

## LINDEN EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

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Representative Council Minutes

November 20, 2003

- I. Call to Order at 3:45 PM:** The following units were represented: # 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, Soehl, McM, LHS, PPS, AA Field, Maintenance, Media/IT and Special Subject Teachers.
- A. Introduction of Buddies:** Buddies Jennifer Mazzarella (PPS) was introduced by rep. Marie Adam; and Doreen Franko (McM) was introduced by rep Joanne Ferrara. Jennifer and Marie received gift certificates to Barnes and Noble.
- B. Announcements:** The following items were presented to council:
1. Copy of LEA Rep Council Minutes –10/23/03
  2. LEA Rep Council Agenda – 11/20/03
  3. LEA Calendar of Events – Jan. 2004 to March 2004
  4. How to Resolve Health Insurance Problems
  5. LEA Superintendent’s Liaison Committee Minutes – 11/10/03
  6. LEA Budget Proposal for 2003-04
- II. Approval of Minutes:** A motion was made by Guy Peluso to accept the Rep Council Meeting Minutes of October 23, 2003. A second to the motion was made by Joann Bolduc. 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](mailto:bettyo47@yahoo.com)* The following cards were received: An acknowledgment to our sympathy card from Joyce Pasco (Soehl); and a thank you note from Meredith Herbert, daughter of member Chris Herbert, a recipient of an LEA Scholarship; a letter from School #4, Sue Strydesky (School-Aide) and Marijane Gutauckis (Para), requesting a donation from the Philanthropic fund for Thanksgiving Baskets for needy families in the area. The following cards have been sent: Vivian Pupo,(#8), birth of son; Elaine Guthertz,(#2), death of mother; Dave Bolduc,(Media), death of grandmother; Pat Huxford,(Soehl), death of brother-in-law; Despina Cordeiro, (#8), death of father-in-law; Kate Weber(Sheer),(#8),marriage; David Hancock,(PPS), surgery; AnnMarie Borsdorf,(PPS), surgery; Kelly Koziol, (Field House), death of uncle; Melissa Shaffer, (#4), death of grandfather; Nicole Zambell,(#4), death of aunt; Mike Walters, (LAST), birth of daughter.
- IV. Treasurer’s Report:** *Judy Vacca*
- A. Current Balances**
- |                |             |               |              |
|----------------|-------------|---------------|--------------|
| Checking:      | \$24,582.15 | Luncheon:     | \$ 754.00    |
| Philanthropic: | \$ 4084.29  | Money Market: | \$ 17,170.44 |
- B. Budget:** A motion was made by Sally Stevens to accept the Budget for the year 2003-04 and a second was made by Dianna Dertinger. A discussion was held, a vote was taken and the budget passed with a majority vote.
- V. Standing Committees:**
- A. Negotiations:**
- Guy Peluso- Teachers/Sec/Paras:* Guy reported that Building Meetings are scheduled and members are encouraged to attend with their concerns. Several members of the Negotiating Committee will be present. On 12/2/03 a meeting will be held with our Uniserv rep Marylou Mitchell to complete the review of our contract. The surveys that were completed by the membership are at the NJEA being evaluated.
- Tom Monaco – Custodian/Maintenance:* This unit met with Uniserv rep Glenn Johnson on 11/11/03 to discuss their proposals. Their next meeting will be on 11/25/03. Tom will set 2 meeting dates for January to meet with the custodial/maintenance unit.

- B Membership:** *Betty Ogureck* –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. Employees that have not joined the Association have had their names sent to NJEA as 85% members. NJEA desk calendars are available for members that have not received one. Please contact Betty at Soehl.
- C. Legislative/UCEA:** *Nancy Garafola* –Absent- Next meeting 10/28/03.
- 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 LEA office if the number is yours. October’s winner never claimed their prize by calling the LEA office. If there is anything LEA related and you wish to see in the Newsletter, please call or email the office.
- E. Grievances:** *Cindy Apalinski* –At this time 1 grievance has been resolved and another is in the process of being resolved. If a member feels that their rights are being violated, Cindy should be contacted.
- F. Philanthropic:** *Sally Stevens* – Sally reported that there are 75 out of over 800 members that are contributing via payroll deduction and 15 new members applied during the recent campaign. All non contributing members are encouraged to consider \$.50 -\$1.00 as a contribution to the Philanthropic Fund. This donation is used for yearly scholarships and giving help to needy families of Linden. Sally informed Council that there will be a Holiday Raffle, info to follow.
- G. Superintendent’s Liaison:** *Nancy Gavan* – Minutes of the November meeting have been distributed. The next meeting will be at the end of January. Concerns can be sent via email to the LEA office or directly to Nancy at [npgavan@yahoo.com](mailto:npgavan@yahoo.com). All concerns MUST have the members’ name for verification or questions. Any concerns must be addressed at the Building Liaison level first.
- H. LEA Luncheon:** *Media/IT/PPS*- No Report
- I. Scholarships:** *Margaret Novalany* – No report.
- J. LPDC:** *Joann Bolduc* – Joann has reported that Mr. Tomazic has been replaced by Dona Preston on the committee. The state form for PD is being prepared to be sent to the County level. The committee is recruiting LEA members who are interested in presenting programs. Presenters will receive a stipend.
- K. Web Master:** *Sally Stevens* –Sally will install a Negotiations Corner for the membership. It will include information from both teams.

## VI. OLD BUSINESS

- A.** LEA sponsored workshops – The 11/19/03 Workshop on Consumer Benefits was attended by 10 members. They were informed of benefits available and that this information can also be found on the NJEA website under “MEMBERS ONLY”. The next workshop will be PIP/Rebuttal Writing on 3/10/04 at 3:30 PM at the LEA office.
- B.** Building Liaison – A reminder to all buildings to have a monthly meeting and that a copy of the minutes are to be sent to Cindy. Cindy will contact buildings that have not had meetings or sent in a copy of their minutes.
- C.** No Child Left Behind (ESEA) – All information re: Highly Qualified Teacher has been submitted.
- D.** Statfeld Vantage(formerly HIGHVIEW PLANNING) – 1-800-844-1169 – Maria Meehan – Any problems with any of your medical/dental coverage please contact Maria. New flyers have been printed with Maria’s name and number. Please see your building rep.
- E.** UCEA Rep Payment – A motion was made by Pam Boright that stated members attending the UCEA meetings be reimbursed \$100 max/year. This motion was second by Len Sobel. After discussion Pam made an amendment stating members attending would receive \$20 per meeting not to exceed \$100 per year. This motion was second by Len Sobel. A vote was taken and the motion did not pass.
- F.** American Education Week – the following schools reported programs held for the Week, #4, #5, #8. If there were any other schools with programs or activities, please contact Cindy.
- G.** Elementary – Spanish/Italian Time – Most buildings have reported to Cindy as to how time is used. If a building has not given information to Cindy, please contact her.
- H.** Common Planning – All buildings – Teacher’s Duty Free Prep is NOT to be used for Common Planning. Buildings in which this is happening are to contact Cindy.
- I.** Tanya Miller/Oxford Rep – Next meeting will be on 1/13/04 at #8, 2-4PM.
- J.** Dental Insurance – Anyone with Insurance problems is to contact Cindy at the LEA

office.

## **VII. NEW BUSINESS**

- A.** Report from Board Meeting – 11/19/03 – Cindy reported notification of change of degree for several members and the hiring of several new employees. She also reported the passing of former LEA members, John Fay, Robert Stanley, and former LEA President Carl Landolfi.
- B.** Lunch Duty (Elementary) – All buildings should be following a rotational procedure for duty. Also those on duty need to complete time sheets.
- C.** Comp Time / Custodial/Maintenance - The unit took a vote 53/12 in favor to have their Comp Day from Veteran's Day be used on Dec.26. Their request was denied by Mr. Martino.
- D.** Lunch Time/Sign Out – All members/All buildings are reminded to SIGN OUT when leaving the building during lunch time and sign in upon their return.
- E.** Mickie Hamilton (#10)- We wish to congratulate Mickie on becoming a Delegate Assembly Member from Union County as of Jan.1 2004.
- F.** Spring Party Committee Members – The following members have volunteered to sit on the Spring Party Committee, Maria Cacioppo, Sue DiBiagio, Cindy Walker, Ginny Sleiger, Nicole Savino, and Carole Anne Davis. Their help with this project is greatly appreciated.
- G.** Part-time Paraprofessional Work Week - Their work year began the day before school started . Their pay checks are based on 180 days and split into 20 payments. Their last check in June will contain payment for any extra time worked, ie., Wed., Sept. 3.
- H.** School #4 Thanksgiving Drive – As per a letter sent by School #4, concerned staff members requested a donation from the Philanthropic fund for needy families in the School #4 area . Irene Mimnaugh made a motion that a donation of \$250 be granted to School #4 from Philanthropic for their Thanksgiving Baskets, second by Margaret Novalany. Discussion revealed this amount was consistent with past donations. A vote was taken and the motion passed.

Meeting Adjourned at 5:50 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Elizabeth A. Ogureck