

LINDEN EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

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Representative Council Minutes

September 25, 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, AA Field, Maintenance, Media, Administration Bldg. and Special Subject Teachers.
- A. Introduction of Officers and Building Reps:** All present were introduced to Rep Council.
 - B. Introduction of Buddies:** Laura Robinson and Cindy Coler of School # 5 were introduced by their Reps Sue DiBiagio and Cindy Walker. Cindy and Sue won copies of the book "Don't Sweat the Small Stuff".
 - C. Announcements:** The following items were presented to council:
 - 1. Copy of LEA Rep Council Minutes – 6/12/03
 - 2. LEA Rep Council Agenda – 9/25/03
 - 3. Time Line for "Highly Qualified Teacher"
 - 4. Info re: ESEA –Elementary and Secondary Education Act- proposed amendments and who to contact
 - 5. LEA Calendar of Events – September to December
 - 6. UCEA Pension Workshop flyer
- II. Approval of Minutes:** A motion was made by Len Sobel to accept the minutes of Rep Council meeting of June 12, 2003 with a second by Ann Marie Yodlowsky. Council passed motion.
- III. Correspondence:** *Please send all correspondence to Betty Ogureck at Soehl 486-0550 or 486-7799. Email address (bettyo47@yahoo.com)* The following letters/notes were received: Thank You letters were received from : The George Dooley Memorial Foundation for a contribution; Joyce Pasco (Soehl) Teacher of the Year, responding with regrets, to an invitation to the LEA Luncheon; Alzheimer's Association for a contribution of \$25; Mary (Cancelliere) Taranto for a \$25 contribution in support of her cross country bike ride in honor of her father; Pat Sep for card and retirement gift; Kathy Gaylord for flowers and retirement gift; Marjorie Williams for invitation to the Luncheon and retirement gift and Dolores Leithner for the bouquet of flowers and retirement gift. The following cards were sent during the summer and September: Hattie Wilder (Soehl), surgery; Nicole Halkias (#5), birth of triplets; Rona Renna (#5), death of family member; Despina Cordiero (#8), marriage; Janina Amrozewicz (#4), illness; Erica Cardamone (#4), marriage; Leighton Sams (McM), illness; Beth Simonelli (#5), birth of grandchild; Sylvia Milano (#5), birth of son; Cynthia Quiles (#6), death of niece; Laura Stewart (39), marriage; Adam Bara (Field House), death of brother; Carol Cetroni (#4), birth of granddaughter; Alex Cladakis (McM), illness; Daryl Palmieri (McM), illness; Joan Fritz (McM), illness; Jennifer Pivano (McM), birth of son; Gary Berger (McM), birth of daughter; Lynne Beriont (McM), marriage; Richard Molinaro (McM), marriage; Morris Leone (McM), death of uncle; Edith Pienciak (McM), death of mother; Norma White (HS), death of brother; Sol Starkman (LAST), death of mother; Patty Donegan (HS), death of mother; Nancy Gavan (HS), death of mother; Antoinette Modrak(HS), surgery; Joy Pringle (McM) death; Cindy Apalinski (#6), death of grandfather; Gary Berger (Soehl), death of grandfather; Pat Huxford (Soehl), birth of grandson; Joyce Pasco (Soehl), death of aunt.
- IV. Treasurer's Report:** *Judy Vacca*
- A. Current Balances**

Checking:	\$13,906.39	Luncheon:	\$ 754.00
Philanthropic:	\$ 4810.29	Money Market:	\$ 17,171.03

\$ 9821.00 (1/2 of the purchase amount) was paid for the Student Planners which will be reimbursed through PRIDE. The Board pays ½ of the amount also.

B. Budget: A motion was presented by Cindy Apalinski to have the budget presented at the October Rep Council meeting. A second was given by Sally Stevens. Motion was passed.

V. Standing Committees:

A. Negotiations:

1. *Guy Peluso*- Teachers/Sec/Paras: Cindy Apalinski has resigned as Neg. Chair and has appointed Guy Peluso to the position. Guy reported that there will be a meeting on 10/02/03 to discuss the survey that will go out to the membership. He noted that members need to be specific with their concerns. Building Reps are responsible for surveys and need to keep numbers of surveys distributed. The committee would like a 100% response from the membership.
2. *Tom Monaco* - Custodian/Maintenance: The Committee has given their list of priorities to Cindy.

B. Membership: *Betty Ogureck* –Members are reminded to inform Membership with a change of name, address or phone number. Reps were reminded to sign all new employees before the October 15, 2003 deadline for Representation Fee. Reps were asked to hand in corrected Building Lists as soon as possible. NJEA desk calendars were distributed. Extra calendars have been ordered. Please send requests to Betty at Soehl.

C. Legislative/UCEA: *Nancy Garafola* – A flyer was given to all Reps concerning ESEA and amendment numbers so that the membership can write letters to congressional reps in support of amendments. Visit www.nea.org/lac

D. Newsletter: *Chris Hudak* – The first edition of the newsletter has been distributed. Please call or email the office with any suggestions.

E. Grievances: *Cindy Apalinski* – JoAnne DiPaola has resigned from the position and Cindy Apalinski has been appointed. There are none at this time.

F. Philanthropic: **OPEN – ANY MEMBERS INTERESTED PLEASE CONTACT CINDY**

G. Superintendent's Liaison: *Nancy Gavan* –Letters have been sent out to Committee members to set meeting dates. Members are reminded to send all concerns to Nancy (LHS) with name, however concerns are to be addressed at Building Liaison **FIRST**.

H. LEA Luncheon: A discussion was held concerning continuing the Luncheon.

I. Scholarships: *Margaret Novalany* – Scholarship monies are still being sent out to recipients.

J. LPDC: *Joann Bolduc* – Report given by Micki Hamilton. Election Day will have a 45min/hour mandatory session. Second part is not finalized. The Spring session will focus on Technology. Suggestions are requested. Teachers wanting to be a presenter (paid) need to contact Micki at school #10. The first two days of the school year are PD days. The LPDC committee is also involved with the Mentor training program.

K. Web Master: *Sally Stevens* – No report

VI. OLD BUSINESS

A. Student Planners – Planners have been distributed, Mrs. Muccia will be contacted in concern of Pre-k, K, 1st grade folders.

B. “How to Resolve A Health Insurance Problem” – Please refer to the LEA website .

VII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Report from Board Meeting – 9/17/03 – Cindy reported notification of retirement and the hiring of several new employees.

B. LEA sponsored workshops and Calendar - Reps were given a Calendar of events to be posted in their buildings. The next workshop will be 10/15/03 – Stress Management.

C. New Member Workshop – 18 new employees attended and were inserviced by representatives of the Health, Dental and Disability Insurance Companies.

D. Posting Captains – There are a few buildings that do not have posting captains. Their job is to distribute new postings to the membership.

E. Building Liaison – Each building is to have a Committee with at least 3 members that meet on a monthly basis to discuss with the Principal concerns of the members. A report of each meeting is to be given to all members in the building and a copy forwarded to Cindy.

F. SPRING Party – Suggestion to have a Spring gathering of the membership. All ideas can be sent to Cindy.

G. Classroom Close-UP – Kathy Williams – Kathy can be seen on the NJN channel on

9/29/03 at 6:30 PM and 10/04/03 at 7:00AM. This presentation is in conjunction with MISE (Merck).

- H.** No Child Left Behind (ESEA) – The Blue Booklets that were handed out have incorrect forms. New forms will be sent out to all teachers from the Superintendent’s office. Supporting documents can come from the Superintendent’s office by way of the building Principal. A Uniserv Rep will be at the October Rep Council meeting to discuss, ”Highly Qualified Teacher”.
- I.** Statfeld Vantage 1-800-844-1169 – Formerly Highview Planning, the office will continue to assist members with questions and concerns about any of our benefits. The reps are Alice Cross, Patrice Daukins, Marya Meehan.
- J.** UCEA Rep Payment – The Chairperson of the Legislative/UCEA Committee receives a stipend. A motion was made by Len Sobel that all reps attending meetings should also receive a stipend per meeting. There are 5 meetings a year and a \$25 stipend was suggested. A second to this motion was made by Pam Boright. A discussion was held and a motion was made by Doreen Franko to table the previous motion until the accountant could be contacted. A second was made by Pam Boright and the motion to table was passed.

Meeting Adjourned at 5:30 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Elizabeth A. Ogureck