DELEGATE ASSEMBLY MINUTES
November 19, 2008

Present: Officers: Phil Cordella, Vicky Pittman, Karen Roberts and Angela Sartori
Balmville: C. Crozzoli, Chestnut Street, A. Grice, J. Eitel Executive Dr.: N. Colon,
Fostertown: S. Minard, K. Komondorea, R. Whitted Gidney Avenue: F. Canfield,
M. Scully, Heritage Junior High: P. Hunter, H. Lamb, A. Berryann
HJH@Stewart: J. Daley, Horizons-on-the-Hudson: D. Liebman, N. Lorenzo
J. Nee, R. Sangervasio, B. Stipak, T. Sturart North Junior High: J. Michalek, N.
Morales Pre-K @Renwick: E. Hart Pre K @Washington St.: G. Luloff, D. Mahusky.
Temple Hill: R. Grove, W. Kostenblatt, G. Masiello, K. Wingfield,
Vails Gate: C. Moriello, M. Wiley NYSUT/AFT Delegates: W. Lastowski,
Retirees: B. Fogarty, R. Leduc, D. Morano, J. Richards, S. DeMarco
Substitute Chapter: P. Cavallo Teaching Assistants: J. Mongelli B. Johnson,

Additional Attendees: Ed Issues Chair G. Pinheiro, New Teacher Initiative Chair: M.
Henry, Health and Safety: J. LeRoy, Retiree Members: D. D’Alessandro, S. Fazio,
P. Gertler

Schools not represented: Administration, Gardnertown, and South Jr. High

Meeting was called to order at 4:15 PM

Moment of Silence: Mr. Edward Johnson, Sr. (Father of Berenda Johnson)

Approval of the Minutes of October 15, 2008 as corrected.
Moved: S. Manning Passed Unanimously
Seconded: R. Grove
President’s Report
1. School visits began today at GAMS, please use the form to reserve your Lunch with the NTA President.

2. Elementary Teachers- Grade level meetings should only be held once per month.

3. Clubs that are approved and in existence will be funded.

4. Testing Schedule was distributed. Discussion took place about Article XVI days.

5. Board Forum will be held December 8, 2008 from 6:30-8:00 pm. Possible location is Temple Hill Academy.

Vice-President’s Report
1. Notice about Performance Conditions meeting went out for the December 15, 2008 meeting.

2. The NTA Vice President attended the Orange-Ulster Presidents meeting. The major topic of the evening was the economic downturn. It was also discussed that VOTE/COPE money will be used to keep what we have instead of moving forward.

Treasurer’s Report
1. Report given at meeting, check registry was made available

Committee Reports
- Labor Management- Report given at meeting
- Grievance- Four Stage II grievances were heard and two more scheduled with more waiting.
- Health and Safety- If you have not done so please email your Building Level Health and Safety Committee members to J. Daley. Camera purchase for Temple Hill and GAMS will be put off until next year. If the key issues in your building are still unresolved please see J. Daley. Watch for materials for Global Handwashing Day Poster Contest.
- Educational Issues Advocacy- On the night before Election Day, 22 NTA members came out for the phone banks. Thank you to all who worked the phone banks for this election. Mid-Year cuts have been dodged for the moment.
- Teacher Center- Meeting on Monday to approve courses. Central Office was not available, courses should be approved 12/15. Teacher Center sent information to teachers regarding member certification. Mentor stipend should be in the first paycheck in December.
- Nomination and Elections- See motions 1 and 2.
- Sabbatical- Deadline for submitting applications is February 1, 2009
Special Events- Holiday get-together for the December Delegate Assembly is being planned.

ER&D- We are training eight new research linkers, two teachers to train for Middle School Math, Summer Training for Home-School Connection and Instructional Strategies that work. There is some interest in National Training for Thinking Mathematics.

VOTE/COPE- NTA President thanked the Teaching Assistant Chapter for their hard work, and reminded the members that VOTE/COPE Payroll Deduction Forms were available.

Teaching Assistants- The Making Strides Walk was attended by many members, With the help of the Teaching Assistant Chapter, Safe Homes raised $30,000.00 at their most recent fundraiser. Defensive driving class will be held on 12/6. There will be a toy drive at the December Delegate Assembly. LAP Grant is moving along. Save the Date of April 25, 2009 for a Health Fair.

New Member Initiative- Any questions can be sent to M. Henry at HJH. Applications are due by March 1, 2009

Retirees- No Report

Substitutes- No Report

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

MOTION #1
Whereas, active members (teachers and teaching assistants), retirees, and substitutes are eligible to vote in NTA elections; and

Whereas, the Bylaws of the NTA Constitution require that members be present in their school to vote; and

Whereas, it is impossible for some members to be present in their schools to vote; therefore, be it

Resolved, that in the interest of fairness, inclusion and equity for all members, the NTA Bylaws 1.g. be amended to read as follows:
Proxy ballots will not be permitted. All eligible voters must personally sign the membership list prior to voting at the polling place. All in-service members must vote in their home base school, except in cases where a bona-fide absentee ballot has been received. Special members will vote at the NTA office except in cases where a bona-fide absentee ballot has been received.

(Submitted by the NTA Board of Directors)

Moved: K. Roberts
Seconded: D. Liebman

Passed Unanimously
MOTION #2
Whereas, when situations arise whereby Delegates and/or Head Delegates, and their corresponding alternates, represent buildings where there may not be students, be it

Resolved, the Delegate and/or Head Delegate, and their corresponding alternates, in buildings where there are not students, for the purposes of Board of Director election vote on the level according to the last school worked in.
(Submitted by the NTA Board of Directors)
Moved: K. Roberts
Seconded: D. Liebman
Passed Unanimously

MOTION #3
Whereas, the actions of humankind are significantly increasing the level of greenhouse gases emitted into the atmosphere, thereby exacerbating global warming; and

Whereas, the nation and the world acknowledge that carbon dioxide emissions are growing at a much faster rate than scientists had previously projected; and

Whereas, the NTA, NYSUT, and AFT have had a long history of advocating for the health and safety of its constituents and the larger world community; and

Whereas, NYSUT and AFT have passed motions to actively lobby elected officials to support federal and state legislation to limit and reduce the amount of greenhouse gases emitted, as well as, to move our nation in a direction that encourages the use of clean, renewable energy; and

Whereas, everyone can do simple things to limit his or her carbon footprint, be it therefore

Resolved, that the NTA begin to implement those simple things that can easily be done and study and search for ways to continue to reduce carbon emissions within our building and within our schools; and

Resolved, that the NTA periodically remind and encourage our members to limit their own carbon emissions to sufficiently reduce greenhouse gases to begin to consciously eliminate our carbon footprints in preparation for the generations to come.
(Submitted by NTA Board of Directors)

Moved: V. Pittman
Seconded: S. Minard
Passed Unanimously
MOTION #4
Whereas, the concept and ideals of Fair Trade have been applauded and encouraged by NYSUT through its Labor Religion Coalition and many NYSUT, as well as, NTA members have participated in buying, using, and educating others regarding the environmental and economical advantages of Fair Trade; be it therefore

Resolved, that the NTA purchase and serve Fair Trade coffee at our meetings and functions.
(Submitted by NTA Board of Directors)

Moved: M. Wiley
Seconded: B. Johnson Passed Unanimously

GOOD AND WELFARE

Thank you for having Bluesmatic play at the leadership conference.

Leadership conference was a wonderful weekend, thank you to the Special Events Committee

ADJOURNMENT
Motion to adjourn at 5:20 PM
Moved: P. Hunter
Seconded: N. Sparacio Passed Unanimously

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Roberts
NTA Secretary