

Approved

OEA REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL MINUTES
Monday November 4, 2002
Bret Harte Middle School

Site Reps Present: Allendale, Bella Vista, Bret Harte (3), Brewer, Castlemont (3), Claremont, Cleveland (2), Cox (3), Crocker Highlands, Early Childhood Education (5), Emerson, Franklin (3), Fremont (2), Frick, Fruitvale, Golden Gate, Grass Valley, Havenscourt (2), Hawthorne, Health Services, Highland (2), Hillcrest, Howard, International Community School, Jefferson (3), Kaiser, King Estates (2), M.L. King, Lafayette, Lazear, Lincoln (2), Lockwood, Longfellow, Madison, Horace Mann, Manzanita, Markham, McClymonds, Melrose, Melrose Leadership Academy (2), Joaquin Miller, Montera (2), Munck, Music Pullout, Neighborhood Centers, Oakland High (3), Oakland Tech (3), Parker, PEC, Piedmont Avenue, Psychological Services, Redwood Heights, Roosevelt (4), Sequoia (2), Shands Adult (2), Calvin Simmons, Skyline (5), Speech Therapist (3), State and Federal, Stonehurst, Stonehurst CDC, Substitute Representatives (10), Thornhill, Washington, Webster (2), Whittier, Woodland

There were 125 Oakland Education Association Representatives present.

OEA Executive Board Members present: Visnick, Gorham, Miele, Swayne, Ough, Mandel, Balderston, Mordecai, Ellis, Traylor, Griffin, Turner
Absent: Quintana (excused), Allen, Wong

CTA Staff present: Prigian

Call to Order at 4:00pm by 1st Vice President Ben Visnick. (Ben chaired because President Quintana was ill.)

Guest Presentations:

Delta Dental's Mike Thelen, spoke regarding dental benefits and answered questions. Eric Heins, NEA Director, spoke regarding the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. Eric spoke about notices regarding qualifications of teacher sent to parents. "Highly qualified" is a dubious term generating lots of argument. Eric argued for the importance of a highly educated congress to represent educators' concerns. He also plugged the NEA Fund for Children. Bill Balderston asked for a distillation of the large document (ESEA). Heins responded that the information is public and is available on the web site www.cde.ca.gov.

Adoption of Agenda Change (*Ben Visnick - Judy Holt*)

1st VP Ben Visnick notified the body of an upcoming Press Conference that will be conducted by the county on 11/6/02, regarding an update on OUSD finances.

Approval of Rep Council Minutes of 9/16/02 & 10/7/02 (*Tony Miele – Bill Balderston*)

Special Election for vacant OEA Executive Board Seat #1

Barbara Range, Elections Chair, called for additional nominations. None were taken from the floor. The candidates, Mark Rendon, Rosenda Thomas, and Harriet Hutchinson, then gave two-minute speeches to the body. A secret ballot vote commenced thereafter and the ballots were counted.

Election Results:

Mark Rendon – 45 votes, Harriet Hutchinson – 28 votes, Rosenda Thomas – 17 votes, 1 Abstention. With no majority, a run-off election between Mark Rendon and Harriet Hutchinson commenced. Mark Rendon won the run-off (56 to 36) and was elected to OEA Seat #1 of the Executive Board.

Rep Concerns: 16 Reps spoke about: Substitute Teacher respect; Guest teacher list needed; High Point concerns; Too many after school meetings; Backing of Measure EE stressed; Racial Justice; Curriculum Adoption of High Point not properly followed; Consolidations; Class Size Overages at Oakland Tech; Use of Buy Back Days; Street sweeping affecting teacher parking at schools; Louise Waters letter regarding Franklin as under performing school; Teachers used as specialists; Sub Line info; Adult Ed. Positions and Salary concerns; Mayor Brown's Police Measure; Global Exchange Science and Social Studies; Lesson Plans.

Officers' Reports

1st VP

Ben Visnick spoke of the upcoming Rep Training on 11/9/02. He also spoke of existing contract violations that he will inform the Superintendent about and asked the body to submit additional concerns. Key existing violations include: Unfilled Elementary Prep Positions; Class size overages; Lowering status of Temporary Teachers to STIP status; STIP Subs in vacant, long term, or elementary prep positions.

Bargaining Update: Janice Lord-Walker, Chair, Bargaining Team, spoke to the body. Updates are highlighted in Volume 8, dated 10/29/02. Janice answered Rep questions. A key question was asked regarding *Teacher Initiated Suspension* and Janice stressed to the Reps to follow the present language on the Teacher Initiated Suspension form. She then stated that the Sub Committee on Standing Rules has met and will meet again on 11/13/02 to propose a new draft of above item.

2nd VP

Trish Gorham stated that OEA Headquarters will move back to 272 East 12th Street. (See OEA November calendar for dates)

Committee Chairs spoke.

Jennifer Ough, PIC Chair: OEA Fund for Children donations encouraged.

Stella Collins, Human Rights Chair: Undoing Racism Conference attended yielding positive results. African American role models at Castlemont.

Committee Chairs Cont.

Middle School Caucus: Nothing in contract addressing structure of middle schools. We must take opportunity of bargaining to infuse sensible language regarding middle schools into contract.

Relena Ellis, Chair, Waiver Committee: Date of Waiver Submission deadline changed. New dates: April 30 and November 30.

2nd VP Trish Gorham spoke of 4/5 Grade Task Force and its importance.

Secretary

Backlog of Executive Board Minutes taken during vacancy of Secretary to be submitted at December Rep Council.

Treasurer

Renee Swayne said that presently there is no final report of the overall costs of newly renovated OEA building.

Old Business:

Resolution regarding High Point (*Mark Airgood*)

Motion to divide resolution and vote separately (*Jennifer Ough*)

Whole Resolution passed.

New Business:

?? that the OEA join other Oakland groups and individuals in supporting the creation of a sister city relationship with Neve Shalom/Wahat Al Salam, the Oasis of Peace.

(*Judi Hirsch – Marcia Brooks*)

The Motion passed.

Ben Visnick made mention that no CTA Staff were present to give their agendized report.

Adjournment at 6:35pm in memory of the late Minnesota Senator, Paul Wellstone, wife and daughter.

Minutes submitted with respect by Tony Miele, OEA Secretary