

Representative Council Meeting February 7, 2012

David Weaver moved to approve the minutes dated, January 10, 2012 and second by Mike Otnisky. Motion approved.

Dr. Apponik, from CTA staff, spoke on the importance of fighting the paycheck deception initiative. This initiative brought forth by millionaire businessmen is an attempt to encumber labor unions' efforts to protect the rights of working people (teachers, nurses and firemen).

Raelene Walker and Rollie Myrold from American Fidelity Assurance Company an NEA sponsored disability provider, presented information to the council. They provide Section 125 plans to 49 of the 50 states. For information regarding disability plans email: rollie.myrold@af-group.com.

President, Gene Smith The medi-gap arbitrator determined that the district needed to fund Medi-gap and a meeting will be held with the district to determine the level of funding. Medi-gap covers those bargaining members with at least 10 years of service.

A campus climate meeting was held with Eastside High School. Topics of discussion were: safety issues, protection of automobiles in the parking lot, discipline and class size. AVTA leaders plan to meet with each site over the next 6 weeks at the AVTA/CTA office, 1027 W. Lancaster Blvd., Lancaster, CA.

The district charter school which is a pre-SOAR, 7 & 8 grade and an on-line school will be a dependent charter. There will be approximately 14 teaching positions offered. The association is lobbying to maintain bargaining rights for the charter including Article 6 regarding transfer rights for those teachers.

Vice President Political, Gerald Fairman CTA Council voted to back Governor Brown's tax initiative over the others that were presented. His initiative has an expiration date of 2016.

Vice President Membership, Julie Agnew discussed membership applications for new teachers and the end of the year retirement party.

The district has not yet offered an inducement to retire.

Secretary, Christine Van Allen gave an update on STRS which is secure for the next 35 years. In the future, members may be asked to increase their contributions from 8% to 8.5% which by law means by law we would need to receive an increase in benefits which could result in a yearly 2% guarantee in COLA.

Thank you to the members for their donations to the women's shelter for the birthday boxes.

Treasurer, Brandon Palmer

According to Ed code 49079 the district is to notify a teacher if a student in your class has been suspended for anything (except for tobacco). Site captains should check to verify each sites notification process.

An MOU for release time of the President, negotiators, bargaining and other members was presented. AVTA agreed to the MOU in lieu of the obligation to pay past release time. Fagan Fulbright Attorneys have been looking into this and have brought this to the school board. There will be no release time to go to conferences. Grievances are to be conducted after school or during prep time. If you are asked by administration to represent a member during class time, the District will pay for the release time.

Sue Strom moved to approve the MOU regarding leaves of absence and release time and Mike Otnisky second. Motion approved.

Grievance Chair, Gary Roberts They are setting dates for mediation on JRC homeroom at Eastside and for AV not opening a position at continuation and SIG grant information.

Reports from sites:

AV High School concerns: No SIG Grant, some teachers are concerned about discipline procedures.

Quartz Hill concerns: Contract not being followed with 1/6 assignments. On-site continuation classes were changed, and that “pop-ins” would start being used in the future for evaluation.

Littlerock concerns: Suggest that 1/6 assignment language should be re-written.

Knight concerns: They are doing alright.

R.Rex is doing okay.

Lancaster concerns: Inconsistency in administrator discipline.

Littlerock concerns: Teachers have asked to see where the SIG money has been spent and APEX issues regarding who is getting the assignments and when there are teacher absences for APEX, is there make-up time.

SOAR is doing fine.

Eastside concerns: Seniority and APEX concerns and students “doing snap shots”.

Desert Pathways has unique situations and different problems from comprehensive sights.

Desert Winds concerns: Lack of discipline and nowhere to send disruptive students.

ROP concerns: Council notes were distributed to about 9 members.

Palmdale concerns: Discipline issues.

Mike Otnisky moved to adjourn.