

*Rep Council Meeting Minutes
Sept.13, 2011- 3:30-5:30
Cooper School library*

Members present: Roxanne Burns, Marisa Emlen, Linda Phelan, Linda Covey, Carolyn Thomas, Kathy Steiert, Sharon Riehl, Katherine Epstein, Julie McGee, Russ Tucker, Tammy Parker, Mark Richardson, Marsha Rucker, Laurie Savage, Bob Blaine, Judy MacDonald, Stacie Smith, Miranda Merino, Joy Hollow, Chelsea Seltz, Aja Cook, Suzie Morgan, Ken Durham, Todd Blanset, Christine Williams, Brenda Hensley, Alyson Brauning, Tom Kutz, Glenn Branaman, Ginny Miller, Terresa Cook, Moira McSweeney, Sylvia!, Corey Penrose

Members absent: Diane Dahl, Gary Masterson, Richard Tietze, Jan Morhead, Bonnie Coldiron, Darian Schwieger, David Fickes, Chris Fickess, Rodney Orosco

1) - Group discussions/site concerns – after a 10 minute dialogue, the following site concerns were shared with rep council:

- **Markham** – Focus wall time requirements aren't able to be met within the duty day. Mark Fraizer is looking into buying additional teacher time so members at Markham will be able to meet this job requirement.
- **Callison** – Special Education scheduling requirements aren't being met and staffing needs aren't sufficient to cover the legal requirements.
- **Cooper** – There were some bumping issues with a K-1 combo class and some questions about procedures being followed or not followed were discussed.
- **Unsafe working environment with K-6 classrooms and categorical populations** – If unit members are in an unsafe working environment, they should contact their site administrator and immediately exit the unsafe situation. Afterwards, unit members should contact their site rep, thoroughly document the details of the situation, and work with VTA/site administration to resolve the problem.
- **Jepson** – Is understaffed by 1.4 FTE's and a grievance will be filed.
- **Vaca Pena** - A staff meeting ran too long and, as a result, the football team was left unsupervised.
- **High Schools** – no problems were reported.

2) - Approval of the minutes - the minutes were approved.

3) - Approval of the agenda - the agenda was approved.

4) - School Board candidate visit – Rep council met, for the first time, Larry Mazzuca, Michael Kitzes, Jerry Eaton, and Sherie Mahlberg, our endorsed candidates and pleasantries were exchanged.

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

- ***New representatives from*** - Buckingham, VHS and WCW, as well as other folks who didn't attend the last rep council meeting, were introduced, **WELCOME** to rep council!
☺
- ***Site visits*** – Have been going very well and will continue to happen on Wednesday and Friday. If you'd like to have a site visit sooner, please contact Moira. She may be reached at moiramcsweeney@yahoo.com.
- ***SB 161*** – a CTA-opposed bill requiring classroom teachers to administer rectal injections to students suffering from Grand Mal seizures is sitting on Governor Brown's desk. CTA members are urged to contact the Governor immediately to voice their opposition to the bill. For more information, please visit –
<http://capwiz.com/nea/ca/issues/alert/?alertid=14845746>
- ***NEA position paper on the Obama jobs bill*** – is also available at vacateachers.org. California, if the bill passes as written, should receive nearly six billion dollars. For more information, please visit –
<http://www.vacateachers.org/2011-09-13obamajobsact.html>
- ***Bargaining team interviews*** – if unit members are interested in joining the bargaining team, they should contact Brenda Hensley at Jepson to request an interview. The deadline is September 16th and Brenda may be reached at –
mathgirl70@earthlink.net
- ***Wednesday collaboration committee*** – as per the terms of the Markham/Fairmont grievance remedy, is being formed. If you're interested in participating, please contact Moira at –
moiramcsweeney@yahoo.com
- ***Tax fairness program*** – was discussed and will be posted at vacateachers.org.

6) - Treasurer's report - Brenda reported on the following items:

- ***10-11 final budget report*** – was reviewed and a copy was given to your site rep.

Motion - approve the report - seconded and approved.

- ***September 2011 budget report*** – was reviewed and a copy was given to your site rep.

Motion - approve the September budget - seconded and approved.

- **PAC opt out** – if members choose to opt out of the PAC committee, the deadline for filing is Oct 31st. If you have any questions about PAC budget, please contact Dawn Kelly at Fairmont.
- **2011-2012 voluntary contribution form was discussed and can be found here** – was reviewed and can be downloaded at-
<http://www.vacateachers.org/documents/2011-09-09/voluntary%20optout%20form%202011.pdf>
- **2011-2012 scholarship and grant contribution form** – was discussed and reviewed. It can be found at-
<http://www.vacateachers.org/documents/2011-09-09/OptOutScholarshipsGrants%20web.pdf>
- **2011-2012 CTA budget survey** – was reviewed and discussed. It can be found at-
<http://www.vacateachers.org/documents/2011-09-09/Prgevl2012-2013v1.pdf>

7) - Chair reports:

- **PAC-** none, our PAC chair is ill, but will be better soon.
- **Bargaining-** Brenda reported that, to be compliant with the VTA bylaws, more unit members will be needed for the bargaining team. The deadline for submissions closes on September 16th.

Brenda went on to report that the BRL from the state of California will be \$5230.

If you'd like to know what that means, click here:

<http://www.vacateachers.org/Archive/Archive1011/bargainingupdates/FinalTentativeAgreement2011-12.pdf>

And turn to page #7. A BRL of \$5230 corresponds to the 2.5% reduction column, not the 6% column we've been working under for the last two months. VTA's bargaining team communicated that we expect the contract to be followed and that any money due our members be refunded as soon as possible. The school board meets on Monday and, consequently, we should know by Monday-Tuesday if the district will comply with the contract. If the district chooses to not follow the contract, we will be grieving this contract violation and demanding an immediate remedy.

- **Action** – Corey reviewed the e-newsletter/bargaining/minutes email programs and distributed promotional posters for distribution around to the district.
- **Grievance-** none
- **Human Rights-** Alyson reported on the following items:

- ***Governance Structures for VTA/CTA/NEA*** – was reviewed and discussed. A handout was given to your site rep.

8) – New Business

- ***Calendar/general survey***-the following motions were made on this topic.

Motion – develop and distribute an electronic survey to membership to see if they want to open up the calendar for immediate change - seconded

Friendly amendment - do a survey of membership seeing if we want to open the calendar for change, yes or no. - the motion fails

Motion - Prepare a survey to determine if members want to open the calendar for immediate change - second - the motion carries

- ***Special Ed committee*** – the following motions were made on this topic:

Motion - form a special ed committee – seconded – the motion carries.

- ***Region one Leadership conference*** – If members are interested in attending this conference, please contact Moira at moiramcsweeney@yahoo.com.

9) - Others -

- ***Agency fee payers attending VTA site meetings*** – If Agency fee payers want to attend VTA site meetings, given that they pay for governance and contract maintenance, they are welcome to do so.
- ***Rep Training on Saturday in Cordelia*** – was very well received by all attendees.
- ***Name badges*** – are coming back! ☺

10) - Raffle – the following items were won:

- ***CTA gift bag*** - Carolyn Thomas
- ***15 dollar gift card for jamba juice*** - Tricia Cowen

11) - Adjournment - meeting was adjourned at 5:36

Respectfully submitted, Corey Penrose