

LINDEN EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

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Representative Council Minutes

February 19, 2004

- I. Call to Order at 3:50 PM:** The following units were represented: # 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, Soehl, McM, LHS, Media/IT , Special Subject Teachers, PPS and Maintenance .
- A. Introduction of Buddies:** Lauren Schreck was introduced by Rep Ginny Sleiger(#6). Both received gift certificates to Barnes and Noble.
- B. Announcements:** The following items were presented to council:
1. Copy of LEA Rep Council Minutes – 1/22/04
 2. LEA Rep Council Agenda – 2/19/04
 3. Linden Public Schools Calendar – 2004-2005
 4. Civilian Absentee Ballot Application
 5. NJ Division Of Elections – Commissioners of Registration
 6. Voter Registration Application
 7. LEA Workshop – PIP/REBUTTAL WRITING WORKSHOP –3/10/04
 8. NJEA Minority Leadership & Recruitment Conference – 5/7-8/04
 9. NJEA Health & Safety Conference 4/17/04
- All announcements are to be posted .**
- II. Approval of Minutes:** A motion was made by Mickie Hamilton to accept the Rep Council Meeting Minutes of January 22, 2004. A second to the motion was made by Guy Peluso. Council passed the motion.
- III. Correspondence:** Please send all correspondence to Betty Ogureck at Soehl 486-0550 or 486- 7799. Email address (bettyo47@yahoo.com) The following cards were received: A thank you note from Greg Pringle for the donation sent in Joy Pringle's name to a charity of his choice. A thank you card from the family of Fran Cino due to her recent loss. The following cards have been sent: Marijane Gutauckis,(#4), death of uncle; Lalah Motley,(Attendance Officer) illness; Danny Mondelli,(LHS),surgery; Fran Giermanski,(#2), death of father-in-law; Edith Pilenciak,(McM),surgery; Bertha McPhaul,(Soehl), illness; death of uncle; Joan Bene,(#8), death of father-in-law; Sonia Beltran,(#6), death of mother-in-law; Ted Ragauas,(Media/IT), injury; Jack Byrne,(Soehl),death of father.
- IV. Treasurer's Report:** *Judy Vacca*
- A. Current Balances:**
- | | | | |
|----------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|
| Checking: | \$ 16,674.74 | Luncheon: | \$ 754.00 |
| Philanthropic: | \$ 4503.34 | Money Market: | \$ 17,181.13 |
- V. Standing Committees:**
- A. Negotiations:** *Guy Peluso*- Teachers/Secretaries/Paras: The committee will meet on 2/25/04 with the NJEA Rep and the Board Committee to set future meeting dates and ground rules. *Tom Monaco* – Custodian/Maintenance: This unit will set dates for the unit to meet and set their priorities for their proposals.

- B. Membership:** *Betty Ogureck(SOEHL)* – Members are reminded to inform Betty with a change of name, address or phone number. Any member that has returned from a LEAVE OF ABSENCE needs to re-apply for membership. NJEA desk calendars are available for members that have not received one. All members are encouraged to use the NJEA website for additional information. Building Reps were given the names of employees that have not become members as of 2/4/04.
- C. Legislative/UCEA:** *Nancy Garafola* – Nancy was absent. Mickie Hamilton reported to council that the VP of UCEA Joan Cioban had recently died. Further information would be forwarded to the members.
- D. Newsletter:** *Chris Hudak* – Check the Newsletter for the **last 4 digits** of your home phone number, **YOU** may have won a prize. The phone number is the one given to the BOARD. Call the office if the number is yours. Articles on “Read Across America” are requested for the March issue.
- E. Grievances:** *Cindy Apalinski* –The grievance in concern of the working day 12/19/03, full day vs half-day is now at Level III. A hearing before the Board is set for 3/15/04.
- F. Philanthropic:** *Sally Stevens* – Sally reminded Reps to ask new employees to consider a payroll deduction to the Philanthropic fund when they join the Association. Present members are also encouraged to contribute to the Fund- all building reps have applications.
- G. Superintendent’s Liaison:** *Nancy Gavan* – January minutes will be distributed to the membership. A reminder to all members to add your NAME and SCHOOL to the items of concern sent to Nancy, this information stays with her. Without this information the concerns will NOT be added to the agenda. If a problem at the Building level has not been resolved after several meetings then it should be sent to the Superintendent’s Liaison.
- H. LEA Luncheon:** *Media/IT/PPS- Marie Adam and Marla Fekete* – The Crowne Plaza in Clark has been reserved for the June Luncheon. The proposed date at this time is 6/23/04.
- I. Scholarships:** *Margaret Novalany* – Applications have been distributed to all buildings. Any questions or concerns please contact Margaret at School #4. A committee is needed to evaluate the applications submitted. Anyone interested please contact Margaret.
- J. LPDC:** *Joann Bolduc* –Joann reported that workshops have been chosen for 5/7/04 in-service. Any member interested in presenting a workshop is to contact Joann (LHS). A fee of \$26/hour will be paid.
- K. Web Master:** *Sally Stevens* – Members are encouraged to visit the LEA website.
- L. Spring Party** – Committee will meet on 3/10/04 to discuss ideas. A possible May date is being considered.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

- A.** LEA sponsored workshops –The next workshop will be PIP/Rebuttal Writing on 3/10/04 at 3:30 PM at the LEA office. New employees are encouraged to attend. RSVP!!!!
- B.** Resolution of Current Oxford Disputes – All information from members has been sent to NJEA.
- C.** BOE Election/ Building Activities – The only building reporting an activity is #5. All buildings are encouraged to have programs available for parents the day of the BOE Elections (4/20/04).
- D.** Read Across America – Please inform Cindy of programs or activities to be held the week of 3/1/04. There are some PRIDE items that are available for students.
- E.** Pension Contribution Rate – There is no update on this issue.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

- A.** Report from Board Meeting – 2/18/04 – Cindy informed Rep Council of new employees and retirements.
- B.** Voter Registration – Cindy reported that many LEA members are not registered voters. Applications have been made available to building Reps. **3/22/04 is the last day to register.** Absentee ballots can be sent in one week before elections and hand delivered one day before. Refer to the list of Commissioners of Registrations.
- C.** School Calendar 2004-2005 – The calendar chosen by the BOE is choice A which was the LEA selection. Building Reps have copies and should have calendar posted.
- D.** Free Attendance /Luncheon – Cindy reminded Rep Council that the set meeting attendance is 60% for free attendance to the luncheon. The topic was open for discussion. Len Sobel made a motion that the 60% requirement remain and it was second by Morris Leone. A discussion was held concerning whether there would be funds available. A second motion was made by Joann Bolduc to table the previous motion until Judy Vacca could determine if funds will be available. The motion was second by Kathy Kruper and passed by council.
- E.** Voluntary/Involuntary Survey – Cindy has asked all building Reps to survey members who have been transferred to a building.
- F.** Dental – A reminder that members can have 4 cleanings a year, not 4 exams.
- G.** Nominations – Bill Simonitis – Anyone interested in any of the LEA Executive positions or one of the 2 positions on the LPDC are to contact Bill at the High School.
- H.** Fire Victim – Irene Mimnaugh mentioned to Council that a cafeteria worker at #4 had lost her home due to a recent fire. She asked if there was the possibility of a donation to her (Lisa

Colvin). Discussion was held and a motion was made by Len Sobel to donate \$100 from the Philanthropic Fund to Ms. Colvin, second by Esther Harris. A vote was taken , 17(YES) and 11 (NO).

Meeting Adjourned at 4:30 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Elizabeth A. Ogureck