distributed to members since the money was donated by union members to aid their fellows.

B. Application timeline

1. E-mail will go out on Wednesday, November 28 to all eligible teachers
2. Applications due by December 7.
 - a. Money will be distributed to all who apply by December 7.

Open Session closed. Confidential Session opened: 4:50 p.m.

Confidential Session closed. Open Session resumed: 5:50 p.m.

VI. Restructuring

- A. Change amendment wording from “school days” to “contracted work days”.
 1. This would avoid confusion over professional growth days and other non-student days.
- B. Change “90 days” to “94 days”.
 1. 94 days is half the contracted work days.

Meeting adjourned: 6:10 p.m.

Next meeting: December 3, 2007

Submitted by Naomi Lukaszewski, PFT Secretary