

*Rep Council Meeting Minutes
Cooper Elementary School
Aug. 30, 2011-- 3:30-5:20*

Members present – Tammy Parker, Dawn Kelly, Kathy Steiert, Carolyn Thomas, Linda Covey, Sharon Riehl, Marisa Emlen, Ginny Miller, Linda Phelan, Cathy Dacanay, Diane Dahl, Katherine Epstein, Mark Richardson, Marsha Rucker, Laurie Savage, Aquinio!, Moira McSweeney, Glenn Branaman, Terresa Cook, Bob Blaine, Aja Cook, Suzi Morgan, Julie McGee, Bonnie Coldira, Judy MacDonald, Tom Kutz, Russ Tucker, Roxann Burns, Ann Kubler, Stacie Smith, Alyson Brauning, Corey Penrose

Members absent – Richard Tietze, Jan Morhead, Darian Schwieger, David Fickes, Chris Fickess, Tricia Cowen, Rodney Orosco, Ken Durham, Joy Holleran, Miranda Merino, Brenda Hensley, Todd Blanset, Christine Williams

1) Approval of the minutes- the minutes were approved

2) Approval of the agenda – after a few additions and modifications, the agenda was approved.

3) Membership - Terresa Cook reported on the following issues:

- **Membership cards** - are just about ready for distribution and site lists will be ready on September 7th.

4) Leave Bank - Ann Kubler reported on the following issues:

- **Personal leave bank** – needs more participation from unit members and sign-up forms have been provided to your site rep. New unit members are covered under the bank for one year but, if you want to be protected after that year, a form must be filed with the district office and there is an enrollment window.
- **Julie Davis scholarship fund** – is running low. Member dues can't be used to fund this scholarship, only voluntary contributions. Contributions are accepted year-round and forms have also been provided to your site rep.

5) President's report – Moira reported on the following issues:

- **Site directors** – be sure to know who they are! A complete list, with contact information, can be found at www.vacateachers.org under the Officers and Chairs tab.
- **Meeting structure** – will be slightly different this year. There will be a small group dialogue, before the site concerns item, so site reps can coordinate/discuss concerns across the district. Minutes detailing these issues will, once they're developed, be pushed out to everyone who joins the mailing list – which can be found at www.vacateachers.org.

- **Site rep training** – will be held on Sept 10th at the CTA offices, which are located at 4751 Central Way in Fairfield. Site reps are urged to attend.
- **Site rep from Buckingham** – is still needed. If you're interested, e-mail Moira or Todd Blanset.
- **Region one leadership conference** – if you're interested in attending, e-mail Moira.
- **CTA membership benefits information** – has been given to site reps for distribution/posting at school sites.

6) Treasurer's report - none

7) Chair reports – were as follows:

PAC report – Dawn Kelly reported on:

- **School board candidates** – will be competing for four open seats.
 - Declared candidates are incumbents Yerkes, Kitzes and Mazzuca.
 - New candidates are Sherie Malberg, Jerry Eaton, Tracee Stacey and Greg Fletcher.
 - Current trustee Sogge will not be running for re-election.
 - We are in contact with each candidate, except Greg Fletcher.
- **Forums to determine** - who the VTA will endorse will be held on:
 - September 6th at 7 pm at Fairmont Elementary school
 - September 7th at 7 pm at Vacaville High School.
- **Once our endorsed candidates** - are determined, our campaign will consist of the following:
 - Radio ad time purchased through KUIC
 - Mailers and precinct walking
 - Signs
 - Get out the vote reminder robo-calls.
- **Funding** - will come from the PAC budget and an ABC grant.

Human rights – Alyson reported on the following:

- ***New Women's rights chair*** – is Trisha Cowen at Vaca High.
- ***Reaching out to members*** – will be an ongoing process over the duration of the year.

Action team – Corey reported on the following:

- **Email reports** – are now available at www.vacateachers.org. Members, once they sign up, are able to have our e-newsletter, rep council meeting minutes and bargaining reports sent to their email inboxes. Posters advertising this new program will be distributed at the next rep council meeting and this service is provided, free of charge, by www.verticalresponse.com.

Bargaining - none

Grievance – Sylvia reported on the following issues:

- **School psychologists and speech therapists** - are exempted from supervising elementary assemblies.
- **Fairmont and Markham grievance regarding working conditions** – has been resolved. The remedy will consist of the following
 - Electronic report cards
 - Committees tasked with standardizing/simplifying procedures and paperwork will be developed.
 - Standardized writing samples will focus on just two points.
 - Diplomacy and professionalism from district personnel tasked with managing this process will be re-emphasized.
 - Shared folders will be placed on district servers to encourage the sharing of resources and the standardizing of site procedures.
 - Paying teachers to attend summer EL trainings

If these remedies aren't being followed, please contact Sylvia.

- **Noon supervisors** – are being hired at some sites using site administrator's discretionary funds. VTA will continue to advocate for parity at each school site.
- **Social Networking** – unit members are urged to be extremely careful with materials they post on Facebook and Twitter.
- **Illegal/unethical activity on a school site** – needs to be reported to site administrators.

8) Others-included the following:

- **Site visits from Moira** – will happen this week at Jepson and Cooper. If you'd like your site visit to happen quicker, please contact her.

- ***Question about morning prep*** – have arisen. Specifically, a site administrator has told a teacher that they must make themselves available during their morning prep time. Unit members are not obligated to give up their prep but would be well-advised to deal with these sorts of issues, if possible, during their prep period and avoid a larger problem later in the year.

9) Website Navigation-was reviewed by Corey in the computer lab. New features on the website include the following:

- Signups for the VTA e-newsletter
- Signups for the rep council meeting minutes
- Signups for bargaining reports
- Updated school calendars
- Updated links
- Updated bargaining reports
- Updated Whom do I ask?
- Updated common core standards information
- Updated NEA click-and-save section
- Updated Facebook/Twitter/Blog links

10) – Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 5:40

Respectfully submitted, Corey Penrose