DELEGATE ASSEMBLY MINUTES

March 30, 2011

Present: Officers: P. Van Duser, J. LeRoy, E. Hart, J. Daley
Balmore: C. Franklin; Fostertown: J. Conn, J. Colandrea; M. Olsen;
Gardnertown: R. Phillips; Gidney Ave.: B. Glynn, G. Pinheiro, M. Scully, B. Underhill,
K. Andre; Heritage Middle: K. D’Alfonso, A. Landol, L. Vinti; Horizons: J. Laudiero,
New Windsor: A. Sartori; NFA: J. Borgia, B. Browne, B. Goodman, D. King, J. Michalek;
NFA North: N. Morales; Pre-K @ Washington St.: D. Mahusky;
South Middle: A. DuBois, R. Morrow: Stewart; J. Eitel; Temple Hill: M. Corbett,
W. Kostenblatt, K. Wingfield; Vails Gate: M. Wiley; West St.: T. Colon-Palenik, D. Ribble;
Retiree Chapter: P. Gertler, R. LeDuc, E. Winfield, R. Coughlin, L. Smith;
Teaching Assistant Chapter: S. Manning, B. Johnson; Committee Chairs/ Other Attendees:
J. Richards, M. Bowe, K. Roberts, A.M. Healey.

Schools not represented: Administration; Executive Drive; Bishop Dunn; Sacred Heart; St.
Joseph; Substitute Chapter

CALL TO ORDER:

Meeting called to order at 4:20 pm.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

February 23, 2011

Moved: S. Manning
Second: J. Conn

Passes unanimously

PRESIDENT’S REPORT:

1. Governor Cuomo’s budget cut $1.5 billion from NYS schools, making it the largest cut in
NYS history. Brings the State’s School budget to the same levels as 2007-2008 school
year.
2. Local politicians are attacking our union rights.
3. VOTE-COPE is as important as ever!
4. Continue to FAX your legislators daily.
5. March 22, 2011 Committee of 100 met with local legislators.
6. Teachers and Teaching Assistants need to be timely with turning in credits and getting approval for coursework. Please consult the Credit Application Chart on the NTA website.
7. At this time, 44 teachers and 4 Teaching Assistants have accepted the retirement incentive offered. Teaching Assistant incentive option closes April 1, 2011.
8. Any seniority concerns should be directed to the NTA Office.

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

1. Attending all the BOE budget and regular meetings.
2. Attended the Teamsters Rally on March 10, 2011.
3. New Policy and Procedure Manual work continues. Binders are available to members at the NTA Office.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

1. Attached.
2. Work on the 2012 budget has begun.

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

Educational Issues: G. Pinheiro reported on the Rallies of March 3, 2011 for Workers Rights at Teamsters, and March 16, 2011 in Yonkers for Public Education. The next Rally is April 4, 2011 at the corner of Routes 300 and Route 17K. Wear Red. Phone bank volunteers will be needed for the Budget and Board of Education Election. He asked for one volunteer from each building to come and ask questions at the BOE candidate interviews April 26, 2011.

Grievance: A. Sartori reported there are two Stage II grievances pending.

Health and Safety: J. LeRoy reported that work continues on Capital Projects. Construction meetings continue through the summer. The concerns with rooms 220 and 222 at NFA/N have been addressed. Dr. Thomas, School Physician and Mrs. Henry, Director of Health Services met with Mr. Townsend and Head Coaches for a discussion on concussions and the medical follow up. Mr. Ramjug reports a positive return on our energy conservation efforts.

Labor Management: D. Brown reported negotiations are continuing, with the next meeting tomorrow.

ER&D: J. Eitel reported there are no plans for New Teacher Orientation or Teaching Assistant Workshops in the fall.

NTC: A.M. Healey reported the final meeting of the NTC Policy Board will be April 11, 2011. The NTC will be officially closed on June 24, 2011.

SAVE: B. Browne reported that there was no meeting in March. She reminded us to keep gold copies of referrals, and to file a grievance is there is no follow up within the recommended time frame.

VOTE/COPE: M. Olsen reported on TRO VOTE COPE comparisons lists Newburgh at number 10 regionally with VOTE/COPE donations. The goal for next year is to be higher on the
list. The Committee has made presentations to schools on the importance of VOTE COPE and will be at NFA on Monday or Tuesday next week.

**Retiree Chapter:** F. Gertler read a statement from RTC. Statement is attached.

**Teaching Assistant Chapter:** S. Manning reported that the Starting out Healthy Fair will be May 7, 2011. It will be held at the Newburgh Armory on Washington Street. She asks for anyone who is interested in volunteering to email her.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**MOTION # 1**

*Whereas,* the benefits and gains for the union and its members are evident in the knowledge of their contracts, implementing action plans and electing school board are important topics necessary for the NTA representatives to properly perform their duties; be it therefore

*Resolved,* that the NTA Leadership Conference for 2011 be held in November locally.

(Submitted by Board of Directors)

Moved: C. Franklin  
Second: D. Brown  
Passes with 5 Abstentions

**MOTION # 2**

*Whereas,* the delegates from the Newburgh Teachers' Association will be attending the NYSUT representative Assembly, and

*Whereas,* the delegates will be participating in a state-wide election for NYSUT officers, be it therefore

*Resolved,* that the NTA Delegate who go cast their votes for:

- Richard C. Iannuzzi - President
- Andrew Pallotta - Executive Vice President
- Maria Neira - Vice President
- Kathleen M. Donahue - Vice President
- Lee Cutler - Secretary-Treasurer

(Submitted by NTA Board of Directors)

Moved: C. Franklin  
Second: D. Brown  
Passes with 1 abstention

**GOOD AND WELFARE:**

1. Barbara Goodman wants to thank to R. Sangiovese for being Head Delegate at NFA last year.
2. J. Cuilty asked what we can do to help save jobs.
3. D. Brown mentioned the manner in which NTA members spoke up at BOE meeting. He recommended educating younger members and reminding senior members to present well by putting on a positive and professional persona. The negotiating committee is bound by an agreement not to mention anything that comes up at negotiation sessions.
4. L. Colacchio spoke about the “slicing and dicing” of positions by the BOE in their budget discussions. How did the last two school budgets stay under an increased tax levy?
5. D. Ribble discussed the latest tax increase to City of Newburgh residents and the proposed 4-5% tax levy being discussed by the BOE. She also questions what, if any, alternatives to closing West St. School were presented to the BOE. She asked what parents could do to support the efforts of the NTA?
6. J. Eitel remarked on hearing remarks concerning “older teachers draining the system”.
7. B. Browne remarked on how new NTA members will be educated in the history and importance of unionism without the NTC. K. DeMarco remarked on younger teachers needing to know about tenure and seniority rights.
8. J. Daley remarked on the way to help might be bringing questions and concerns to negotiating committee before making suggestions to BOE.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn at 5:45 pm

Moved: D. Brown  
Second: B. Browne  
Passes Unanimously

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanne M. Daley
NTA Secretary
REPORT TO THE DELEGATE ASSEMBLY

March 23, 2011

We made a proposal to President VanDuser in July 2009 to resolve our last remaining voting rights' issue. We made a second written proposal to the Board of Directors earlier in March 2011. Both proposals would have resolved the issue going forward and would not have affected the last election. Both proposals would have solved the issue in-house in a bilateral, amicable fashion. Unfortunately the NTA has not accepted either proposal and has not provided any constitutional basis for non-acceptance. Since we have exhausted all in-house avenues for a solution, we have now sent an inquiry to NYSUT's Credentials Committee and, if necessary, we will contest the seating of the Newburgh delegation to the 2011 RA.