BOARD OF DIRECTORS’ MINUTES
September 10, 2008
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Meeting was called to order: 4:20 PM

Approval of Minutes of June 11, 2008.
Moved: A. Sartori
Seconded: J. Nee
Motion Passed (9-0-1)

President’s Report
Fire Inspection of Building – summary letter is available from Administrative Assistant Lorraine Mahon to NTA President Phil Cordella outlining necessary improvements.

The NTA Building committee did visit this summer – they have not been used to tackle improvements yet.

NYSUT has voted not to endorse this election cycle those reps. who voted in favor of a tax cap on school district budgets.

A meeting has been set up for September 24 for the Extended School Year JHS teachers.

On October 23, the NFA Business department and the NTA President will meet with the Superintendent to review that program.

The Superintendent has asked the union to be involved in a general audit and review of all programs. This may have implication come school budget time.

The Teaching Assistant new school year workshop is set for Saturday, September 13, 2008 at NFA.

The revised walkthrough plan has not been rolled out yet to district administrators.
The NTA has been informed that a better, more contract-appropriate, implementation of our Teacher Observation and Evaluation clause of our contract was stressed during pre-school year meetings. This includes but is not limited to a timely post observation conference, a timely written post observation report, a final evaluation rubric signed only by the building principal.

The summer officer was well attended for our members by Vicky, Angela, and Karen. Other NTA leaders where present to assist with specific concerns.

A letter was sent to the District requesting the process for conducting investigations of the professional staff and placement of documents in personnel folders. The response was distributed.

The directors reviewed a received a letter from Frank Colone regarding a past action.

**Vice - President’s Report**

The NTA Vice President attended the New Teacher Orientation over the summer. She suggested that more NTA Leaders attend the follow up Starting Out on the Right Track sessions. This would be a great opportunity to speak to new members about unionism.

**Treasurer’s Report**

Report given at meeting.

**NEW Business**

**MOTION #1:**

*Whereas,* the NTA members who are NYS Teacher Retirement System delegates will be electing a teacher member to the retirement board this November, and

*Whereas,* the NYSUT has endorsed Paul Farfaglia for teacher member to the retirement system, be it therefore

*Resolved,* that the NTA endorse the candidacy of Paul Farfaglia and urge the delegates to vote accordingly.

*(Submitted by NTA President Phil Cordella)*

**Moved:** J. Nee  
**Seconded:** D. Brown  
**Passed Unanimously**
MOTION #2:

Whereas, the NTA annual Leadership Training Conference had been tentatively approved for the 2008-2009 school year, be it

Resolved, that the NTA Leadership Conference for 2008 be held on November 14-16, 2008 in Saratoga Springs, New York at the Gideon Putnam.

(Submitted by NTA Special Events Coordinator Jennifer Laudiero)

Moved: N. Sparacio
Seconded: D. Brown  Motion Passes (8-2-0)

MOTION #3:

Resolved, that the Board of Directors approve the purchase of 10 tickets and an ad to the Black and Hispanic Coalition Dinner on Friday, October 31, 2008 for a cost of $600.00.

(Submitted by NTA President Phil Cordella)

Moved: J. Nee
Seconded: P. Hunter  Passed Unanimously

MOTION #4:

Whereas, the NTA solicited various job letters of interest for open committee positions, be it

Resolved, that the NTA Board of Directors approve the following additional recommendations of the President:

APPR Standing Review
Sue Killeen

Diversity Recruitment:
Anita Spencer-Smith
Angelina Gomez
Juana Rivera

VOTE/COPE Committee Member:
Gale Rademacher

Central Labor Council:
Linda Vinti

Sabbatical
Faye Canfield
Grievance (Middle Level):
Linda Vinti

(Submitted by NTA President Phil Cordella)
Moved: J. Nee
Seconded: P. Hunter Passed Unanimously

MOTION #5:

Resolved, that the NTA Board of Directors accept the timeline and conditions for the upcoming NTA elections in the 2008-2009 school year as presented by the NTA Nominations and Elections Committee.

(Submitted by NTA Nominations and Election Chair Karen Roberts)

Moved: K. Roberts
Seconded: D. Liebman Passed Unanimously

MOTION #6:

Resolved, that the NTA Board of Directors approve the NTA meeting calendar (enclosed).

(Submitted by NTA President Phil Cordella)
Moved: V. Pittman
Seconded: S. Minard Passed Unanimously

MOTION #7:

Whereas political action (working on behalf of endorsed candidates through phone banks, labor walks, votes, etc.) has had a positive effect on the personal and professional lives of our members; and

Whereas, NYSUT has recommended we endorse candidates who have taken a public position in opposition to tax caps on school budgets; and

Whereas, the NTA endorsement carries substantial weight with our members and their families; be it therefore

Resolved, that the Newburgh Teachers’ Association in the November 4, 2008 election take the following action:

President of the United States Barack Obama
Vice President Joseph Biden
U.S. Congressional District 19 John Hall
U.S. Congressional District 20 Kirsten E. Gillibrand
U.S. Congressional District 22          Maurice D. Hinchey
NYS Senatorial District 39          No endorsement
NYS Senatorial District 41          No endorsement
NYS Senatorial District 42          No endorsement
NYS Assembly District 96           No endorsement
NYS Assembly District 97           Ann G. Rabbit
NYS Assembly District 100          Thomas J. Kirwin
NYS Assembly District 101          Kevin A. Cahill
NYS Assembly District 102          Joel Miller

(Submitted by NTA Educational Issues Advocacy Chair Goncalo Pinheiro)
Moved:  V. Pittman
Seconded: S. Minard          Motion Passes (7-1-0)

MOTION #8:

Whereas the NTA is an active participant in the area labor movement, be it

Resolved, that the NTA Board of Directors approve a half page ad in the Mid Hudson Valley Construction Career Day Journal for the cost of $250.

(Submitted by NTA Secretary and Area Labor Federation Executive Board Member Karen Roberts)

Moved:  P. Hunter
Seconded: D. Brown          Passed Unanimously

MOTION #9:

Whereas, public education is under attack by well financed enemies, and

Whereas, educators are proud of their profession and the job they do for the children of this country, and

Whereas, communicating a positive message is needed now more than ever, be it

Resolved, that the NTA authorize the purchase of “Proud Educator” license plate covers and, be it further

Resolved that a campaign be created for their distribution and promotion

(Submitted by NTA Board of Director Sharon Minard)
Moved:  S. Minard
Seconded: P. Hunter
Motion to table to next meeting:
Moved: J. Nee
Seconded: D. Liebman        Motion Passes (6-2-0)

GOOD AND WELFARE:

Thank you to Linda Mangan for her tireless effort on the Grievance Committee this summer.

Thank you to NTA Leaders for your assistance to NTA officers this summer.

Jim Nee reported that the effect of not passing the budget is apparent.

Motion to adjourn: 6:30 PM
Moved: P. Hunter
Seconded: V. Pittman

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Roberts
NTA Secretary