

## LINDEN EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

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### Representative Council Minutes

November 18, 2004

- I. Call to Order at 3:45 PM:** The following units were represented: # 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, Soehl, McM, LHS, Maintenance, Media, Field House and Special Subject Teachers.
- A. Introduction of Buddies:** School #5 Reps Sue DiBiagio and Cindy Walker with buddies Carol Davis and Jen Bass; Soehl Rep Kathy Starling with buddy Marianne Fucci and School#2 Rep Tanya Cooper with buddy Olga Brozyna. Carole Davis and Sue DiBiagio won gift certificates to Barnes and Noble.
- B. Announcements:** The following items were presented to council:
1. Copy of LEA Rep Council Minutes – 9/23/04
  2. LEA Rep Council Agenda – 11/18/034
  3. LEA Budget Proposal for 2004-2005
  4. NJEA Winter Leadership info
  - 5."Hands off Irvington's Contract" info
  6. Minutes of Superintendent's Liaison Meeting 10/27/04
  7. Newsletter
- II. Approval of Minutes:** A motion was made by Sue DiBiagio to accept the minutes of Rep Council meeting of September 23,2004 with a second by Ginny Sleiger. Council passed the motion. There was no meeting in October due to the informational meeting dealing with the contract.
- III. Correspondence:** *Please send all correspondence to Betty Ogureck at Soehl 486-0550 or 486- 7799.* Email address ([bettyo47@yahoo.com](mailto:bettyo47@yahoo.com)) No correspondence was received at this time. The following cards have been sent: Joanne DiPaola,(Soehl), death of aunt; Jill De Pierre,(#9), engagement; Meredith Morrocco,(#9),engagement; Jane Kologi, (McM), illness; Cheryl Fish,(#2),death of aunt and cousin; Joan Young,(#4),death of father; Nicole Iazzetta,(#4),birth of daughter; Joanne Ferrara,(McM),illness; Susan Fegan,(#2), illness; Beverly Poskay,(#6),illness; Tracey Tietchen,(#6), death of uncle; Rose Goldstein,(#6),accident; Ed Wojtowicz,(Field House),accident; Pat Orth,(#8),birth of granddaughter; Janice Argentiere,(#8),engagement; Christine Croteou,(#8),engagement; Kim Amon,(#8),death of grandmother; Jane White,(#5),birth of daughter.
- Correspondence sent to the LEA office is to be sent to P.O.Box 3085, not 16 E. Blancke Street.**
- IV. Treasurer's Report:** *Judy Vacca*
- A. Current Balances**
- |                |              |               |              |
|----------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|
| Checking:      | \$ 49,878.34 | Luncheon:     | \$ 587.77    |
| Philanthropic: | \$ 3718.65   | Money Market: | \$ 17,213.20 |
- C. Budget:** The LEA Proposed Budget for the 2004-2005 school year was presented to Rep Council. A motion to accept the Budget was made by Tanya Cooper and second by Maria Pizzelli. The motion was passed by the Council.
- V. Standing Committees:**
- A. Negotiations:**
1. *Guy Peluso*- Teachers/Sec/Paras: The team has divided the contract into sections to review carefully for any errors before mass printing can be done.
  2. *Tom Monaco* - Custodian/Maintenance: A tentative agreement was reached on 10/28/04. The salary guides are now being discussed.
- B. Membership:** *Betty Ogureck* –Members are reminded to inform Membership with a change of name, address or phone number. A Thank you to all Reps in their efforts to sign all new employees and past employees who were not members. The new member count is as follows; Teachers:83; Secretaries: 4; Paras/Media:35; and Cust/Maint: 4. This brings the total membership count to 636 Teachers/Sec; Paras: 175; and Cust/Maint: 77. This total does not include members that are presently on leave. At present 5 employees are Rep Fee non-members.
- C. Legislative/UCEA:** *Nancy Garafola* –Absent – No Report
- D. Newsletter:** *Sally Stevens*– A new section will be added to the newsletter in which members will be able to advertise their services (computers, painting, electrical work, plumbing,etc.) Please send your info to Sally for the next edition.
- E. Grievances:** *Cindy Apalinski* –A problem with custodial vacations was solved in favor of the members without going to a formal grievance. #1 –04/05 is a grievance in regards to a member of

the Teach/Sec/Para unit. This grievance is at level 2.

- F. Philanthropic:** *Kelly Koziol*- There will be a Holiday Basket Raffle. Information will be delivered to all schools.
- G. Superintendent's Liaison:** *Maria Pizzelli*- Members are reminded to send all concerns to Maria (#2)) with name, however, after concerns are addressed at Building Liaison Meetings. Minutes of the 10/27/04 meeting were distributed.
- H. LEA Luncheon:** The Luncheon will be hosted by the High School and the Field House.
- I. Scholarships:** *Margaret Novalany* – No report
- J. LPDC:** *Joann Hamilton* – The plans for the 2005-06 school year are being finalized.
- K. Web Master:** *Sally Stevens*- Members are requested to use the Website for ALL local, county and state info. Many questions can be answered via the Website .

## **VI. OLD BUSINESS**

- A.** Student Planners – An additional 200+ planners have been ordered for the elementary level.
- B.** New Member Workshop – Approximately 20-25 new members attended. Representatives from the various insurance providers presented their information. NJEA was also available for member questions. A reminder to all new members that disability insurance open enrollment with Prudential will close as of 12/1/04.
- C.** Building Liaison – All buildings/units are to have meetings at least once a month and forward their minutes to Cindy.

## **VII. NEW BUSINESS**

- A.** Report from Board Meeting –10/27/04, 11/17/04 Cindy informed council of new employees hired and of member retirement notices. All Reps are encouraged to present membership to all new hires.
- B.** Contract Ratification – Cindy thanked the members of the Negotiating Team and the Election Committee. The contract was ratified by a 90% YES vote. Paychecks/retroactive pay should be corrected by the Winter Break.
- C.** American Education Week – Any schools with programs for the week are asked to forward that info to Cindy so that she may forward it to Mr. Martino.
- D.** Winter Leadership – Informational flyers have been distributed to all members. Anyone wishing to attend, please contact the LEA office. Funding is available.
- E.** UCEA Workshops – Information concerning upcoming workshops should be posted in all buildings.
- F.** Extra Pay Time Sheets – The Payroll office is asking that all members filling out sheets **WRITE NEATLY! YOU ARE NOT REQUIRED TO PUT YOUR SOCIAL SECURITY #!**
- G.** Board Meeting Shows – The monthly presentation from a certain school is the responsibility of the Administrator. LEA members are not responsible for the presentation.
- H.** Dress Code – Each Administrator has been requested to meet with a committee to discuss what a “dress code” would consider. This issue is being brought about by several Board members- not Mr. Martino. LEA members need to consider that their attire and appearance should be NEAT, CLEAN and PROFESSIONAL.
- I.** Custodial/Maintenance vacation and comp days – Cindy is reminding all members of this unit to use days or they will lose the days.
- J.** Spring/Winter? Party – A committee will report to Rep Council Meeting their findings of perhaps having a “Happy New Year Party”.
- K.** Paraprofessional Breaks – Full Time Paras in the Elementary Schools are to have 2 (15 min) breaks –AM+PM. Middle and High School Full time paras have a 30 min. break
- L.** Common Planning – Common Planning is NOT to be used on PREP time. Elementary people have 4 duty free preps. Common Planning may take place on Mondays or during Italian /Spanish classes. Also INRS is NOT to be scheduled during Prep Time. Please inform Cindy of any difficulties with this scheduling.
- M.** Benecard Prescription Benefit – Information and new cards have been sent to all members. Eleanor Lash –
- N.** A motion was made by Margaret Novalany to send \$25 from the Philanthropic Fund to a fund of choice given by the Lash family. The motion was second by Linda Drake, passed by council.

Meeting Adjourned 5:00PM  
Respectfully Submitted,

Elizabeth A. Ogureck