

## Rep Council Meeting Minutes

May 23, 2017 - 3:30-5:00

Jepson Library

**Members present – Tracy Begley, Alyson Brauning, Brenda Hensley, Corey Penrose, Samantha Dubs, Sylvia Aquino, Todd Blanset, Jenny Brown, Becky Wylie, Sofia Calderon, Megan Morris, Mike Ensley, Tammy Parker, Sharon Riehl, Annmarie Woehler, Yvonne DiMichele, Russ Tucker, Julie McGee, Leslie Losberger, Mark Richardson, Carolyn Thomas, Cyndi Marshall, Helen Blood, Janel Curtis, Becky Wylie, Lisa Cusi, Rebecca Pinto, Glen Branaman, Andrew Bower, Chris Fickes, Greg Gmahling, Cindy Bray, Erin Gordon, Lindsay Richardson, Miranda Merino, Nancy Anderson-Louie, Liz Meagor**

**Members absent – Allen May, Sylvia Shepard, Jouli Jara, Nina Foster, Chris Wagner**

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

**2) - Approval of the agenda** – the agenda was approved.

Alyson completed the review of April “Site Rep To Do” list and answered a few questions.

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

- ***Election results for Executive Board*** – sent out and are posted on the website.
- ***Letter to the board regarding the grade change*** – to be discussed with Grievance.
- ***FOSS and Amplify***- a committee is meeting to discuss logistics
- ***Independent study for PE at Middle School and High School levels*** – students with **impacted schedules** only can either take Ind. Study or receive Credit for Athletes
- ***Elementary prep and the blended model*** – are on hold until Janet D. returns, more info to come
- Promoting ***VUSD*** – met with Jennifer Leonard, the district PR officer and discussed a partnership between us and district office. If you have anything to share in the board report or as part of this program, please contact Tracy.
- Follow ***up from May 1<sup>st</sup>*** – any feedback? Interest in similar action next year?
- ***PD over the summer*** – per contract, we are to be compensated for attending professional development during our “off” time.
- ***Site Rep-*** I hope you will return next year as a Rep. Please encourage others to run as Site Rep, if needed. Elections will be held at the site in August. Thank you!
- ***Special Ed. Survey-*** will be sent out to Special Ed. Teachers soon. Thank you Becky

Wylie, Cindy Bray, Shannon Cole and Tammy Parker for your help on this. Sasha Begell, Director of Sp. Ed. is open to working together on feedback from members/survey

Thank you Sylvia Aquino, Cyndi Marshall, Mark Richardson and Carolyn Thomas for all that you have done for our association. All the best in Retirement!!

**4) - Treasurer's report** – after discussing the treasures report, it was approved. The report finished with a reminder to send reimbursement forms over email, or to Brenda's home address until school starts again in 2017-2018, some updates on retiree gifts, and the status of scholarship winners. Winners for this year will receive approximately \$3000 dollars.

**Motion – approve the 17-18 budget – seconded**

**Amendment – if we receive a member engagement grant (or any other monies) from CTA for the 17-18 school year, the money for rep reimbursement will be returned to the budget – seconded**

**The budget was approved, as amended.**

#### **5) - Committee/Chair reports**

- **Action** – Corey reported on the following:

***CTE funding cuts*** – After the California Agricultural Teachers Association's press release last week, I contacted the CTA Governmental Relations folks advocating for us at the capital and received the following reply from Toni Trigueiro:

***While Senator Jack Scott chaired Senate Education Comm. he authored legislation (SB 70) directing \$48 million in Career Tech funds to both community colleges and k-12 schools. Community colleges got \$33+ million and K-12 got \$15+ million. This agreement held for years including SB 1070 by Senator Darrell Steinberg. When the Governor's 2017 January budget was revealed the entire amount (\$48 million) went to community colleges. After the January budget release, the CA Agricultural Teachers Education Association worked with the state Department of Finance (DOF) about the important programs the \$15 million funded. They believed they had convinced DOF to reinstate the split of funds between community colleges and K-12. Unfortunately when the May budget revision was released last week the split language again was missing. Assembly member Rudy Salas is leading the effort to restore the \$15 million to K-12. There are currently 59 legislators signing the letter. (We've requested a copy and will share when we get it.) The budget is currently being debated and must be approved by June 15. I have shared this info with CTA budget folks so we are aware of situation.***

I have a copy of the letter, if you'd like to see it. Our Senator, Bill Dodd, has

added his name to the list of 59 legislators supporting the reinstatement of the CTE funds and I'd encourage you to call his Vacaville office at (707) 454-3808 to share your enthusiasm for the reinstatement of those funds.

***Heritage Peak -***

***Motion – VTA formally oppose the Heritage Peak – seconded and unanimously approved.***

A decision on this petition will be made at the June 29<sup>th</sup> school board meeting [and the full petition can be found here.](#)

- ***Bargaining*** – Brenda discussed bargaining report #1, [which can be found here](#), and answered some questions. The next meeting is scheduled for June 1<sup>st</sup>. The report finished with a reminder of section 3.11 of the contract and reminded members that, if we attend district-approved professional development, that we should be paid for it at the hourly rate or take a yellow card. There will be contact highlights at every rep council meeting for 17-18 and, if you have ideas, please share them with Brenda.
- ***Grievance*** – Sylvia discussed ongoing grievance issues around VUSD and made the following motions:

***Motion – distribute the president's letter to schools across the district, authorize the reps to seek signatures, then send the completed letters to Tracy – seconded and approved.***

The report finished with a general conversation about RTI coordinators, and their use, around the district. Reps were reminded to ensure that RTI coordinators receive time for lunch.

- ***Equity Team*** – none
- ***Health Care*** – none
- ***Labor Council*** –

***Motion –support the petition asking the Vallejo city council to direct staff to fix and certify the EIR for the proposed Orcem Cement Facility – seconded and approved.***

Please [complete the petition here.](#)

- ***Member Engagement*** – Alyson discussed the very successful member engagement events for 2016-2017 and took some feedback for member engagement events in 2017-2018.
- ***PAC*** – Corey reported that conversations with interested community members for the 2018 school board race are ongoing and, if you know someone who might be interested, please. The report finished with a reminder that the \$50 dollars spent to

boost the Rise Charter campaign put that message in front of over 2000 people. The PAC chair would recommend to Rep Council that this tool be used again.

- *Special Ed* – Tammy discussed ongoing special education issues around the district.
- *Leave Bank and Julie Davis Scholarship* - none
- *Membership* - none

**6) - New Business:** \*Proposed Bylaw changes (*see attached*)

**Motion –make the bylaw change for exec board – seconded and approved.**

**Motion – make the bylaw change about member engagement – seconded and approved.**

**Motion – make the bylaw change about dues fees and assessment – seconded and approved.**

**7) - Conference reports** - none

**8) – Others-** Retirees are awesome!

**9) – Raffles** – ten dollar nugget gift cards were won by Carolyn Thomas and Russ Tucker

**10) – Adjournment** – the meeting was adjourned at 5:20.

Respectfully submitted, Corey Penrose

After the meeting, E-board made the following appointment:

**Motion – appoint Lisa Cusi to grievance chair for 2017-2018 – seconded and approved**

## Current BYLAW Language

### IX. EXECUTIVE BOARD

- A. The Executive Board shall be composed of the Officers, the state council representatives (as long as the state council representative is an Active member of VTA), the past president, four (4) elementary directors (one for every 2 elementary schools), four (4) secondary directors (one from each comprehensive high school and one from each middle school), one (1) YRE director (one for 2 YRE elementary schools). In the event that the District does not have any year-round schools, the YRE director will become another elementary director, for a total of five (5) elementary directors. Chairs of the committees may attend Executive Board meetings for the purpose of reporting committee activities. Chairs of committees (i.e., grievance chair, bargaining chair, etc.) are not voting members of Executive Board, unless they simultaneously hold a position with voting rights.

## PROPOSED NEW LANGUAGE

### IX. EXECUTIVE BOARD

- A. The Executive Board shall be composed of the Officers, the state council representatives (as long as the state council representative is an Active member of VTA), the past president, **seven (7) at-large elementary directors, two (2) middle school directors (one from each middle school), two (2) high school directors to represent Will C. Wood High School, Buckingham High School and Kimme Independent Charter Academy, and two (2) high school directors to represent Vacaville High School, Country High School and the ESC.** Chairs of the committees may attend Executive Board meetings for the purpose of reporting committee activities. Chairs of committees (i.e., grievance chair, bargaining chair, etc.) are not voting members of Executive Board, unless they simultaneously hold a position with voting rights.

Rationale: Middle School Directors currently represent 50 members each, while Elementary and High School Directors represent a lot more than 50 members. To have more equitable representation, Brenda used the following numbers to determine the number of directors for

each level:

Elementary	
Alamo	30
BV	50
Callison	35
Cooper	45
Fairmont	39
Hemlock/ACE	26
Larsen	2
Markham	49
Orchard	21
Padan	41
Sierra Vista	21
TOTAL	359
Divided by 50	7.18

VHS	92	WCW	80
CHS	15	ISP	7
ESC	10	BUCK	29
Total	117	Total	116
Divided by 50	2.34	Divided by 50	2.32

Logistics: We can follow through with our election, and if this bylaw passes, we can hold an August election to fill the remaining spots.

BY LAW CHANGE PROPOSALS: (change in bold)

## VII. FACULTY REPRESENTATIVES

E. Faculty Representatives shall:

1. Conduct constant and ongoing liaison between the Representative Council and the Active members of the faculty unit;
2. Serve as the official channel through which written communications and publications can be easily and quickly transmitted between the Association and the members
3. Represent the views and input of the Active membership of the faculty in votes taken in the Representative Council, conducting frequent and regular polls of such membership for this purpose;
4. **Actively engage site members with support from the VTA membership engagement committee.**
5. Perform such additional duties as prescribed by the Executive Board.
6. A Faculty Representative may not conduct an election in which he/she is a candidate.

## V. DUES, FEES, AND ASSESSMENTS

E. The Vacaville Teachers Association shall be authorized to set up a Political Action Committee (PAC) fund/account to be used for political advocacy. This fund, called the Vacaville Teachers Association Political Action Committee or VTA PAC shall be funded by earmarking a portion of existing monthly dues and other monies through donations from members. The appointed Treasurer shall notify all members by September 30th of each year that an amount of \$1 per month (\$10 per year) will be transferred out of each member's current monthly dues and deposited into the PAC account. All dues-paying members shall be notified annually that they may, by October 31st, notify the Association if they do not wish any of their dues to be contributed to the PAC. Should any member indicate in writing that they do not wish any portion of their dues to be contributed to the PAC, the equivalent amount (\$1 per month/\$10 per year) shall remain in the general fund of the Association. Nothing in the bylaws shall prohibit VTA from transferring an amount equal to the total annual contribution from members into the PAC starting on November 1st of that fiscal year. PAC money shall be used for, but will not be limited to, educating the general voting public of VTA's positions regarding school board candidates or incumbents, parcel tax or local bond measures. **If the PAC fund has at least \$20,000, the VTA Representative Council may opt, by a two-thirds vote, to place a one-year moratorium on transferring the general fund money to the PAC.**

