

## **PDTA Representative Assembly Meeting**

**May 8, 2006**

### **Minutes**

**Present:** P. Abkowitz, A. Balch, S. Bertrand, K. Boardman, B. Burrows, B. Canfield, D. Cerbone, L. Chaput, E. Ciccone, J. DiBrango, J. Drake, G. Drooz, J. Duntley, L. Ehrlich, S. Gager, B. Gibson, B. Girouard, C. Glassman, M. Hart, D. John, A. Johnson-Credit, S. Johnston, L. Khalil, M. LoRe-Geigel, M. Maland, J. Menchel, G. Mulkeen, B. O'Brien, D. Sanfratello, A. Shannon, B. Shapiro, K. Shield, N. Sorrentino, S. Tontarski, P. VanGraafeiland

**Absent:** C. Bader, M. Biondi, M. Brown, B. Collins, K. Dolan, M. Donner, D. Krenzer, H. McAulliffe, A. McCarthy, D. Nichols, C. Sackett, S. Stein, L. Traynor

**Minutes:** D. Cerbone asked if there was any follow up to the discussion we had with the Superintendent at April's R.A. meeting. M. A. Price and B. Shapiro did discuss some of the issues brought up, but not all. B. Shapiro will follow up. A change to an error in attendance on last month's minutes was noted.

**Additions:** 2006-07 PDTA Proposed Budget

#### **Treasurer's Report:**

- a. Monthly report:** J. Menchel handed out his monthly report. A new format allows us to see, by category, what was allocated and what has been spent to date and amount remaining. We are now current on our NYSUT bills. We also recently received a rebate from VOTE/COPE. An error was noted on the "Gifts" columns. The expenditure column and the actual column are reversed. J. Menchel will correct that error.
- b. 2006-07 Proposed PDTA Budget** was distributed. J. Menchel made note of two lines of the budget that contain reserves: Negotiations and Technology. Motions were brought up and discussed regarding several stipends. After discussion the following changes were voted on and approved:
  - Change Building Reps and PDTA Secretary to a \$750 base and begin to include the % increase as Officers have.
  - Change stipend for Grievance Chairperson to equal that of the two V-Ps.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

- 1. School Budget Vote:** PDTA will send out postcards to NYSUT members who live in the district to encourage them to vote on May 16. B. Shapiro also encouraged all PDTA members to be sure to support the school budgets in the districts where they live!
- 2. PDTA Elections:** All district positions are filled, so we will not need a district election. We will dissolve the New Member Committee. C. Glassman will take over next year as chairperson of Special Events. A. Balch will be our 6<sup>th</sup> delegate to the NYSUT convention. Building Reps will soon be putting out a call for building positions and preparing a building ballot.
- 3. Proposed settlement of the Health Insurance Grievance:** Although the contract language is not ready yet (the district's lawyers are looking it over), the district has implemented the resolution.

## NEW BUSINESS

4. **Summer Enrichment Scholarship:** The R.A. voted to donate the same amount as we donated last year to this scholarship.
5. **Paperless PDTA:** RA approved a change to have agendas and minutes sent electronically.
6. **Professional Standards Review Board (PSRB):** B. Shapiro reviewed the history and purpose of this committee. S. Johnston highlighted some of the work this Board has accomplished recently. One of the concerns that the Board has discussed is rotation and length of term of members of the Board. B. Shapiro noted that there are four teacher members on this Board. Three of the four teacher members' tenures are coming to an end. B. Shapiro will send out a call for nominations.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

7. **Special Events:** The United Way Drive report was distributed. Plans and preparation for the Retirement party are well underway. Be sure to send in your RSVP!!
8. **Public Relations:** Next year, the committee plans to improve our process of donating to the Food Cupboard. Jill Drake, chairperson, asked that Building Reps try to encourage people to be on the committee and that they be made aware of their responsibilities before they sign up.

## SPECIAL REPORTS

9. **President's report:** B. Shapiro and the five delegates attended the NYSUT convention in Rochester last week. At the convention, NYSUT agreed to allow NEA to merge with us. That brings our numbers from 450,000 to over 500,000. B. Shapiro also talked a bit about what is going on down in Louisiana and Mississippi. Most public schools in New Orleans have not reopened. All of the teachers were fired. The picture looks very bleak for public education.
10. **Retirees** will be helping to get the YES vote out on May 16. Their publication, *Retired Times*, has won a NYSUT journalism reward. Retirees will also be helping sell note cards created by a joint venture between MHS and TR. Interested staff can contact Kathy Eckler at MHS.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrew Balch  
PDTA Secretary