

Rep Council Minutes
November 8, 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

School & Members Represented:

High Schools New Direction	Middle Schools	Elementary Schools and PPAP			
RBHS	BHMS	AB	HR	PV	SR
N. DIR	BMMS	CHAP	LP	RH	TB
	MBMS	CRKS	MID	SCRK	TBCK
	MVMS	CV	MCRK	SD	VAL
	TPMS	DC	MR	SH	WW
		GR	PR		

Handouts: Agenda with attachments

Prop. 92 flyer

Call to order: 4:00 p.m.

I. Open Items

- A. Elementary Representatives Advisory Meeting
 - 1. Elementary site reps met to discuss teacher time and professional growth.
- B. State Budget
 - 1. Affective Factors
 - a. Housing sales are down due to failure of sub-prime mortgages.
 - b. Sales tax revenue is down.
 - c. Personal income tax revenue is predicted to go down.
- C. Katrina presentation has been moved to December Rep Meeting.

II. PFT Budget-K. Logan, agenda attachment 1

- A. Budget posted monthly on PFT website, presented quarterly to the Rep Council.
- B. Line 4480: New equipment
 - 1. Old laptop sold and proceeds used toward purchase of new laptop.
 - 2. Reconditioned desktop purchased and set up in Hoffa room.
 - a. Designated for general teacher access during in-services, meetings, etc.
 - b. Keeps PFT computers protected from accidental file damage.
 - 3. Total cost of both computers: \$1067.72

III. Fire Recovery-C. Smiley, agenda attachment 2

- A. PFT/AFT Fire Fund and San Diego Labor Council Fire Fund
 - 1. If you have a staff member who experienced property loss or damage during the recent wildfires, please contact them personally with this information.
 - 2. Both funds can be accessed by union members.
 - a. AFT is for teachers only.
 - b. SD Labor Council needs signature from either Director or the PFT President.

IV. New Bond Initiative & Prop. 92-M. Houle

- A. \$10 Starbucks card to F. Wilkerson, DCES for closest estimate of available COPE (Committee on Political Education) funds.
 - 1. COPE currently has \$20, 175.
- B. Current Bond (Prop. U)
 - 1. Bond money was for schools not in a Mello-Roos area.
 - a. Mello Roos was created in early 1980's as a means of funding community improvement.
 - 2. Parts of Poway Unified are in a Mello-Roos area but others are not.

- a. Created inequitable funding for updating and refurbishing schools.
- 3. Since passage of last bond, interest rates have declined while construction costs have increased.
- C. PFT Leadership proposes spending \$10,000 of COPE funds to support new bond measure.
 - 1. No other pressing election issues at this time.

Discussion:

- What does COPE take in?
- About \$1760 a month. Not everyone pays COPE. It is completely voluntary and members need to “opt-in”. They check off a box when they sign up.
- What is the number of the proposition?
- We don’t know yet.
- I live in Los Penasquitos but when I get my property tax bill it shows that I am paying toward a bond for San Diego Unified. Why is that? Who do I ask about this?
- You would need to contact either the city or county tax collector. I’m not sure what his name is.
- City boundaries and school district boundaries are also determined separately.

Motion made by J. Van Horne to spend \$10,000 from COPE funds in support of the new bond measure.

2nd: L. Crow

All in favor. None opposed. No further discussion. Motion carried.

C. Prop 92

- 1. Will be placed before voters at the February primary ballot.
- 2. Provides for student fee reduction, a funding formula, and appropriate governance at the community college level.

V. NCLB--M. Houle *see agenda attachment 4*

- A. Talking points to inform staff, parents and other stakeholders.
 - 1. Listing of flaws and suggested solutions
 - 2. At this time it appears that NCLB will not be renewed under the current administration.

VI. PFT Election Timeline-C. Smiley, *agenda attachment 5*

- A. Although there is a restructuring proposal currently being examined, established procedure needs to be followed until restructuring is voted upon.
- B. E-mail notice for candidate applications will be sent out via e-mail.
 - 1. Caveat will be attached: If restructuring is approved, officers elected in December may need to run for office again in May.
- C. Petitions for office need to be turned into PFT Office by November 30.
 - 1. Elections will be held December 11th & 12th.
- Let’s move that date to November 28 so that there is some time for candidate statements.
 - 2. Petitions for office due on November 28.

VII. Restructuring-K. Wusthoff, *agenda attachment 6*

- A. Today’s votes are advisory.
 - 1. General membership will have final vote on proposals. Today’s votes are to determine whether or not to endorse a course of action.
- B. PFT Presidential Succession

PFT Presidential Succession	
Current Constitution Language	Proposed Amendment
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the event that the President cannot finish his/her term in officer, the current 1st Vice President would become President for the remainder of the term. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Executive Council appoints interim President. • Appointment is ratified by Representative Council by vote of 50% +1. • Interim President serves until Special Election.

Questions & Comments:

- Can [the interim president] be anyone?
- It has to be a member in good standing.

Motion by G. Murphy to endorse the proposed amendment to the PFT Constitution regarding Presidential Succession.

2nd: F. Wilkerson

Discussion:

- So, instead of getting someone qualified for the job we could be getting anyone?
- The Executive Council would appoint the interim president, who would be ratified by the Representative Council. However, [any member in good standing] can choose to run for president in the following special election.
- Can a retiree be appointed? We could call someone back.
- No. A retiree is no longer a member in good standing.
- What if we need a new president 2 months before the end of term? We could potentially have a special election and then a week later have the regular election.
- We could change the proposal so the wording includes a timeline so that maybe if the interim is appointed less than 80 days before the next regular election he would just serve the remainder of the term.

Voting on the motion was held while the 1st Vice President rewrote the proposed amendment to include a timeline.

C. Nominating Committee

Nominating Committee Duties	
Current Constitution Language	Proposed Amendment
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Select and endorse a slate of officers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If no candidates apply for nomination, select qualified persons to run for office

Questions & Comments:

None submitted .

Motion by T. Blichfeldt to endorse the proposed amendment to the PFT Constitution regarding the Nominating Committee.

2nd: L. Richards

All in favor. None opposed. No discussion. Motion carried.

D. Election Timeline

Election Timeline	
Current Constitution Language	Proposed Amendment
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Representatives and Officers elected yearly in December. • President elected every two years in May. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Representatives and Officers elected yearly in May. • President elected every two years in May.

Questions & Comments:

- When would the new officers take office? June?
- The Restructuring committee thought it would be best for the new officers to take office on the first day of the new school year. This would give them time to get up to speed and the outgoing officers could wrap up any business.
- So the new officers would start the first day of school in August.

Motion by C. Boone to amend the proposal to include the following: “Representatives and Officers elected in May will take office on the first day of school in August of the following school year.”

2nd: F. Wilkerson

All in favor. None opposed. No discussion. Motion carried.

E. Voting Procedures for Reconfigured Executive Council

1. Need to discuss voting procedures before motions on endorsing proposals can be entertained.

Voting Procedure Options			
Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Option 4
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SPED only votes for SPED and level vice presidents. • General Ed would vote for levels, Elementary votes for Elementary VP, etc. • SPED teachers have 2 votes. • Ex: SPED elementary teacher would vote for SPED VP and Elementary VP. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All SPED vote for SPED VP only. Levels vote for level VPs only. • SPED teachers and General Ed teachers have one vote. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SPED and General Ed teachers vote for SPED VP and level VPs. • SPED and General Ed teachers have 2 votes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All teachers cast votes for all candidates for VP. • “At Large”
Straw Poll: Which option do [the reps] favor? By show of hands--			
0	15	4	8

Discussion:

- Option 1 is eliminated.
- Doesn't option 3 water down the SPED votes? If we have only 230 SPED teachers in the district, then allowing other teachers to vote for the SPED Vice President dilutes their ability to choose who is going to represent them.
- It waters down all the votes. Every level should vote for their own level and SPED should vote for SPED. I know my site feels very strongly that they do not want someone outside their level having a say in who represents them.
- The Vice Presidents are going to make decisions that affect all the teachers but that doesn't mean all the teachers should vote for them because the whole reason for having a Vice President from each level is to provide perspective so that council can see how a decision would affect all the levels. They are not going to be there to push agendas specific to each grade level or SPED agendas, they primarily will be providing perspective.
- Does the Executive Council vote?
- Yes.
- Then SPED has a disproportionate vote. 230 teachers have a specific rep on the Executive Council who casts a vote that affects all the other teachers.
- As secretary, I can tell you I have recorded a vote by the council once, maybe twice. The majority of decisions are reached by consensus. It is rare when we vote.
- But you still vote and that needs to be considered.
- Half of the officers are elected at-large. When you are elected to the Executive Council you have to change your thinking to a global perspective. The vice presidents need to function as knowledgeable representatives.
- Levels should have the ability to vote and determine their own representation. One level should not be able to impact another level's voice.

Motion by G. Strachan to vote on the voting procedure by which the Vice Presidents will be elected if the proposed reconfiguration is approved. (Call the question.)

2nd: D. Becker.

No opposition to voting.

Voting Procedure			
Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Option 4
XXX	31	0	5

Motion by G. Strachan to endorse Option 2, SPED votes solely for the SPED VP and General Ed teachers vote according to level.

2nd: L. Crow

Majority in favor. One opposed. No discussion. Motion carried.

F. Executive Council configuration-see agenda attachment 6

Executive Council Configuration	
Current Constitution Language	Proposed Amendment
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1st & 2nd Vice President • Secretary • Treasurer • Each elected Officer receives \$5000/year stipend <p>Total cost: \$20,000/ year</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vice President, High School • Vice President, Middle School • Vice President, Elementary School • Vice President, Special Education (SPED) • Secretary • Treasurer • Each elected officer receives \$5000/year stipend <p>Total cost: \$30,000/year Additional \$10,000 over current configuration</p>

Questions & Comments:

None submitted.

Motion by F. Wilkerson to endorse the proposed amendment to the PFT Constitution regarding the Reconfiguration of the Executive Council.

2nd: C. Boone

All in favor. None opposed. No discussion. Motion carried.

G. PFT Presidential Succession

A. The proposed amendment will include wording that provides for the interim president to finish the term of the exiting president if the remainder of the term is less than 6 months.

1. The current 1st Vice President will submit final wording to the Executive Council.
2. The six month time span may be changed upon closer examination of the procedures for succession and a special election.

Motion by P. Keough to amend the proposed amendment to include wording that provides for the interim president to finish the term of the exiting president if the remainder of the term is less than 6 months.

2nd: B. Millar

All in favor. None opposed. No discussion. Motion carried.

Motion by L. Richards to endorse the proposed amendment to the PFT Constitution regarding the PFT Presidential Succession with the understanding that the amendment will be rewritten to

include wording that provides for the interim president to finish the term of the exiting president if the remainder of the term is less than 6 months.

2nd: B. Walker

All in favor. None opposed. No discussion. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned: 5:10 p.m.

Next meeting: December 13

Submitted by Naomi Lukaszewski, PFT Communications Secretary