BOARD OF DIRECTORS’ MEETING

MINUTES

February 12, 2020

PRESENT: Stacy Moran, Jen Catalano, Jen Costabile, Nick Karnavezos, Jen Laudiero, Judy LeRoy, Claudine Mazza, Matt Scully, Sue Warren

CALL TO ORDER: 4:35 PM

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:
January 8, 2020
Moved: Sue Warren
Second: Claudine Mazza
Passes Unanimously

PRESIDENT’S REPORT:
• Guidance Counselors – Demand to Bargain
• Substitute Chapter is in Negotiations
• SOCE – SMOA signed on February 11, 2020
• NECSD 2020-21 Budget
• Case Manager SMOA was approved at February 11, 2020 BOE Meeting
• AFT School Improvement Conference with South Middle School
• Pre-K students not included in NECSD Code of Conduct
• Solidarity Celebration on February 7th was very well-attended

VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT:
• VOTE/COPE shirts have been distributed; lunchboxes are on order

TREASURER’S REPORT:
• Financial statements read
• CD investments vs. cash – will check with accountants
• See attached reports

OLD BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

MOTION #1:

Whereas, the NTA awards its annual Friend of Education to honor those individuals, institutions, or groups which have made a noticeable and positive contribution to public education and our community, and
Whereas, Mario Cilento, our NY State AFL-CIO President, has fought tirelessly against the forces that wish to destroy the labor movement, and
Whereas, Mario Cilento has been a dedicated and consistent supporter of NYSUT and public education, be it therefore
Resolved, that the NTA bestow its highest honor to Mario Cilento and award him the 2020 Friend of Education Award.

(Submitted by NTA President Stacy Moran)

Moved: Matt Scully
Second: Judy LeRoy
Passes Unanimously

MOTION #2:

Whereas, the Newburgh Teachers’ Association needs to make our office space more usable, and
Whereas, we do not have a suitable conference table for meetings held upstairs in the NTA Office, be it therefore
Resolved, that the NTA Board of Directors approve the purchase of a 14’ by 5’ conference table for an amount not to exceed $3,000.00.

(Submitted by NTA President, Stacy Moran)

Moved: Jen Costabile
Second: Judy LeRoy
Passes Unanimously
MOTION #3:

Whereas, the NYSUT has an obligation to support our local presidents, and
Whereas, the NYSUT and all unions need to educate our members, especially those in leadership roles, and
Whereas, the NYSUT TRO has asked that NTA President, Stacy Moran, speak about our successful membership engagement strategies at their conference for local presidents, be it therefore
Resolved, that the NTA Board of Directors send Stacy Moran to the 2020 TRO Local President’s Conference in Norwalk, CT, on February 28 - 29, 2020 at a cost not to exceed $500 for accommodations and travel expenses.

(Submitted by NTA Vice President, Matt Scully)

Moved: Matt Scully  
Second: Judy LeRoy  
Passes Unanimously

MOTION #4:

Whereas, it is very important that the issues facing the members of the NTA and the children of Newburgh are heard by local legislators, and
Whereas, the 2020 NYSUT Committee of 100 on March 2-3, 2020 provides the opportunity for our NTA representatives to advocate on our behalf, and
Whereas, NYSUT pays for the cost of only one representative from each local, and
Whereas, Newburgh is the largest local in our area and unfortunately faces issues like receivership, that other locals do not, be it therefore
Resolved, that the NTA Board of Directors approve the sending of Claudine Mazza, our Educational Issues Advocacy Committee Member, to accompany G. Pinheiro, our Educational Issues Advocacy Committee Chairperson, as our the NTA representatives to the 2020 NYSUT Committee of 100 in Albany NY at a cost not to exceed $300 for accommodations and travel expenses.

(Submitted by NTA President, Stacy Moran)
Moved: Nick Karnavezos  Second: Matt Scully  Passes Unanimously

MOTION #5:

Whereas, the purpose of education is to educate a populace of critical thinkers who are capable of shaping a just and equitable society in order to lead good and purpose-filled lives, not solely prepare that populace for college and career; and

Whereas, instructional and curricular decisions should be in the hands of classroom professionals who understand the context and interests of their students; and

Whereas, the education of children should be grounded in developmentally appropriate practice; and

Whereas, the state assessments are not transparent in that–teachers and parents are not allowed to view the tests and item analysis will likely not be made available; and

Whereas, the assessment practices that accompany standardized tests including the political manipulation of test scores – are used as justification to label and close schools, fail students, and evaluate educators; therefore be it

Resolved, that the Newburgh Teachers Association opposes standardized high stakes testing that is currently pushed by the Federal and State governments, because this testing is not being used to further instruction for children, to help children, or to support the educational needs of children; and be it further

Resolved, that the Newburgh Teachers Association supports the rights of all parents - including teachers who are parents - to refuse standardized tests; and be it further

Resolved, that the Newburgh Teachers Association will post a copy of this resolution and a link to the NYSAPE refusal letter on the NTA website and all social networks.

(Submitted by NTA BOD Member, Jillian Caci)

Moved: Jen Catalano  Second: Jen Costabile

Motion to Table:

Moved: Jen Catalano  Second: Jen Costabile  Passes Unanimously
GOOD AND WELFARE:
- Ed 13/14
- Windows in some buildings are not operable – teachers being injured

ADJOURNED: 5:50 PM

Moved: Nick Karnavezos
Second: Jen Costabile