

**PDTA Representative Assembly Meeting**  
**April 10, 2006**  
**Minutes**

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

**Absent:** K. Boardman, K. Dolan, M. Donner, G. Drooz, M. Hart, D. Krenzer, C. Sackett, L. Traynor

**Minutes from April 3, 2006 Executive Committee Meeting** were distributed and approved.

**Treasurer's Report** was distributed and approved. Mail delivery problems at SHS have caused us to be late in paying NYSUT bills, but Joel has corrected the problem.

1. **Superintendent Visit:** Mary Alice Price visited PDTA R.A. She discussed several issues that the district is dealing with and answered questions from the R.A. Among the topics discussed:
  - a. Budget discussions are nearing an end. The district has been facing 4 years in a row of difficult budgets because of the Renovations Project. We are 3<sup>rd</sup> from the bottom on the tax rate list of school districts in the area. The proposed budget shows a spending increase of 8.6% (2.2% of which is for the Renovations Project and a little more for the costs to open a new school). To keep the increase at 8.6%, the district had to cut some requests. For example, the HS requested an increase of +5.7 FTE, but only got +2.2 FTE.
  - b. Revenue looks good for next year due to an increase in the property assessment. There may even be a increase in State aid.
  - c. Monroe County is looking into the possibility of taking away the monies they give districts from sales tax revenues. (Many counties don't give anything.) For Pittsford, it would be a loss of over \$1 million (2.4%). Mary Alice and other superintendents are working to save this.
  - d. Food service problems: Some buildings don't have a separate line for teachers. SHS has had its line closed due to construction. PDTA reps expressed their concerns about losing this. Mary Alice will look into the problem at SHS.
  - e. Professional Development Initiative work is well underway. Teacher representation includes Andy Balch, Erin Ciccone, Len Chaput and Julie Barker. The group (district/building administrators and teachers) continue to meet. The district will also be bringing in experts to look at our district specifically.
  - f. Communication regarding the renovations at SHS came up. Mary Alice explained that often problems come up at the very last minute and one problem may have a

- “domino effect” and create other problems/delays. She is optimistic that the majority of the work at SHS will be completed by September 1.
- g. Questions came up regarding the transfer process and seniority. Principals can help with communication. Mary Alice will bring this up with the Elementary Principals when she meets with them next. PDTA is also sponsoring a workshop on the transfer process this week

## **OLD BUSINESS**

2. **Health Fund/FSA Administration:** We are changing our Health Fund/FSA administrator beginning July 1, 2006. Meetings will be scheduled in all buildings. Please let staff know that this change has nothing to do with health insurance. We are NOT changing our health insurance!!
3. **School Budget/Vote:** See #1 above.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

4. **PDTA Elections:** We will have the district election first! Deadline for running for a district position is **April 28, 2006.**
5. **VOTE/COPE Campaign:** P. Abkowitz distributed results of the donation campaign. B. Shapiro and P. Abkowitz thanked everyone for their efforts to increase donations. This year we increased our donations from \$8,660 to \$11,400!!!  
Raffle winners were picked: Terry Nicosia (MCE) \$75 and Valerie Bay (AC) \$50.
6. **Proposed Settlement of Health Insurance Grievance:** P. VanGraafeiland negotiated with the district to resolve the issue. The R.A. supports this change.  
Tentative Agreement:  
1-5 Years: The district will continue health insurance for 3 months after all paid leave is exhausted.  
6-15 Years: The district will continue health insurance for 6 months after all paid leave is exhausted.  
More than 15 years: The district will continue health insurance for 10 months after all paid leave is exhausted.  
Language will be voted upon at the May meeting.

## **SPECIAL REPORTS**

7. **Public Relations:** J. Drake asked R.A. members to encourage HS seniors to apply for the PDTA Scholarship. Application deadline is April 25, 2006. *BuildingReps: Please check in with your Public Relations representative to make sure they are involved in this. Also, talk up the Food Cupboard donations. The shelves are getting bare!!*

8. **Special Events:** United Way campaign is about to end. It appears that we had a successful campaign. Report next month. Also, the Retirement Party is scheduled for May 25, 2006.

9. **President's Report:**

- No retirement incentive from the state at this point.
- There has been lots of interest in the Identity Theft workshop that PDTA is sponsoring.
- PDTA is hosting a Contract workshop this week; it will focus on transfers, postings and tenure.
- Postings change each week. Be sure to check them out and adhere to the deadlines!

10. **Grievance Report:** B Gibson reported on a coaching issue. Two coaches were coaching teams that should have been split into JV and Varsity. They will be receiving an additional stipend. B. Gibson also reminded members of the RA to bring concerns to her and/or B. Shapiro. If they don't hear about the problem, then there is no way they can fix it!

11. **V-P's Report:** There is still money in the Student Benefit Fund.

12. **Retirees:** Retirees are having a United Way campaign too! They are the model program for other retiree associations in the area!

Respectfully submitted,

Andrew Balch  
PDTA Secretary