

Rep Council Meeting minutes
Jepson library
August 27, 2013 - 3:30-5:30

Members present – Judy Schneider, Diane Dahl, Tracy Begley, Aja Cook, Tricia Cowen, Moira McSweeney, Alyson Brauning, Corey Penrose, Brenda Hensley, Janel Curtis, Linda Covey, DJ Bowen III, Miranda Merino, Sylvia!, Laurie Savage, Sofia Felix, Dawn Kelly, Mike Ensley, Ginny Miller, Carolyn Thomas, Jennifer Brown, Karen Peters, Katherine Epstein, Mark Richardson, Sylvia Shepard, Ann Kubler, Sharon Riehl, Julie McGee, Russ Tucker, Greg Gmahling, Samantha Mauder, Sarah VanBuskirk, Joy Holleran, Mack Jones, Todd Blanset.

Members absent – Debbie Cavanaugh, Megan Morris, Lenore Hubal, Helen Blood, Desiree Nothstine, Jasmine Dierking, Julie Timmerman, Stephanie Munzinger

Orientation/ Roles and Responsibilities - Mark DeWeerdts talked about the responsibilities of site reps and what's on the agenda, for VTA, for the 13-14 school year. New rep council rep training will also be coming soon and Moira will notify membership when the training date is determined.

Site concerns: discussion and report - there was some discussion about the best way to format these discussions. Designated sections for the next rep council meeting will be laid out prior to the next rep council meeting.

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

2)- Business-

- ***New teacher get together invitations and outreach*** - Sarah VanBuskirk reported that new teacher mixer will be scheduled for September - we have 62 new and rehired teachers. Aja and Sarah talked about the invitation process and it will be held on September 12th from 5-7 pm. For more information, click [here](#).

3) - President's report - Moira reported on the following:

- ***Common Core trainings through VUSD*** - have been very effective and will continue for the 13-14 school year. CTA will also have many common core trainings as well.
- ***Minimum day minutes across the district*** - have been uneven and a solution for remedying this inequity, by restoring a minimum day at the end of the school year for the K-12 folks, will be going before the school board soon.
- ***Job Share v Shared Job*** - was reviewed and discussed.
- ***Site visits*** - will be happening this year, but Moira would like to attend during meetings other than lunch and she's prefer to meet on Wednesdays and Fridays.

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

- **Scholarships** - VTA has given our four of our five scholarships for graduating seniors this year.
- **New Rep trainings** - if you attend, we will reimburse you for mileage and you have \$6.25 to spend, per member, on organizing activities for your site.
- **VTA budget** - is looking good and the report was approved.
- **VTA dues breakdown** - was reviewed and is available [here](#).
- **VTA PAC opt-out** - has been distributed and is available [here](#).
- **VTA scholarship fund** - forms were distributed and more information is available [here](#).
- **CTA-NEA retired form** - please fill them out and join CTA-NEA retired – more information is available [here](#).

5)- Committee/Chair reports:

- **Action** - Corey gave a tour of the vacateachers.org and reviewed VTA's internal and external organizing projects for the 13-14 school year.
- **Bargaining** - Brenda reported on the following:
 - **Bargaining report** – reviewed bargaining report #7, which can be found [here](#), and reported that the next session is scheduled for Sept 20th.
 - **Health care** - CALPERS updated rates have been released and, after the medical audit, information will be released. Her report finished with a discussion of Covered California and discussed how money could be saved by participation in the health care exchanges.
- **Grievance** - Sylvia reported on the following:
 - **AR 6152** - copies were reviewed and the changes to the AR were discussed. The language can be found [here](#).
 - **De-escalation training** - will be happening at each school site in the district over the 13-14 school year.
 - **Site administrators should start sending meeting notifications for evaluations** - and, if timelines aren't followed, we need to hold site administrators accountable.
 - **Special ed reporting procedures** - at the start of the start of the school year, were unnecessarily burdensome and must be resolved for second semester.
 - **PL abuse** - if you abuse your leave, and your principal finds out, your pay will be docked. Members are urged to use their leave appropriately.
 - **Professional conduct visits** - Sylvia will be visiting every secondary site in the district during the 13-14 school year to discuss professional misconduct.
- **Human Rights** - The new chair, Tricia, reported that an equity team is being built.
- **PAC** - Dawn reported that we have no election this year, but, with the resignation of Larry Mazzuca, there is an open seat. The meeting to determine who will fill it will be

held in September, and we've scheduled School Board mixers in October, February and April. .

- ***Special Ed*** - none
- ***Leave Bank*** - Ann Kubler talked about the VTA scholarship fund and the VTA leave bank. Reps are urged to pick up the forms for both programs and share them with your members. Both forms are available at vacateachers.org.
- ***Membership*** - site lists will be sent out to the reps and CTA membership cards are not yet ready.

6) – Conference reports - none.

7) - Others - none.

8)– Raffle-

- Katherine Epstien won a ten dollar gift card.
- Samantha Mauder won a 25 dollar gift card.

9) - Adjournment- the meeting was adjourned at 5:56 pm

Respectfully submitted, Corey Penrose