DELEGATE ASSEMBLY MINUTES
April 24, 2013

Present: Officers: A. Plichta, L. Colacchio, E. Hart
Absent: J. Daley
Balmville: J. Santana, A. Healey; Fostertown: Z. Matthews; Gardnertown: R. Phillips;
Heritage: J. Hesse; Horizons: J. Catalano, N. Lorenzo; Meadow Hill: T. Cadden, J. Connolly,
K. DeMarco, M. McCann, L. Stanley; New Windsor: M. Bowe, J. Logerfo, A. Merrill,
M. Petrucocola, K. Steel; NFA Main: J. Borgia, B. Brown Fazio, T. Carmichael, B. Goodman,
NFA North: B. Rubin, L. Colacchio, N. Morales; South Middle: A. DuBois, R. Durbin,
L. Benvenuto, D. Crisci-Rodriguez; Temple Hill: M. Collard, M. Corbett, L. Puma,
K. Wingfield, G. Masiello; Vails Gate: M. Smith; Washington St.: N. Colon;
Retiree Chapter: P. Gertler, R. Leduc, D. Morano, R. Coughlin, D. Davidson, J. Eitel, L. Smith;
Teaching Assistant Chapter: S. Manning; T. Brady-Lyden, B. Johnson;
AFT Delegates: D. Brown; NYSUT Delegates: J. Eitel, M. Riverol;
Committee Chairs: L. Mangan, Grievance; Angela Sartori, Grievance; Theresa Vidi, Compact;
A. Healy, NTC; Other Attendees: Judith Richards, Ross Rosenberg;

Schools not represented: Administration; Chestnut St.; Bishop Dunn; Sacred Heart;

Chapters not represented: Substitute Chapter

CALL TO ORDER:

Meeting called to order at 4:31 PM

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

March 20, 2013

Moved: M. Scully
Second: D. Brown

Passed Unanimously
PRESIDENT’S REPORT:

1. Twelve NYSUT Delegates from the NTA attended the NYSUT Representative Assembly in Washington, DC for the annual convention of representatives. There were several great speakers including NYSUT Officers Tom Di Napoli, Senator Chuck Schumer, Randi Weingarten, and John Nichols, who writes for the Nation. The basic message was to talk Truth to Power. We have told it like it is; now it is time to let us teach. It is time to take back public education, and one of the most powerful messages was viewed by all New York State Delegates and it came from NTA member Christine McCartney.

2. It is time to speak Truth to Power. There will be a rally to support Public Education in Albany on Saturday, June 8th. We need to get teachers, parents, and grandparents to get involved and go. We have waited a long time to get this message to those who are in power in Albany—Please help get our voices heard. NYSUT is helping to pay for the buses. It is the job of all of us to get those buses filled. Please take the Rally sign-up sheets back to your buildings and get your colleagues to join us. I’ll be there on June 8th, but we need all teachers to be there.

3. There will be a general membership meeting on Wednesday, May 1st to present the information on ratification of the contract and that was agreed to by the negotiating committee.

4. We are meeting to make revisions to the APPR plan that will make it better for teachers as we go forward. The district is well aware that this must be ratified by the membership and it must be fair and reasonable to teachers.

VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT:
None

TREASURER’S REPORT:
Monthly Reports See Attached
NTA Budget Discussed

COMMITTEE REPORTS:
BOE Curriculum: D. Crisci-Rodriquez reported there was no curriculum meeting in April.

BOE Finance: L. Colacachio reported the Finance Committee is now the BOE Budget workshops.

BOE Policy: None

Central Compact: T. Vidi reported that this was the best Central Compact meeting she has been to in years. Mr. Forgit is setting up the Central Compact Committee as it was years ago for the district, and this will create a new Central Compact Committee under Mr. Forgit. She also reported that Judy Kennedy, the Mayor of the City of Newburgh spoke.

Educational Issues: G. Pinheiro reported that this is the busy season with BOE Candidate interviews and Phone Banks for the Budget. There will be a member interview committee for BOE Candidates; please sign up if interested more information to come. Beginning May 14th or 15th Phone Bank will begin and sign-up sheets will be distributed to all schools. Head Delegates should be receiving that information soon.

Grievance: L. Mangan reported that there was one resolution on a Stage II grievance, and two Stage II grievances were being worked on, and one grievance was withdrawn.

Health and Safety: None
Labor Management: A. Plichta reported a tentative 4 year contract deal was reached with the district and a general membership meeting will take place at NFA Main; more information to follow.

Newburgh Teacher Center: J. Borgia reported that 4 courses are up and running, and 2 courses are still open if anyone wants to sign up for them. The course sign up is on WinCap. A. Healey reported that Valarie Morrison sends out the notices and/or information for the NTC. One piece of equipment was still missing; it is the LGDVD recorder that the NBPTS candidates use. Please return if you have it, no questions will be asked.

SAVE: K. DeMarco reported that the SAVE committee is trying to avoid changes to the Code of Conduct and the district’s attorney is insisting on the changes. The SAVE Committee is holding the line on these changes. B. Brown Fazio thanked all the teachers who responded to the survey. Teachers are to keep the Gold Copy from the discipline form, and if you don’t receive a response from you administer within 5 business days you should ask for your pink copy.

Special Events: A. Plichta reported that the Friends of Education Dinner will be on June 21st.

Vote Cope: None

Chapters

Retirees: None

Teaching Assistants: S. Manning reported that the next Defensive Driving course will be held on May 11, 2013; applications are on the NTA website. May 23rd is the next Regional TA Membership meeting in Tarrytown.

Substitutes: A. Plichta reported it was well attended.

NEW BUSINESS

MOTION #1:

Whereas, the Newburgh Teachers’ Association’s annual Friend of Education dinner is a festive culmination of our school year, and the NTA awards outstanding individuals, institutions or groups who have contributed to education, be it therefore

Resolved, that the Delegate Assembly of the NTA approve and allocate the expenditure of the annual Friend of Education dinner and awards ceremony being held at the Powelton Club, not to exceed the cost of $8,000.00.

(Submitted by NTA Board of Directors)

Moved: D. Brown
Second: M. Scully

Passed Unanimously
MOTION #2:

Whereas, The NTA awards its annual Friend of Education honor to those individuals, institutions or groups which have made a noticeable and positive contribution to education in our community, and
Whereas, Frank Skartados is the District 104 Assemblyman who represents our District, and
Whereas, Frank Skartados has acquired $250,000 additional funds for last year and this year for the Newburgh Enlarged City School District, and
Whereas, Frank Skartados has a positive political agenda towards education, and
Whereas, Frank Skartados is supportive of labor and the middle class, be it therefore
Resolved, that the NTA bestow its highest honor to NYS Assemblyman Frank Skartados, and award him the 2013 NTA Friend of Education Award.
(Submitted by Board of Directors)

Moved: M. Riverol
Second: J. Eitel
Passed Unanimously

MOTION #3:

Whereas, public education has always been the vehicle for advancement in our society, and
Whereas, New York State is not funding public education adequately, and
Whereas, New York State Department of Education is hurting our schools with over testing and poorly conceived and implemented policies, and
Whereas, decisions are being made in the interest of large corporations, rather than the students in our schools, be it therefore
Resolved, that the Newburgh Teachers’ Association fully support the June 8th, 2013 Rally for Public Education in Albany, and be it further
Resolved, that we encourage our members, parents, grandparents, administrators, board members, and community to also attend and speak out for Public Education and join us on June 8th.
(Submitted by NTA President, Art Plichta)

Moved: D. Brown
Second: B. Rubin
Passed Unanimously
MOTION #4:

Whereas, it is the responsibility of the NTA to adopt an operating budget yearly, be it therefore
Resolved, that the Delegate Assembly approve the 2013 – 2014 NTA Budget as presented.
(Submitted by Board of Directors)

Moved: D. Brown
Second: M. Scully

Passed Unanimously

GOOD AND WELFARE:

J. Richards asked if there will be funds in the budget for repairs to the parking lot, especially the
big hole.

D. Brown asked E. Hart if she was going to present a budget for the Building Corp with a budget
line for building corp surplus to fix parking lot. E. Hart said yes.

L. Vinti asked about the phasing in of 6th grade at GAMS, and was priority given to GAMS
teachers? A. Plichta answered that he and Human Resources would be discussing the details.

B. Brown Fazio asked about the increase in money to ER & D, and who was going. A. Plichta
answered, as well as A. Healey who said she will be putting information out to the teachers. B.
Brown Fazio also asked if Mentor training was going to happen again, and would the district
provide the resources?

J. Eitel answered B. Brown Fazio; there are only two people trained to give the Mentor training.
M. Corbett thanked the Negotiating Team for all their hard work.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn at 5:41 PM

Moved: M. Bowe
Second: M. Scully

Passed unanimously

Respectfully submitted,

Laurie Colacchio
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NTA Secretary