

January 24, 2016 Rep Council Meeting Minutes

3:30-5:00 @ Jepson Library

Members present – Brenda Hensley, Navjot Kaur, Myisha Cherry, Mike Ensley, Greg Gmahling, Chris Fickes, Janel Curtis, Jouli Jara, Samantha Dubs, Kathy Steiert, Becky Wylie, Russ Tucker, Julie McGee, Sharon Riehl, Nina Foster, Aquino, Cindy Bray, Lisa Cusi, Megan Morris, Sylvia Shepard, Glen Branaman, Brian Speck, Sofia Calderon, Rebecca Pinto, Jennifer Brown, Carolyn Thomas, Lindsay Richardson, Cyndi Marshall, Andrew Bower, Mark Richardson, Todd Blanset, Liz Meagor, Leslie Losberger, Tracy Begley, Erin Gordon, Nancy Anderson

1) - Approval of the minutes – the minutes were approved

2) - Approval of the agenda – the agenda was approved, with flexibility.

Review of December “Site Rep To Do” list – was done by Alyson and feedback was taken about various issues at school sites around the district.

3) - President’s report – Tracy reported on the following:

- **MOU** – have been signed and updated. A complete list of MOU’s is available at Vaca teachers.org.
- **GTC North** – we will be sending 18 people to this conference and a report from this conference will be shared at the February Rep Council.
- **School Start times** – and the logistics of changing them, was shared with rep council.
- **Teacher of the month** – will be coming soon.

4) - Treasurer’s report – after reviewing the financial reports, expenditures, site funds and discussing the updated VTA/CTA/NEA dues, the report was approved. The report finished with a conversation about the Redwood Educators Conference, the logistics of running this process through our books and the importance of using the site rep budget to engage our members with the important work of our union.

5) - Committee/Chair reports

Bargaining – After Brenda discussed the most recent bargaining report, [which can be found here](#)...

Action – ...Corey distributed the next step in our action plan.

Grievance – Sylvia discussed ongoing HR issues around the district and how we will work with the school district to resolve them. The report finished with a review of the contract language covering hiring timelines for late hires, the disaster fund available for our members at cta.org and a reminder for members in crisis to be sure to follow up with the Greivance team.

Equity Team – Alyson reported that she’d been talking with Vacaville High School’s GSA club and shared their inspiring reply with council. Her report finished with an update on future efforts with other school sites around the district and School Board resolutions declaring our schools safe spaces.

Motion – direct the Equity Team to develop a draft resolution supporting declaring VUSD schools safe spaces for rep council to review in February – seconded and approved.

Health Care – the health care Committee meets

Labor Council/PAC – Corey opened the urging our members to call **1-855-882-6229** and tell your senators to reject Betsy DeVos’ nomination for secretary of education. Her confirmation vote has been delayed until the end of the month and every phone call helps to keep the pressure on! He then outlined some upcoming opportunities for our members to build coalitions with potential allies – while eating lots of crab. Click on the links for more information:

- [John Garamendi Crab Feed](#)
- [BAC 3 Crab Feed](#)
- [Postal workers crab feed](#)

The report finished with conversation about the upcoming training on messaging. For more information on this February 11th training, [click here](#).

Member Engagement – Alyson reported on the most recent member engagement activity. For pictures from the event, [please click here](#). Be sure to watch your mailbox and vacateachers.org for our next event. If you have any ideas, please talk to your staff and email Alyson your suggestions!

Special Ed – none

Leave Bank and Julie Davis Scholarship – none

Membership - none

6)- New Business: Proposed Bylaw change *see attachment. The reasons behind the bylaw change were discussed with rep council.

7) - Conference reports – Brenda, Lisa and Corey discussed what they’d recently learned the issues conference.

8) – Others – The Redwood Educators Conference is on April 21st and 22nd. Alyson will be organizing that conference and she shared the planned sessions with our members. More information, and registration information, will be coming soon. The idea of bringing American Fidelity, and AFLAC, for our 125 plans, was shared and discussed with rep council.

9) – Raffle- a ten-dollar Target Gift card was won by me!

10) – Adjournment – the meeting was adjourned at 5:25.

Respectfully submitted, Corey Penrose

Proposed Bylaw change:

Old language:

VI. POLICY-MAKING BODY

D. The Representative Council shall meet at least once during each school month; the number, place and time of meetings to be decided by the Executive Board.

Proposed new language:

VI. POLICY-MAKING BODY

E. The Representative Council shall meet at least once during each ~~school~~ month, **except for June, July and December.**
The Representative Council may, by majority vote, opt to meet in December. The number, place and time of meetings ~~to~~ **shall** be decided by the Executive Board.

