

PDTA Representative Assembly Meeting

September 12, 2016

Present: T. Anderson, ~~C. Bader~~, S. Bielec, G. Bischooping, M. Brown, B. Burrows, D. Cerbone, K. Chesko, J. DiBrango, C. Doggett, K. Dolan, J. Drake, L. Drake, S. Ebert, L. Ehrlich, P. Fink, C. Foti, K. Grace, M. Hamblin, M. Hellems, K. Jordan, S. Kaier-Tuttle, G. Kemp, T. Kennell, B. Kramer, D. Larson, P. LeVan, M. Maland, A. Marshall, ~~R. Matthews~~, L. Mauger, P. Mayer, V. McCutchon, D. Nichols, D. Pellegrino, R. Ramesh, B. Regan, K. Roser, H. Schindeler, B. Shafer, J. Shaw, ~~K. Shea~~, K. Socker, L. Spring, C. Teel, S. Tontarski, S. Warchol, D. Zobel

1. Additions to the Agenda
2. Approval of the Minutes
 - a. Representative Assembly – June 2016-- approved
 - b. Executive Committee – September 2016--approved
3. Treasurer's Report: Presented by Treasurer. See attached report
 - a. Annual Required AFT Audit – Every year we are required to conduct an audit to remain in good standing with AFT. Members of the union need to conduct the audit. Treasurer and President cannot do the work of the audit. Volunteers look at all paper reports from PFCU and they compare it to Treasurer's records on quicken to make sure that everything is balanced and accurate.
AFT audit: first and seconded, motion carried

4. Old Business

- a. Materials-New RA Member Binders, *Sent under separate cover*: Roster of Representative Assembly, PDTA Committee Rosters, Meeting Dates, Instructions for PDTA only email lists.

There is a vacancy at BRMS for an assistant representative.

SEAC committee changes to occur to maintain a teacher representative from all buildings.

PDTA email lists should be used when communicating information with membership

- b. Scheduling conversation with the District and PTSA: September 15th Meeting with Melanie W, Karl T, PTSA co-president and Jolene to discuss steps moving forward. PDTA would like to see more transparency, better representation all stake-holders, and a more formal process for dip-sticking the elementary schedule.
- c. New standards leader interviews—Jolene will contact departments to gather people to represent the departments for this position.

5. New Business

APPR large group committee make up has changed: APPR committee changes: The large APPR group helps to advise the small negotiations group. The group was changed to have more people who will represent the current plan for this year.

- a. Elementary report card conversations: Function and Content: Elementary report card: Jolene had a conversation with Melanie W and Jeff C about the content and functionality of the report card. There is a meeting scheduled for October to discuss the functionality of this process. The content of the report card to be determined.

6. Committee Reports –

Extracurricular: Reminder to building reps that extracurricular contracts should be coming out soon. If anyone has any concerns, please have them contact their extracurricular building rep.

Public Relations: Benefits fair is early this year—October 6th. PR is still looking for raffle donations. Money raised will go towards PDTA scholarships.

Making strides walk: PDTA would like to have a big team that represents all buildings.

Apparel sale will be on-line this year.

Safety and Wellness: Presenting data to the district about effects of the heat on students and staff. Committee requests that staff put requests / complaints through the district.

Membership: Information should be coming to buildings next week. All new members should be personally contacted. Membership drive should be completed by October 6. Dues will be deducted by Nov 15.

Communications: If you have anything for Speak out, please sent them by the 19th.

7. Special Reports

President:

- Contract will be printed by the end of the year. The 15-16 contract plus the tentative agreement will make up our contract until it is printed.
- Budget Committee idea: Current budget practices have the treasurer and president creating the budget for each year, but Jolene would like to create a budget advisory committee that would make suggestions to treasurer and president for them to consider. Group should consist of at least 4 members for even representation. Budget advisory committee was previously approved by executive committee. Budget committee idea opened for discussion
- Building Visits in November and December: Jolene will come to all of buildings
- Public Relations and Special Events:
 - Benefits Fair Thursday, October 6, 2016
Wear PDTA apparel for Benefits fair
Pledge to vote cards at the NYSUT tables during the fair
 - Making Strides Walk Sunday, October 16, 2016 (Goal of 9-18 walking)

What it Means to Be a PDTA Leader

Member representation

Duty of fair representation/improper practices/Weingarten rights/progressive discipline

As representatives, we have a duty to represent everyone fairly. If anyone felt like we did not represent them fairly we could be brought up on improper practice charges.

Weingarten Rights: All members have the right to representation, but members must initiate this representation. All members should ask the following questions before entering a meeting with their administrator:

- What is this meeting regarding?
- Do I need a union rep?

Cadet rights—tenured members have the right to be silent. They may choose to take these rights in the middle of the meeting.

Representatives may end the meeting if needed.

PDTA is a champion of progressive discipline

PDTA has 30 days from when the member knew or should have known that there was a problem.

There is an expectations for building representatives is that they respond to member concerns in a timely fashion.

Committee chairs should be creating goals for the department. Committee chairs are encouraged to delegate tasks to the volunteers of their committee.

- Leader Access—All representative assembly members have the ability to have a leader access account from NYSUT.

Continuous Learning – Constitutional Amendment? Leaders of this body should be able to answer the questions “What does the union do for me?” Jolene would like to consider a constitutional amendment to require continuous learning through PDTA workshops or NYSUT summer training.

- Important dates:
 - PDTA Teacher Center Workshops: October 19 (politics), November 3 (what to say about unions)

- SRP Day November 15
- ERS Workshop, October 24, 3:30-4:30 SHS LI
- TRS Pre-Retirement Workshop for Teachers Only: December 15—email to follow
- Thank you cards: PDTA received thank you card from a scholarship winner. We also received thank you letters from the community
- PDTA Office Hours and Jolene's Schedule—You can contact Jolene from 6:30-8:00pm
- Other

Vice President-Administration:

Board of Education: First meeting tonight. Minutes are on-line under the BOA tab.

DPT

PTSA – Encourage all PDTA members to join! Membership is \$8 but any amount is appreciated.

Student Benefit Fund - Forms are electronic and found exclusively on www.pdta.org

Vice President-Negotiations:

Resolution Specialist: Building representatives are to ask administrator about his / her interpretation for FLMA absences. Please listen for the following: more than 3 days get reported to HR. Absences longer than 4 consecutive days may require a doctor's note.

Members do not need to release specific medical information.

*See speak-out article from Dwayne

Dwayne is making sure that full PDTA membership is aware of extracurricular and athletic opportunities.

There should be no expectations of administrators for collaboration.

Delegates: No report

Retiree: We hope that you have a better year.

8. Adjournment