DELEGATE ASSEMBLY MINUTES
March 21, 2007


Schools not represented: Administration, Executive Dr, Pre-K @ St. Francis, Substitute Chapter,

Meeting was called to order at 4:15 PM

Approval of Minutes of February 21 2006
Moved: L. Colacchio
Seconded: R. Grove
Minutes Approved Unanimously

President’s Report
1. Video Policy: this policy was not done in collaboration. Two week advance notice will be needed to show videos in the classroom. There are issues concerning academic freedom and censorship.
2. Retirement Incentive: The District is not offering an incentive at this time.
3. NYS Teacher Retirement System: Petitions are due May 7th. Contact Mary Lou Botsford. Member and alternate run as a team.
4. Web-based sub assignments: District is considering a web based substitute reporting system. Substitutes will have the ability to choose assignments. How teachers request specific substitutes will be reviewed.
5. Habitat for Humanity: Walk will take place April 29th. Flyers will be sent to the buildings. Anne Vollmer gave a presentation. House costs approximately $75,000 to refurbish. Work should begin soon. Crews work on Wednesday and
Saturdays all are welcome to come and help. Volunteers can start after Spring recess. Call 568-6035 for information.

6. Bond Vote- Next Tuesday. Phone banks are running and mailings will go out.

7. Committee of 100- Phil Cordella, Vicky Pittman, and Karen Roberts attended. Topics discussed: State budget, aid to education, hope to hire 59 new teachers with this budget if approved. 25/55 retirement incentive for tiers 2, 3 & 4.

Vice-President’s Report

1. APPR- Document was ratified. Phil Cordella and Vicky Pittman will meet with Administrator’s Council May 2, 2007;

2. Administrator’s Survey: A condensed version is being considered. Topics to include: referrals, SAVE legislation, treatment of teachers as professionals and whether or not administrators adhere to the contract.

Treasurer’s Report

1. Report given at meeting.

Committee Reports

- Labor Management- Contract was signed by all parties, currently being printed and will be distributed when complete.
- Grievance-Report given at meeting.
- Health and Safety –Concern over sneakers with wheels. These shoes should not be worn to school. District’s Policy Committee to consider this issue. Please follow proper procedure when identifying issues on the building level before sending concerns to the District-wide Health and Safety Committee.
- Educational Issues Advocacy –Phone Banks taking place this week. Signs need to be put up on Saturday evening. A mailing of 3500 envelopes need to be stuffed.
- Teacher Center-Policy Board approved twelve new in-service classes. Two targeted at TA’s. Three new classes available. Flyers were distributed to buildings today. Mentor Program-mentors will be surveyed as an answer to concern over the number of mentors available. Mentor stipends should be received by now.
- ER&D -Class will attend the Board Candidate Interviews. There will be four teachers and four teaching assistants who will complete the training. Plans are under way for New Teacher Orientation and Teaching Assistant Orientation.
- VOTE/COPE- Chair stated there was no report to give at this time.
- Teaching Assistants-Representative form the NYS Retirement System gave a seminar concerning transfer of pensions. Defensive Driving Class to be held at the end of April. PTO appreciation event will be held at the end of April.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS
NEW BUSINESS

MOTION #1

To Award CSEA the 2007 Friend of Education Award

Whereas, the NTA awards its annual Friend of Education honor to those individuals, groups, or institutions which have made a noticeable and positive contribution to education in our community, and

Whereas, the officers and members of the Newburgh CSEA Local 836, Unit 7510 work side-by-side daily with members of the Newburgh Teachers’ Association as dedicated and caring fellow employees, and

Whereas, Newburgh CSEA Local 836 Unit 9510 is a strong and proud union who share the lofty goals of the American Labor Movement, be it therefore

Resolved, that the NTA bestow its highest honor to Newburgh CSEA Local 836, Unit 9510 and award them with the 2007 Friend of Education Award and be it further

Resolved, a plaque declaring such be placed in each building in which a CSEA member works.

(Submitted by the NTA’s Board of Directors)

Moved: S. Minard
Seconded: L. Colacchio

Motion approved unanimously

MOTION #2

To Study the Increased Impacts on Teacher Working Conditions

Whereas, the curriculum, planning, and paperwork demands placed on teachers over the past few years have impacted the working conditions of all teachers, and

Whereas, the added responsibilities placed on teachers at the elementary and secondary levels have affected our ability to do what we do best, teach children, be it therefore

Resolved, the NTA Labor Management Committee undertake a study on the elementary and secondary levels of work day requirements, time spent with students, teacher lunch and teacher lunch duties, preparation time, class composition and size, departmental duties and requirements, scheduling equity, seniority, and any other viable issues in order to better prepare for these and other challenges to our working conditions and the impact on student learning.

(Submitted by the NTA’s Board of Directors)

Moved: V. Pittman
Seconded: N. Sparacio
GOOD AND WELFARE

Moment of Silence: Lou Alogia

New Telephone System- Phones must be stationed by the door. Could be a security issue. New phones will be locked on the wall and lowered to be handicapped accessible. This digital system might be able to monitor teacher usage.

Copy Machines- many machines are not working. This remains to be a huge issue throughout the District. Summer copying is available through the print shop.

Upcoming Events: March 22nd- Pre-K School at Washington Street will hold a second Family Literacy Night at 6:30 PM. April 14th- Transforming our Schools Workshop at Marlboro High School. Contact the Mid-Hudson Teacher Center for information.
April 20th- Blues and Jazz night at North Junior High. NFA- Empty Bowls Celebration- purchase a student created ceramic bowl with soup and bread. All proceeds to go to local food banks.

Job Postings- Elementary level: some teachers were interviewed in one building over another. Substitutes should be interview if they worked 50 days last year, and either lived in, or graduated from, the District.

ADJOURNMENT
Motion to adjourn at 5:35 PM
Moved: K. Masten
Seconded: J. Nee

Motion approved unanimously

Respectfully submitted by,

Karen Roberts
NTA Secretary