

Executive Council Minutes
Open Session
August 20, 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: None

Meeting called to order: 4:05 p.m.

Prior to the call to order, C. Smiley received feedback from the 2nd Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary on the August 16-17 Professional Growth Day. Comments were mixed. It was felt that there was not enough time given to the teachers to process the new information on the first day and that the Write Source Reps were not necessary.

Handouts: Workstream Evaluation data
Liability Insurance Premium quotes

Agenda: Office manager's Salary
Friends of Education Donation
Liability Insurance
Chamber of Commerce Membership
SPED Conference
Restructure Update
Workstream Evaluation data
Staffing
Health and Welfare
PPAP
Meeting Calendar

I. Minutes

Secretary's Note: Since this was the first meeting of the new school year, there were no minutes to approve.

II. Friends of Education/Partners in Education Donation

A. PFT President has been approached by School Board Member to make a contribution to the District Educational Foundation.

1. \$2000 is suggested amount

a. Money will go toward purchasing science kits for K-5 students.

B. Money can come from COPE (Committee On Political Education) since PFT was approached by an elected representative.

1. Requests and suggestions from elected officials; representatives can be considered "political action".

a. COPE fund covers political action.

b. Hudson reports document time spent on political action that can be charged to COPE.

2. COPE currently has about \$31,000.

a. 2007 is not a local election year. Spending on political action will be low.

Motion made by TJ McNaul to contribute \$2000 to the Partners in Education toward the purchase of K-5 science kits.

2nd: K. Logan.

No discussion. All in favor. None opposed.

III. Liability Insurance-*see handout*

- A. PFT carried liability insurance to cover accidents within the rented office space.
 - 1. PFT was billed without discussion by current carrier, Mt. Vernon Fire & U. S. Liability Group.
 - 2. PFT President decided to investigate alternate companies, quotes.
- B. After consideration, the PFT President decided to switch coverage to Burns & Wilcox Ltd., effective July 24, 2007.
 - 1. Burns & Wilcox offered increased coverage for an annual premium that was approximately \$1600 less than Mt. Vernon and U.S. Liability.

IV. Chamber of Commerce Membership

- A. Membership allowed to lapse after 2005 special election (Propositions 74, 75, 76)
 - 1. Chamber of Commerce supported propositions without getting information from PFT.

Discussion: Should we renew the membership?

- Can we pay for it out of COPE?
 - It's not representing—we could. I would have to check with the CFT Treasurer.
 - I think it's good to be involved in the community.
 - How much is it?
 - \$213 for the year.
 - Let's do it.
- B. PFT President Houle will check whether or not membership fee can be paid out of COPE before final decision will be made regarding membership.

V. SPED Conference

- A. Dave Thompson, Adobe Bluff Rep and member of CFT Special Ed Committee has requested funds to attend a conference in Sacramento.
 - 1. Conference is sponsored by Commission on Teacher Credentialing.
 - a. Conference will address Special Ed Credentialing issues in California and NCLB impact.
 - 2. D. Thompson will be providing input with data from PUSD.
 - a. Wendy-Smith Rogers, Executive Director will assist with gathering info.
 - 3. Conference is one day.
 - a. Cost would include plane fare and lunch.
 - i) about \$250-\$300

Motion made by M. Houle to authorize a maximum of \$300 to cover plane fare and lunch for Dave Thompson to attend the Commission on Teacher Credentialing conference to address Special Ed credentialing issues in Sacramento on September 12, 2007.

2nd: K. Logan

Discussion:

- This is an issue that needs to be looked at, especially in light of the fact that NCLB requires Special Ed teachers to be Highly Qualified in every area they teach.
- Is anyone else going to attend? Maybe more than one person should go so we can get all the info.
- It's a one agenda conference. There won't be a need for more than one person.
- This is also a good opportunity to build positive Special Ed connections.

All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.

VI. Restructure Update

- A. At last meeting, committee seemed to have consensus on configuration.
- B. Points still under consideration:
 - 1. Election timeline
 - a. Possibly incorporate transitional overlap between elections and taking office.
 - b. Committee suggested May elections for all officers.
 - 2. Transition between incumbent officers and officers-elect.

a. If elections follow the calendar year, a President-elect would need to leave class mid-year.

3. Negotiations

a. Do we want new officers could take office in the middle of negotiations?

C. Need feedback from reps.

1. Reps should be part of final decision.

D. R. Ruark will write questions for Reps to consider regarding restructuring and meet with

K. Wusthoff to finalize restructuring timeline and job descriptions.

a. Reps need to have a focus for discussion.

VII. Workstream Evaluations-see *handout*

A. Survey regarding PFT progress on workstreams completed by Reps at June 2007 meeting.

1. Generally favorable.

2. Data indicates PFT needs to increase focus on Teacher Time and Site Leadership negotiations.

B. Childcare for Rep meetings

1. Need to increase number of care givers.

a. Number of children have increased to 9 on some occasions.

b. Age of children ranges from 2-10.

2. N. Lukaszewski will ask Reps to RSVP regarding childcare need in order to determine how many sitters are needed.

C. Communication

Discussion: Should we send out a hard copy newsletter?

- I think we should change to a paper flyer to ensure people are getting their info. I think a lot of people are simply deleting our e-mails.
- The people who delete the e-mails without reading them are going to throw a flyer on a pile of papers or in the trash.
- What about a monthly newsletter?
- On paper or electronically?
- Don used to send the E-Bulletins.
- That got dropped because we were all in a learning curve this year.
- Should we resume it?
- I don't think we need to do anything. Look at the survey. Our focus on communication is highly favorable. Only one person said it needed more focus.
 1. Communication will remain largely electronic unless reps or a majority of the membership indicate otherwise.

VIII. Staffing

A. Additional PPAP consultant added.

B. PPAP will begin consulting preschool teachers.

1. There is a special need for consultants for new SPED preschool teachers.

a. SPED preschool teachers new to the profession need mentoring through the IEP process and managing parents who may be anxious about their special needs child's first school experience.

5:00 Open Session closed. Confidential Session opened.

5:10 Confidential Session closed. Open Session resumed.

IX. PDAB: Professional Development Advisory Board

A. MOU being reworked.

1. Originally PFT President and Assistant Superintendent oversaw Board's operations.

a. Having the President and Assistant Superintendent has become superfluous.

2. MOU will be written without their participation as a requirement.

X. Meeting Calendar

A. February Rep meeting moved to Wednesday, February 13 to avoid meeting on Valentine's Day.

B. Executive Council Meeting Calendar

All Executive Council meetings are held in the Hoffa Room of the PFT Offices unless otherwise indicated.

1. August 27
2. September 4: This is a Tuesday meeting due to the Labor Day Holiday
3. September 10: No meeting, Site Visits.
4. September 17, 24
5. October 1: No meeting, Site Visits.
6. October 8,15,22,29
7. Nov 5. 26
 - a. November 12: Veterans' Day Holiday
 - b. November 19-23: Thanksgiving Break
8. December 3, 10
9. December 17: Site visits

After this meeting, Executive Council and Representative Council Meeting dates in September were changed to accommodate Back to School Nights at the sites. The revision will be reflected in the next meetings' minutes. The corrected meeting dates will be included in the informational e-mail sent to Reps.

Meeting adjourned: 5:25 p.m.

Next meeting: August 27, 2007

Submitted by Naomi Lukaszewski, PFT Secretary