

Executive Committee Meeting Representative Council Meeting

Meeting called to order: 4:45 on October 19, 2017

Minutes and Correspondence - Marie Tichenor

- Motion to accept- Annice Benamy seconded by Brad Cohen
- Motion passed unanimously

Treasurer's Report – Kathy Conroy

- Motion to accept-file to audit Laura Mucci; seconded Fern Perez
- Motion passed unanimously

President's Report- Joe Cortico

- Children's Literacy Initiative (CLI) concerns discussed:
 - CLI training cannot be done during lunch or on a prep
 - Contractually, meetings/training can be held only twice a month during grade level meetings
 - Training during PD days or paid after school is what EEA recommends
 - If members volunteer they can't expect to be paid or be part of a grievance filed
 - CLI training is happening during contractual teaching time; how are student's growing if teachers are not teaching
 - Can be done at Team meeting bi-monthly
- Several members issues were taken care of this month:
 - Hamilton and Dwyer uncertified teacher situation was rectified
 - Health issue for a traveling teacher; teacher no longer has to travel between two buildings
 - Nurses focus meeting was held
 - Focus meeting with School No. 23 has been scheduled for November 14th
 - November 2nd - Meet the Candidate's at Valencia Restaurant on Monroe Ave.
 - Class size at Kindergarten

- Observation Concerns
 - Observations were done in the first two weeks and many administrators are only giving staff 24 hours or less to answer the pre-observation questions
 - EEA takes the stand that administrators cannot expect you to open email after dismissal to look for pre-observation questions
 - Call office if any teacher has had their observation done against state regulations
 - Double observations can be done and scheduled together
 - All teachers can have as many observations as administration wants.
 - State regulations state that pre-observation questions can be done orally with the administrator
 - If some things came up in an observation due to observations being done too close together- argument is that there was not time to improve
 - Only 6th grade and up need certificated staff member for health classes; thus K-5 teachers are able to teach health

- 90-degree temperatures in the classrooms discussion:
 - Central administration stance is that they are following the legal protocol; they supply water and students and staff rotate to an air-conditioned room to cool down
 - Old wiring won't support ceiling fans and window air conditioners
 - State Code says the board can allow fans in extreme heat

- October 21, 2017 Elizabeth Art Works playground painting at School 6; event runs from 12-2 PM
- Representative Council overnight will be October 13th -14th in Clark
- November 2, 2017 at 5:00- Meet the Candidates at Valencia Restaurant Monroe Ave - 8 people running for the 3 positions
- Executive Committee will be held on November 2, 2017 at Valencia's at 3:30
- Representative Council next meeting will be on November 16, 2017

Membership – Maria DaSilva/Jennifer Laranjeira

- Discussion on Janus lawsuit which argues that mandatory union fees in the public sector are a violation of the First Amendment. It looks like it may be heading to the Supreme Court.
- Joe spoke to Mr. Cuesta about members in the rubber room, several are still there even though DYFS stated the charges were unfounded, these staff members should be back in the classroom
- HR needs to improve how this room is run
- Joe will provide lunch for members in rubber room this Friday
- Requested that Wi-Fi be installed in the rubber room

Pride Committee – Annice Benamy/Elizabeth Dos Reis

- The following activities have been approved in the PRIDE budget by NJEA: Youth Spring Soccer, Special Olympics, Poetry Slam, Youth Golf, Boys Baseball, Girls Summer Soccer Program, Summer Basketball Camp Scholarship, Girls Volleyball league

Communications– Anthony De Pasquale/Tanya Tenturier

- Tanya Tenturier will send out a brief statement after each Representative Council meeting

Social Committee - Fern Perez/Jennifer Savoca

- Looking into several ideas for the membership to enjoy socially
 - “Annie” at Paper Mill Playhouse
 - Wine, cheese, and paint
 - Second job fair: where members sell services or goods from their second job such as Avon

C.A.R.E- Dawn Lippi

- See report on table

Grievance – Diane Bliss, Elementary Tanya Tenturier Middle School and Ed D'Alessandro High School

- Rose Holt and Joe Cortico met in early September with administration and their attorney for a grievance meeting
- Board had changed terms on verbally agreed upon items
- NJEA will provide an attorney for us to attend all grievance meetings with the board moving forward
- Attorney present at all EEA grievance committee meetings as well

PAC – Antonio Almeida

- Meet the Candidates event November 2, 2017

Health and Safety- Brad Cohen/Laura Mucci

- Concerns and complaint forms handed out
 - It creates a paper trail to keep a record of what has been done to rectify the problem
 - When protocols are not followed, Health and Safety Committee will follow up with complaint forms
 - School No. 8 mold and mushrooms growing; only band aids have been applied; get work order number so there can be a follow up by the EEA

Instructional Committee-Scott Donner/Pratibha Malholtra

- Sent letter to Superintendent to assign administrative members; no one has yet to be assigned
- Scott requests IAC members to stay after meeting for a brief meeting

Old Business

- Perfect Attendance checks will go out in October; no definite date
- Monday workshop is 8:15 -3:00-Joe will verify since several schools have had faculty meetings this month; the agreement is that staff can stay until 4PM on district PD days , however there is to be no school staff meetings that month if the PD is held until 4pm
- PLC and SGO discussion; document how preps are missed for these mandates

New Business

- Three year olds in the Pre-K program are to be tested in Spanish; if that class's teacher does not speak Spanish then a colleague that speaks Spanish is to test the class.
- This causes the colleague to lose time with her own class
- Teachers not testing will carry on instruction for the teacher testing in Spanish; this is how it is being done at School No. 2
- Drew Thomas speaks to his email
- Antonio Almeida makes a motion to close debate after three people speak seconded by Brad Cohen
- Election committee discussion
- Suggested that the President go to the school buildings to meet with members more often

Motion to adjourn: Fern Perez seconded by Elizabeth Dos Reis