DELEGATE ASSEMBLY MINUTES

May 11, 2011

Present: Officers: P. Van Duser, J. LeRoy, E. Hart, J. Daley
Balmville: C. Franklin; Executive Drive: N. Colon; Fostertown: J. Conn, M. Olsen;
D. Crisci-Rodriguez, V. Marin; Horizons: J. Laudiero, N. Lorenzo, D. Brown;
NFA: J. Nee; NFA North: N. Morales; Pre-K @ Washington St.: D. Mahusky;
Stewart: J. Eitel; Temple Hill: M. Corbett, K. Wingfield; Vails Gate: M. Smith;
West St: T. Colon-Palenik; Retiree Chapter: P. Gertler, R. Coughlin; Teaching Assistant
Chapter: S. Manning, T. Brady-Lyden, B. Johnson; NYSUT Del: M. Riverol; Committee
Chairs/ Other Attendees: L. Mangan, M. Bowe Grievance; A.M. Healey Teacher Center Policy
Board; K. Roberts Nominations and Elections.

Schools not represented: Administration; Heritage Middle; South Middle; Bishop Dunn;
Sacred Heart; St. Joseph; Substitute Chapter

CALL TO ORDER:

Meeting called to order at 4:16 pm.
Moment of silence for L. Seibert, P. Cordella’s brother, R. Coughlin’s aunt, L. Colacchio’s aunt,
G. Burmeister.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

April 27, 2011

Moved: N. Lorenzo
Second: N. Morales

Passes unanimously
PRESIDENT’S REPORT:

1. Thanks to all who participated in the Board of Education Candidate Interviews on April 28, 2011, especially our facilitators J. Conn and J. Santana.
2. During the BOE interviews, a major plumbing issue occurred. Thanks to everyone for their efforts in repairing the problem.
3. Committee of 100 travelled to Albany yesterday. The committee attended a candlelight vigil for all persons who lost jobs in NYS. Pictures of the event are on NYSUT Flicker. The committee met with Sen. W. Larkin for about an hour and a half to discuss our local concerns over lost jobs and state education funding cuts.
4. The first of our phone banks will be held tonight from 5-8 pm. We are supporting the “Support What is Best for Kids” campaign. The NTA is not actively supporting the budget, and remains neutral on supporting any BOE candidate due to the loss of 80 teaching and 31 teaching assistant jobs in this year’s NECSD school budget.
5. NYSUT layoff training was held on May 6 and was well attended by NTA as well as other Orange County local union members. Some of the topics covered included seniority rights, job recall rights, and tenure area rights.
6. The K-4 Literacy audit looked at our reading series and classroom processes. President Van Duser asked for a slow transition with teacher as opposed to being done to teachers.

VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT:

1. Thanks to all the participants of the Board of Education Candidate interviews.
2. Participated in the NYSUT layoff training and found our LRS K. DeStefano very helpful in his presentation.
3. Attended the very moving Committee of 100 vigil in Albany.
4. Teaching Assistant Chapter report deferred to S. Manning.

TREASURER’S REPORT:

1. Attached.
2. Information on the change in our UBS account to Wells Fargo is available.
3. Check register is available.

SECRETARY’S REPORT:

Central Compact: P. Van Duser reported for T. Vidi that the last meeting of the school year was at FosterTown School.
Educational Issues: G. Pinheiro reported phone banks begin this evening, continuing on Thursday, May 12 and Monday, May 16, 2011 from 5-8 pm. Everyone is invited to volunteer on any evening. Thanks to all the participants of the rallies, the Committee of 100 event, and the Board of Education Candidate interviews. Tuesday May 17, 2011 all are invited to be at the NTA for the tally of the budget vote and Board Candidate elections.
ER&D: J. Eitel report attached.

Grievance: L. Mangan reported there is one Stage II resolution pending.

Health and Safety: J. Daley reported the next meeting will be Thursday, May 19, 2011 at 4 pm in the Auditorium at the Board of Education. The meeting room has been changed for the last two meetings.

Labor Management: J. Nee reported one bargaining session has been completed and another scheduled for Monday, May 16, 2011. Our current contract expires June 30, 2011, and if needed a general membership meeting will be held if no new contract is negotiated by the expiration date.

NTC: A. M. Healey reported June 20, 2011 will be the last Policy Board meeting, and the center will be closing June 24, 2011. Professional Development was initiated four years ago concerning literacy and the audit. Mentor logs are due June 8, 2011. Postings for Mentors for next year are out.

SAVE: K. DeMarco reported the next meeting is in June, and hopes for positive changes with the new changes on the referral form.

Special Events: J. Laudiero reported response forms for the Friends of Education Dinner at the Osiris Club in Walden will go out tomorrow. It is a first come, first served event due to the number of anticipated participants.

Teacher Center: Mentor Logs are due no later than June 8 to be submitted to payroll. The Newburgh TC will end it 20 year operation on June 24th. It is unclear up to what date NTC resources will be available prior to closing. Mentor posting went out – send requests to HR.

VOTE/COPE: M. Olsen reported nothing new, but keep donations coming for the 2011 calendar year.

Retiree Chapter: No new report this month.

Teaching Assistant Chapter: No new report this month.

Substitute Chapter: No new report this month

NEW BUSINESS

MOTION #1

Whereas, the NTA historically has played a significant role in passing school district budgets and electing members to the Board of Education, and

Whereas, for the past three years the District and the Board of Education have instituted a “full-board open budget development process” which this year has resulted in tax increase of 3.78% and the loss of 78 teaching positions and 31 TA positions and an undetermined number of layoffs, and

Whereas, there will come a time when a positive partnership to promote innovation and progressive educational planning will be needed by both parties with broad financial commitments, be it therefore

Resolved, that for the second year in a row, the NTA remains neutral in its candidate endorsement process while pledging to develop productive and professional relationships with the three members elected from the field of nine candidates, and be it further
Resolved, that the NTA make plans to “support what kids need” to encourage our fellow NYSUT members to vote on the 2011-2012 NECSD Budget.

Moved: K. Wingfield
Second: J. Laudiero  Passes with one abstention

GOOD AND WELFARE

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn at 4:40 pm

Moved: J. Conn
Second: G. Pinheiro  Passes Unanimously

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanne M. Daley
NTA Secretary