

Central Islip Teachers Association Executive Board Minutes 9/10/08

Officers:

President: Robert Molinaro*
Vice-President: Barbara Leshinger*
Secretary: Sandra Mercurio*
Treasurer: Lou Celenza*

Committee Chairs:

Community Liaison: Jennifer Cicero*
Health and Welfare: Judy Paradine*,
Tom Kuhn*
Member Services: Tara Maguire*
Negotiations: Michael Romano*
Political Action: Vincent Ruggiero*
Professional Rights and Responsibilities:
Walter Eberhard*, Georgette Moliterno*
Public Relations: Tammy Walsh*
Teacher Education and Professional
Standards: Susan Lane*

Committee Members /Guests:

Negotiations: Michelle Celenza
CIRTA: Brian Roethgen*
CISTA: Diane Galazka, Pres.*

Key: *=present

Building Representatives:

ECC: Fran Owen*
Josette Crean*

Cordello: Alan Zukofsky*

Morrow: Allison Cummings*
Allison Harris*
Pat Zablocki*

Mulligan: Barbara Mallonee*
Marlene L'Hommedieu*
Cindy Nadler*

Mulvey: Stephanie Roes*
Susan Schwartz*

O'Neill: Jill Bothwell*
Audrey Marzocca

Reed: Steven Bloom
Lori Gately
Wendy Kaplan*
Larry Rosenstone*

High School: Nicole Fazio*
Jason Fielding
Andrew McCaslin*
Sandy Morrow*
Lori Rossi*
Kevin Spicer

President Robert Molinaro called the September 10, 2008 Executive Board meeting of the CITA to order at 4:13 p.m. A motion was made by Lou Celenza, and seconded by Jennifer Cicero, to accept the amended minutes from the August 27, 2008 Executive

Board meeting with the following corrections: The Vice President's report includes the fact that no one was excused to the street. Everyone has a job.

President's Report: The next general membership meeting will be rescheduled for September 24, 2008 at 4:00 at the High School Little Theater.

The opening of schools had been rough. It has been very difficult at the high school.

Rob has informed Dr. Carr of the appointment of Larry Rosenstone and Sandy Mercurio as liaisons between the district and the Union for Bilingual/ESL issues. They will address and help solve contractual issues in this area.

Rob also informed Dr. Carr that Rob and Barbara are the Special Education liaisons for the Union. This is intended to facilitate communication between the two parties. Rob asked for building reps. to reach out to everyone in their building to check for students not receiving services. Please speak to the resource room, ESL, educational evaluators, and special education teachers. The concerns should be placed in writing to principals and directors. Let Larry, Sandy, Rob and Barbara know. We cannot let what happened last year, happen again.

The AIS Plan calls for servicing students who score a 1 or low 2 on the state assessments at the elementary level. We have to provide intense services to these students. Students are identified by state assessments, teacher recommendation and multiple measures. Please make sure to advocate early and often.

A memo at the beginning of the year should be sent out from the principal requesting teachers for home teaching. When teachers are needed for home teaching, a memo requesting them is sent to everyone on the home teaching list at the same time. The classroom teacher gets preference first.

We have an executive board scheduled for October 22nd, which is Superintendent's Conference Day. We will have a meeting that day, immediately following the conference.

Phil Ramos won his primary. Rob thanked Vinny and PAC as well as Sandy, who have been heavily involved with the primary.

The Board of Education is holding a "Meet Dr. Carr Night" in the High School cafeteria on September 15th at 7PM-9PM.

Calendars from NYSUT were handed out. There are extra calendars for each building. Have members sign.

Vice-President's Report: Barbara has already received some handbooks and schedules. Please review them before you sent them to Barbara. If there is something Barbara should specifically look at, let her know.

Please make sure you sent copy of executive board notes to the superintendent, Barbara and Walt or Gorgette. Make sure you write notes, not minutes. The only minutes are Sandy Mercurio's official board minutes.

We actually received a name of a student who is being serviced by an outside agency. Home teaching outside of our bargaining unit is a problem. Classroom teachers are to be called first, then we are to go to a list that is compiled at the beginning of the year.

Treasurer's Report: New members need to fill out dues deduction sheets and NYSUT enrollment forms. Please forward the names of the new members to Lou Celenza so that he does not miss anyone.

Vouchers go to Rob first, then Lou. Keep pink copies.

Secretary's Report: Please report back with number of ESL students being serviced in each building to Larry or Sandy. Check if there are any students not receiving ESL services.

Also make sure that students are placed in correct the class. For example, it was discovered that a student who was supposed to be in a bilingual 12:1:1 was actually sitting in a bilingual classroom.

The scheduling of bilingual and ESL classes has been chaotic. There are ESL classes with 3 students and there are others with 17. We are in the process of having them fixed.

Committee Report:

Community Liaison: A memo will be coming out from Leida Morales, PTA President at the High School for PTA membership, which is \$6.00. We will be doing Macy's shop for a cause. This will be mainly at the High School and the discount cards will cost \$5.00.

Health and Welfare: Tom distributed a flyer about fire inspection compliance. There will be a detailed report from Tom in the October CITation. Anything hanging from the wall should be 24 inches down from the ceiling. The issue with the refrigerators is not on the compliance list. This will be looked into.

District will install air conditioner with a doctor's note, but you must purchase the air conditioner.

The maintenance department is cutting the grass during school hours. This is a problem on many levels. There are health and educational concerns. Rob will look into this.

Member Services: The Breast Cancer Walk will be on Sunday, October 19, 2008 at 8:00 in the morning. We will gather for a group photo at 7:45 AM. You may donate online and the directions are on the back of the flyers that were placed in everyone's mailbox. Donations can also be sent to Tara Maguire by October 16th.

Driver Safety course will be offered on Tuesday, October 21st and Thursday, October 23rd from 4-7 PM at the high school teacher's cafeteria. Checks for \$25 are to be made out to Anthony Palumbo. Flyers will be coming out shortly.

Negotiations: It is imperative that members be cognizant of our contract. The contract is not a guideline. Individuals cannot negotiate any terms of the contract. The Negotiations Committee under the direction of the President and Vice President can agree to stipulated agreements. No one else can. This is all under Article 1 Section A in the contract.

Political Action Committee: Phil Ramos in the Democratic Primary last night against Waldo Cabrera. Phil won with 70% of the votes. The tally was 1,995 votes for Phil to

842 for Waldo. There were a huge percentage of voters who turned out to vote. The PAC from Brentwood, Bayshore and CITA called all democrats at NYSUT Suffolk Headquarters. We have a big election in November.

Professional Rights and Responsibilities Committee: If you chose Option 2 last year, you had to have had a post observation conference by May 1st. If not, then you may do Option 2 again this year. Special project's is different. Check your APPR document for the exact date you need to have a post-observation conference.

You must have a minimal of two formal clinical observations if you are tenured if you choose to be observed instead of Option 2. All evaluations need to be given to you for you to sign and you must have an opportunity to discuss the evaluation before signing.

There was a memo for ThinkLink assessment training that was mailed home before the start of the school year. Please make sure everyone received his or her prep, professional period, 20 minutes travel time, and lunch. It is clear that use of your professional period by an administrator requires 3 school days prior notice. If anyone missed any of these periods, please let Walt or Georgette know.

A grievance status report was distributed. Walt and Georgette are looking for Level II responses. There are ten more grievances from last year that still need to be filed.

Supplies are missing and there is a mess with textbooks.

October 17th is the 30th day to file a grievance that occurred over the summer to the first day of the school year.

Georgette's number at the Mulvey library is 348-2508. Walt will have a phone in his office soon.

Public Relations: Elections for Cordello Building Representative will be on September 24th. Tammy welcomed Stacy Humann to the Public Relations committee.

There was a shortage of CITations. If you have any extra, please send them to Tammy at Cordello.

Tammy asked the building reps to email her the number of teachers in their buildings so that she can have the right number of building reps.

October CITation is due October 15th.

There is a form for the directory. Everyone should fill out the form. Pages from last year's directory are included to check for accuracy of information. Please have everyone fill out the forms by September 19th.

TEPS: We are planning for the first new members workshop. More information will soon follow.

Registration at the Teacher Center took place on Monday, September 8th. There are still openings. If you want to register, do so soon because people will be able to register for a third course. Call Sue Lane with any questions at 463-2703.

Completion letters for Teacher's Center courses were put in the mail.

Buildings:

Reed-Handbook is online. Rob will take care of this. The English, Special Education and ESL departments received new textbooks. Not everyone received them. See Walt and Georgette.

O'Neill-Some teachers have not been able to mark complete on My Learning Plan because of the dates. You cannot get credit earlier than the date you submitted. Rob will look into this.

Mulvey-What is the procedure when a teacher moves to another building? The teacher can take the budget and go to the same grade as in the previous building. Also, if you are going to second grade from 4th grade, you can send the order back and reorder. There is an agreement with Reading First and their budget stays in the Reading First buildings.

Mulligan- Science room has only one set of textbooks per team. This was agreed upon. There is a 5th/6th grade special education class. One child is a fifth grader and the rest are sixth graders. The fifth grade student goes to another special education teacher.

There was a memo for all special area teachers, AIS and support staff to use SASI for attendance. Was this negotiated with the Union? Every period a student comes to your room, you should take attendance. It can be in a book. The AIS and support staff were not trained on SASI.

Morrow-Rosa Garcia has Title III money that is only to be used for bilingual 1st and 4th grade students. A field trip like this makes it divisive for young students. The original cost of the trip is \$40 per pupil and the bus. This was not discussed at the Title III grant signing.

High School- the students IEP are not being followed. Inclusion math students have study halls. Inclusion classes were maximum 24. They are topping at 43 with the general education and special education ratio.

There are 30 plus students in general education.

Small learning communities consist of 5 teams. The teachers meet during their professional period for training in how to work in small learning communities. Administration says meeting 4 days for professional period. This precludes teacher from fulfilling other duties. Dr. Cesar will look into this.

Teachers need 3 days prior notice with scope and purpose for each day. Teachers can schedule themselves for professional period.

Teachers should have no more than 3 preps in their schedule. AIS has not been counted as a prep in the past (non credit bearing class). Science is completely separate prep.

Cordello- No report.

ECC- Class sizes are busting. There are not enough chairs and tables for the students.

A motion to adjourn was made by Jennifer Cicero and seconded by Mike Romano at 6:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Sandra Mercurio, Secretary