

FEA Representative Council Minutes
January 26, 2005

Present:

Tom Avvakumovits, President Jessica Branco, Vice President
Greg Merrick, Treasurer Jan St. Clair, Secretary

Site presidents: Laurie Turner, FHS Jan St. Clair, HHS,
Mike Williams, LHS Jon Fey, MVHS

Negotiating Team: Jon Stark

Representatives: Jason Heskett, Carmen Kinkade, Paula Schineller, Deborah Kumar, Somsack Chaitesipaseut, Sonia Dass, Rich Steffen, Cheryl Vettel, Lisa Ehresman, Kathleen Whitney, Erin Ronan, Amanda Day, Jessica Banchieri, Debbie Schmalz, Sheila Altmann, Maria Autran, Travis Hambleton, Emmett Powers

Secretary's Report: Jan St. Clair

Minutes of December 15, 2004, approved.

Treasurer's Report: Greg Merrick

Greg presented the November Bank statement.

The December statement will be ready at the next meeting.

Greg has filed the official State and Federal forms for the Association.

Vice President's Report: Jessica Branco

May 20, 2005, is the Teacher Recognition Dinner at Lou's Village.

At the Feb. meeting, Jessica will be asking for Rep council to confirm funds for a possible social in March.

State Council Report: Carl Schmidt

Carl will go to the State Council meeting next week.

There may be a proposal by the Governor to create a two-tier system in STRS for new teachers beginning 2006-07. CTA does not support it. It would not have any effect on any current teachers.

Carl is one of 850 members in the State Council. He requested topics of concern:

Prop 98 money potentially being withheld from education is being vigorously opposed by CTA.

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Merit pay is not supported by CTA.

Comment: other states that have tried it, but it has not survived.

Loan from STRS by state – will it ever be paid back?

Negotiations Report: Jon Stark

- Team has set a schedule of what needs to be done for the next contract. We hope to negotiate a proposal by May.
Staffing and the Protocol are two of the topics for next week.
Polly Bove, Jeff Kiehl and Kate Jamentz will be the district's negotiating team.

Action item: confirmation of new negotiating team member.

Tom asked for confirmation of the appointment of **Lisa Ehresman**.

Motion by Carl Schmidt.

Seconded

Discussion

Motion passes unanimously. Bravo Lisa!

Reminder: There is no retroactive pay for the current 4.9% pay cut. Next year, the 2003-04 salary schedule will be reinstated. Hopefully, the protocol will produce additional funds to increase pay.

The Protocol will be run to determine funds available. There is also an adjustment mechanism of up to 2.5% for next year to off-set increased costs of our health package should new revenue not cover the increases.

A question came up whether the team discussing a 20:1 in biology?
The negotiating team agreed to learn more about 20:1 class-size reduction policies to see what is indeed possible, and what is mandated by the state.

Special Report*: Travis Hambleton

- Demonstration of FEA website

Travis has prepared an official FEA website with information about calendars, VITA for health information, FEA rep and officer emails, links to CTA and NEA, STRS, etc. Members will be able to access this site with the following address:

www.mvhs.fuhsd.org/travis_hambleton/FEA.htm

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Rep feedback:

Additional information teacher credentialing info., announcements for FEA social events, etc.

Fabulous work!! Thank you Travis!!

President's Report: Tom Avvakumovits

- **H&W Change:**

Beginning Sept. 2005, any member whose spouse wants to stay on FEA medical benefits will pay \$100 per month as authorized by member vote in December of 2004.

FEA, in conjunction with our health broker Vita and the District will be very careful to provide information this Spring in order for families to make an informed decision regarding spousal coverage.

- **Facilities update:**

Tom has made the Superintendent aware of construction issues, specifically existing problems and unfinished work from the modernization projects.

Tom would like members to send him specific incidence of facility issues.

- An enrollment increase is expected next year of about 200 students. The district has made the procedures to register a new student more rigid.

In the month of February, the district will re-register every student currently in the district. Each student found who does not live in our district represents \$7,000.

This will take much work on the part of the district.

The district has purchased a software package that tracks data that tracks students and where they should be going to school. Tom will report back next month with as much detail about the program.

The district has tightened down rules for “care givers”.

- **Process for sending proposals to negotiating team with questions and feedback**

Tom presented a written compilation of the council’s small group discussion at the last meeting. It also contains the proposed “Negotiating Team Operations”

The goal is to increase communication with the team being open to proposals as issues come up.

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Comments/Questions:

Team being responsible for equal application of the CBA at each of the sites needs to include the site president who also deals with contractual issues, representing members and staying in communication with the local negotiating team member and the president.

The process will be placed on the FEA website, and Tom will mention it in the next Advocate (coming soon).

- **Long Range Plan**

At every Board meeting, there will be a report on where the district is as to the implementation of the long-range plan.

Rep who attended the Literacy committee meeting reported that the long-range plan was referenced there.

- **FEA meeting calendar for rest of year**

Tom presented the meeting calendar for the rest of the year.

If the CBA is finished in May, we may need an additional meeting.

Site Reports

LHS: Mike Williams

The facility issues: no projectors; tv mounts, but no tv.

No hoods in the chemistry labs.

The seriously injured student (car accident in Dec.) is doing better. Another student was killed in the crash.

FHS: Laurie Turner

Their 2nd Back to School night is coming up since they get all new students 2nd semester.

In April, FHS will have a major carnival, shutting down the parking lot for 3 days with rides, games. This is a major fundraiser, but teachers did not have in-put into it.

There will be a former FHS student playing in the Super Bowl

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MVHS: Jon Fey

Four months is the projection for the completion of the theater building

Music dept. is putting on a "master works" concert; this year is the Schubert Mass in G -- 300 choir members and 150 orchestra members.

Transition for teacher from FHS has worked well; many positive things from the students.

Dennis Plaza is a brand new grandfather.

CHS - Greg Merrick for Peggy Kahn

Students are fundraising for the tsunami victims.

HHS: Jan St. Clair

Principal Graham Clark is doing his 2-week National Guard duty in Korea. He is scheduled to return next week.

HHS had Red Code training and will have the actual drill soon.

Upcoming Meetings

Wed., Feb. 9: Exec Bd. Meeting, 3:30 p.m.

Wed., Feb. 16: Rep Council meeting, 3:45 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Janet W. St. Clair, FEA Secretary

