

LINDEN EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

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Representative Council Minutes

October 17, 2002

- I. Call to Order at 3:50 PM** The following units were represented: #1, 2, 4A, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, McManus, Soehl, Special Subjects, L.A.S.T., LHS , Special Services, and the Field House.
- A. Introduction of Buddies:** Sylvia Milano (#5), with rep Ruth Murphy and Laura Robinson (#5) with rep Sue DiBiagio.
- B. Announcements:** The following items were presented to council:
1. A copy of 9/19/02 LEA Rep Council Minutes
 2. LEA Budget Proposal for 2002-03
 3. A copy of the October issue of INTERNAL AFFAIRS
 4. A copy of NJEA letter from President Edythe Fulton concerning the LAFAP Reimbursement
 5. A copy of letter from Mr. Martino concerning cancellation of Monday meetings on 10/21/02 and 11/04/02.
 6. A copy of letter from Bob Dumas concerning the new NJEA Group Disability Insurance Program.
 7. A flyer endorsing Frank Lautenberg, candidate for U.S. Senate, by the NJEA.
 8. A copy of the LINDEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS Quality Assurance Annual Report for 2001-2002.
- II. Approval of Minutes:**
A motion was made by Tom Monaco to accept the minutes of the September 19, 2002 Rep Council Meeting. It was second by Sue DiBiagio, motion was passed.
- III. Correspondence:** *Please send all correspondence to Betty Ogureck at Soehl 486-0550 or 486- 7799. Email address (bettyo47@yahoo.com)* No correspondence was received. The following cards were sent: Maria Minniti Gallo, (HS), marriage; Eugene Napoleon, (Soehl), death of brother; Miriam Merced, (Soehl), illness; Lily Hamilton, (Soehl), surgery/illness; Jim Petrucelli, (HS), death of father; Becky Paffrath, (Soehl), marriage; James Osmond, (Soehl), marriage; Melissa Majewski, (#6), death of grandparent; Cindy Coler, (#5), surgery; Zen Hac, (LAST), death of father; Kim Kelfalas, (#10), birth of daughter; Tony Picaro, (HS), death of uncle; Darlene Miller, (Soehl/McM), death of uncle; Germaine Porter, (Soehl), illness.
- IV. Treasurer's Report: Sally Stevens**
- A. Current Balances**
- | | | | |
|---------------|-------------|----------------|------------|
| Checking: | \$ 7,952.05 | Luncheon: | \$ 765.00 |
| Money Market: | \$17,126.87 | Philanthropic: | \$ 2769.87 |
- B. Budget Presentation**
Council received a copy of the LEA Budget Proposal for 2002-03. All Reps were asked to inform members of the budget. A vote will take place at the November Rep Council Meeting.
- V. Standing Committees:**
- A. Negotiations: No Report**
1. OPEN – Teachers/ Secretaries/Paraprofessionals: Chairperson position is available. Applications are available to any member interested in chairing the Committee. Please contact Dennis. Dennis would like to have the new chairperson starting on 1/1/03.
 2. Dennis Grieco – Custodian/Maintenance: Chairperson position is available. Applications are available to any member interested in chairing the Committee. Please contact Dennis. Dennis would like to have the new chairperson starting on 1/1/03
- B. Membership: Betty Ogureck**
Reps were reminded to have all new employees sign an application for membership. A list of all employees that are not members is being generated for Agency Fee Representation (85%).
- C. Legislative/UCEA: Nancy Garafola – No Report**
- D. Newsletter: Joanne Ferrara -** Joanne is encouraging all members to continue to write articles of school events. She is also recommending that members use the e-mail address to send articles to her.
- E. Grievances: Dennis Grieco –**
1. On 11/13/02, PERC has scheduled an exploratory hearing between the Association and the Board in an attempt to resolve the part-time paraprofessional issue.
 2. As of this date, the Association is awaiting a scheduled hearing with PERC in regards to the unilateral change of Health Insurance Carriers.
 3. Grievance #1/02/03 was filed on behalf of the Custodian/Maintenance unit and is currently at Level II. The Association requested a timeline waiver so that the remaininf items can be distributed by the Board. This grievance will be moved to LEVEL III if additional clothing is not delivered by the end of the month.
- F. Philanthropic: Virginia Milan -** Raffle tickets were distributed to all buildings for the Thanksgiving Raffle, \$2 each or 3/\$5. Virginia also mentioned that she would have information at November's meeting concerning the "Be A Christmas Angel" program sponsored by the Kiwanis.
- G. Superintendent's Liaison: Nancy Gavan**
Liaison meeting with Mr. Martino has been scheduled for November 4, 2002. Any concerns from members can be sent to Nancy at the High School.

H. LEA Luncheon: *Academy/ Tony Lehner*

Luncheon information was passed to Academy from Soehl. Tony reported that a committee is being formed .

- I. Scholarships:** *Margaret Novalany* – the committee has sent letters to Highview Planning, Travelers, Seeley, and Primerica for scholarship endorsements.
- J. LPDC:** *Joann Bolduc* – Joann was absent, Micki Hamilton gave a report. As approved by Executive Council, Kim Casey will replace Dave Hancock on the LPDC Committee. Mr. Martino will be informed of the replacement.
- K. Holiday Party Committee:** *Anthony Lehner* -Tony reported that the food has been selected. Dennis asked for a detailed list of prices so that Executive Council can recommend a price per person. A flyer needs to be delivered as soon as possible.
- L. WEB Master:** *Sally Sevens*- Sally has added a link on the WEB for American Education Week.
- M. ExtraCurricular Stipends** – *JoAnn DiPaola* - JoAnn reported that there will be a meeting with Mr. Tomasic concerning stipends. They are looking at various contracts and contract language from schools systems within the area. The BOE is willing to pay for extra curricula activities. There will also be a vehicle to add and delete clubs as needed.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

- A.** “How To Resolve a Health Insurance Problem” – This item will no longer be address at Rep Council meetings. Dennis has stated that forms are available both on the LEA web site and from the building Reps. If the membership chooses not to submit the forms nor visit the Oxford Representative with their claim disputes; the membership sends a message to leadership that they are happy with the insurance coverage.
- B.** Prudential / Washington National – Bob Dumas met with 40-50 members and was able to answer their questions regarding the transition from Washington National to Prudential. There will be a special open enrollment for the state of NJ. Linden will conduct this during the month of November. Agents will be present after Monday faculty meetings. Further information will be distributed.
- C.** Inclusions/Paras – The LEA has been made aware of the fact that Paraprofessionals are being used as In Class Support . The BOE is supporting their decision with legal references. This information has been forwarded to NJEA. We are waiting for an answer to this situation. All Paras need to be aware of information given to them in the LEA newsletter and on the LEA website concerning their status and their requirements to maintain their positions.
- D.** BOE Elections – JoAnn DiPaola is going through prior election lists from the County to determine who did and did not vote in the last election. Letters will be sent out along with applications for registration if necessary.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

- A.** Report from BOE meeting – The Quality Assurance Annual Report was distributed including a summary of pupil performance objectives for 2001-02 and 2002-03. Retirements were listed for both Dr. Tylicki and Donald VanHandel. Due to their retirements, their positions have been dissolved and replaced with a Supervisor of Language Arts and a Supervisor of Guidance/Assessment. In addition, many parents of Magnet School students bombarded the BOE with questions regarding the law suit between the BOE and the Union County Vo-Tech Schools.
- B.** LEA sponsored workshops- The next workshop will be on 10/24/02 on Learning Strategies.
- C.** Time Sheets/Lunch Duty – Time sheets need to be submitted on the 15th of each month.
- D.** Payroll –PT “Aides” – Payroll formula is 19.5 hours times \$11.96 divided by 5 equals the pt paraprofessional’s daily rate of pay. Multiply that number by 181 workdays and divide that number by 20 pay periods.
- E.** School #4 issues – Teachers staying late at the library with students has been resolved. The lack of AIR in the building may be resolved with new windows or air conditioning.
- F.** Photocopy paper – Association looking into the photo copier paper shortage.
- G.** Student Planners – additional Elementary student planners will be shipped on 10/24 and the additional Middle/High school student planners will be shipped 10/18.

Meeting Adjourned at 5:25 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Elizabeth A. Ogureck