

## Ferndale Education Association

Rep. Council Minutes

October 19, 2006

**Members in attendance:** Tracie Morris President, Candy Ford, Vice President, Cheryl Frazier Treasurer, Lynn Kelling Secretary, Dee Schulz FEAtures editor, Susan Gelhar Legislative Rep., Beth Andres Negotiator, Rocky Diaz Negotiator, Jenny Kubic Head Rep. FHS, Mike Smith, Susan Browne, Cherie Thomas and Heidi Stahlberg, Ferndale High School, Adam Goldstein Windward HS, Denise Smith Head Rep. and Jim Hively Central, Lynn Kelling Head Rep., Brandi Caffrey, Custer, Vicki Salisbury Eagleridge, Lindsay Dorr and Jan Polen Mountain View, Greg Hart Head Rep. Skyline.

**Call to Order:** President Tracie Morris, called the meeting to order at 4:32 p.m. Minutes were approved.

### **Treasurer's Report:**

Treasurer's report was discussed and approved.

Budget for the 2006-07 year was discussed and approved.

Meal reimbursement amount was discussed. Do we need to increase the amounts?

Summary of line item 510 Officer's stipend

President's stipend. Last year Tracie used quarter time release but the district did not hire the same sub each release day, so the district only paid sub costs not a leave replacement amount. When Cheryl brought it to their attention, the district reimbursed FEA the difference. It was then moved and seconded that Tracie be given the remainder of her stipend, \$550, from last year. It was unanimously approved.

Audit committee will be convened in the near future to look over and check books for the past two years. CD's are due to be reinvested

WECU is at 5%

Banner Bank, where CD's presently are, is at 4.9%

Discussed one or two year commitment

**Uniserv Update:** Tracie Morris, Susan Browne and Candi Ford attended Uniserv and helped address 10,000 postcards against I-920.

If it passes, it will take 100 million dollars out of education funding. It was stressed that it is essential to educate the public on education funding. Governor Gregoire is looking at systems of funding for the state. Various ideas are being discussed

that may decrease support of schools. There will be public forums around the state to discuss issues. We should attempt to release some of our teachers to attend these forums. It is important to educate our members. The funding is determined by the terms of Basic Education. The last time this was defined was in the late 70's.

The most current version of funding does not include all present programs as part of Basic Education. Without a clear definition, how will the state construct our funding system?

**Legislative Report-** Susan Gelhar reminded representatives there is a voters Guide inside the WEA magazine. In March there will be a meeting at Semiahmoo.

Jesse Solomon was introduced and discussed his support of education and his bid for Senate seat district 42.

**FEAtures:** Dee Schulz discussed new deadline being Oct. 27<sup>th</sup>. Building representatives are asked to interview new teachers and turn in short article on each one to Dee anytime. She will put a few in each edition. Any interesting ideas for articles are to be sent to Dee at Eagleridge. (Suggestions included new babies, funny things that happened)

**Website:** It was mentioned that the FEA website has a new look. Ryan Mitchell from Custer is the new Webmaster. Minutes of all meetings will be posted there. Take a look at our webpage at [www.ferndaleea.org](http://www.ferndaleea.org).

#### **Old Business:**

**Climate Survey-** A hard copy was distributed to each building representative. You may share it with your teachers but not leave it lying around. A decision will be made as to how to share the information with the district.

**Negotiator Update:** The election committee convened this week and read the letters from applicants for the positions of negotiator. The four names selected were, Beth Andres, Kris Skewis, Rocky Diaz and Adam Goldstein. The slate of negotiators for the school year 2006-07 was accepted. Tracie Morris, president, appointed Kris Skewis as Head negotiator for the upcoming bargaining agreement.

Lynn Kelling, from the election committee, recommended a set of questions be developed for negotiating applicants to answer in order to help the committee have more thorough information about applicants.

Tracie thanked all current negotiators for a job well done. There have been no complaints about the new agreement. The negotiators did a good job of informing members of the changes in language and the progress of negotiations.

**Coalition of Unions:** After the budget freeze last spring, four district employee unions, Teamsters, PSE SE121 and FEA, met together to share concerns about the various information shared at the buildings, and the impact of the freeze. It was decided a joint meeting would be requested with the district to answer questions. It was scheduled for June 27<sup>th</sup>. The coalition went to the district and met with district representatives. The district stated that we should not have been surprised that there was a budget shortfall. Communication was out about the under funding of existing programs.

Tracie asked if we should continue to meet with this group of union's leaders. All union's presidents, with the exception of FEA, have changed. Discussion followed about this suggestion. Again, FEA members are encouraged to take turns attending School Board meetings to help FEA keep abreast of district decisions.

### **New Business**

**High School Observations:** There was a discussion about the "walk throughs" at the high schools by department heads.

Some concerns were:

- Drop-ins are disruptive.
- How does this fit in with our observation process?
- Do the Dept. Heads have to use their prep time to do these observations?
- What is its function?
- What monitoring process is in place?
- Was there training for these observers?
- Is observation information going to administrators?

Lyn Sherry, our Uniserv Rep. and Tracie will meet with and discuss this with the High School teachers in the near future.

**Contract Maintenance:** The first contract maintenance was on Professional Responsibility.

Discussion reviewed included

- Has protocol for staff meetings been established in all buildings?
- No calendar of your participation in professional responsibility is necessary but might be in your interest just for your record.
- Staff meetings were discussed.
- Supplemental contract language was discussed.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:17 P.M.