

FEA Representative Council Minutes
October 25, 2006

Present:

Officers: Tom Avvakumovits, President
Jessica Branco, Vice President Ben Clausnitzer, Treasurer
Jan St. Clair, Secretary

Site presidents: Jason Heskett, CHS Laurie Turner, FHS
Jan St. Clair, HHS Kyle Howden, LHS Jon Fey, MVHS

Negotiating Team Jon Stark
State Council Rep: Carl Schmidt

Representatives: Kristin Kakes, Nuria Mora, Stacey Morse, Jeff Rosado, Dan Amezquita, Debbie Kumar, Rani Bandermand, Debbie Curley, Angie Esswein, Lis Clausnitzer for Graeme Logie, Gary Yoshida, Brittany Stevens, Ken Iams, Kathleen Loia, Maria Carter, Travis Hambleton, Supriya Moore, Emmett Powers, Ed Puccinelli, Denae Moore

I. Secretary's Report: Jan St. Clair
Minutes of September 27, 2006 approved.

II. Treasurer's Report: Ben Clausnitzer
Ben distributed the August Balance Sheet which sums up the '05-'06 year. We spent down on only \$5342 from the reserves, though we had decided to spend down \$12,000.

III. State Council Report: Carl Schmidt

- Focus at State Council last week-end on the campaign.
- We are 87% funded in STRS. Defined Benefit plan will be maintained, but may necessitate increasing ours and the district's contribution.
- Issue of opposing "Intelligent Design" being taught in school is being revisited.
- A committee ACTE is looking at bringing technical and career classes back to schools.
- Representatives from our benefits companies will be at the social tomorrow.

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IV. Vice President's Report -- Jessica Branco
FEA social is tomorrow, Thursday, Oct. 26 th at BJ's from 3:15 p.m. to 6: ish.

V. Special Report – Cupertino Measures D & E – opposing viewpoints

Tom was invited to a neighborhood meeting to hear community members' feelings about Measures C & D. City of Cupertino voters will vote on these measures which relate to developing condominiums near the Vallco shopping center. Tom invited each side to present a 12-minute summary of their position to our rep council. The positions were recorded and are at the following address: YES side: (presented by Richard Lowenthal and Jo Price):

www.feamembers.org/yesondande.htm

NO side: (presented by Varsha Joshi)

www.feamembers.org/noondande.htm

VI. Negotiations Report: Jon Stark

• relevant issues

--Meeting with Guidance AP's on data for class size ratio.

--The Thanksgiving date for 2008 is the wrong Thursday.

Changes will be made.

--Propaganda going around saying you can earn credits for various activities (example read concerning a flyer sponsored by UOP) and will advance you on the salary schedule. The units in this specific example, however, do not count for an advanced degree at UOP; ergo, they do not count in our district for advancement on the salary schedule.

Check with HR ahead of time before you count on units being credited.

Jon shared a draft of language to clarify the requirements of course work to advance on the salary schedule.

Tom asked reps to review the language in order to vote at the next rep council meeting.

--CBA specifies that the ELD coordinator is the same status as a DC and subject to the rules of the DC's. That is not the practice in the district currently. Situation will be reviewed to make the situation match the CBA.

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• Class size overview (Lisa Clausnitzer, negotiating team member)

On Thursday, Oct. 19th, the team met with the Guidance AP's to look at section allocation. Lisa reviewed the spots at five schools that are being funded by the district (no cost to FEA) with an overage, and spots that are understaffed.

Science classes at FHS are at 36:1 or lower, which was the goal of FEA and the district. This is true for the most part in all schools.

This is due to an honest, diligent attempt by the GAP's to accomplish this.

Chemistry Honors and Biology are the most common classes that exceed 36:1 cap.

All teacher/departments approved any overages that occurred for extenuating circumstances.

ELD treatment is inconsistent due to varying needs at each site. The practice at HHS is to fold the ELD into the English numbers. But that may not work at all sites.

Overall, trend data is being used more effectively. There is improved tracking of students who take summer school to have more accurate staffing. Communication is greatly improved between GAP's, DC's and departments. The team and president use great scrutiny regarding class section allocation.

VII. President's Report -- Tom Avvakumovits

- board meeting update

Though president complied with the district request to refrain from using district email for campaign information, he on behalf of FEA received a letter from the district's attorney on behalf of the Board, threatening imprisonment or fines if we continued the use. We had complied and in the past, we have used email to support issues such as the parcel tax and the bond issue, etc.

Email can be used to provide information but not advocate for a campaign issue. Individual communication is fine. Teacher mail boxes are also fine to use.

- Campaign update -- precinct walk and emailing
see www.feamembers.org/update.htm

Tom encouraged teachers to come and precinct walk this Saturday.

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- Grant opportunities are available for teachers who teach in San Jose. Only Lynbrook is eligible for them.

VIII. Site Reports – site reports are an opportunity for site to share contractual concerns at their specific site.

CHS: Jason Heskett

Everything is happy at CHS.

MVHS: Jon Fey

Still hoping that Site Council reps might get credit for the 20 hours of extra-curricular supervision duty.

Would like to improve the protections for our coaches.

HHS: Jan St. Clair

WASC: Chairman of the visiting team met with Lisa Clausnitzer, our coordinator. Lisa and I met with Graham and our Guidance AP to review the final numbers for section allocation. All looked very well.

HHS English, Social Studies, and Science are in their 2nd and final year of spending the \$10,000 each for staff development as the remedy for the district shorting them sections last year. We have until the end of this school year to spend the money. Full report later.

FHS: Laurie Turner

FHS have reviewed that the district cannot require every teacher to have a presence on School Loop.

They are discussing money that might be available for guidance and possibly CAHSEE.

Homecoming is this week. The staff is also building a float!!

LHS: Kyle Howden

Grant money for PE was taken away by the governor and now is supposedly coming back. The district is not being very forthcoming in the use of that money. Tom will meet with Polly Bove about this.

IX Good of the Order

Reps shared various news items.

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Upcoming Meetings

Exec. Bd. , Nov. 8, 2006, 3:45 p.m. at FEA office.

Rep. Council, Nov. 15, 2006, 3:45 p.m. at FEA Office.

X. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at

Respectfully Submitted

Janet W. St. Clair, FEA Secretary