

Victor Elementary Teachers' Association

Representative Council and General Meeting

April 10, 2007

Nisqualli Building

(Pending Approval 5/8/07)

The Rep. Council meeting was called to order by President Nancée Fine at 4:19

Reports

- Penny Edmiston submitted Minutes for March, 2007 meeting. Keith Dale moved to accept, Penny D. Smith seconded, and the Minutes were approved.
- Nancée Fine submitted President's Report.
- Elsbeth Roach submitted Treasurer's Report.
- Penny D. Smith submitted Negotiation's Team Report.

Site Reports

- Academy, Irwin, Endeavour, Mojave Vista, 6th Street Prep. and Puesta del Sol were not represented; therefore these sites gave no reports. All other sites were represented and gave reports.

Committee Reports

- **Scholarship Report** – Elsbeth reminded members that the deadline to apply for the VETA sponsored scholarship is April 30th. Jeff Bragg has posted this application on our website, www.vetaonline.org for members to access.
- **Negotiation Survey** – Penny D. Smith shared the changes made by the High Desert Trust concerning our health insurance (both HMO and PPO plans have a change in deductibles). This should be posted at each site to notify members. The Negotiation Team is working on a Memorandum of Understanding for sites in "School Improvement" status. Information will be collected about the extended school day - vs - extended school year for those sites.

Old Business

- **Standing Committees** – Nancée announced that we have a need to fill standing committees and encouraged Reps to spread the word.
- **TAC** – The Teacher Advisory Council has been rescheduled until Tuesday, April 17.
- **WHO Awards** – "We Honor Ours" ceremony will be held Friday, May 19 in Lancaster. The following members were nominated as going above, and beyond the call of service to help our Association and will be honored with the WHO Award: Carmen Dávila, Tanya Benitez, Linda Smith, Greg Bragg, Johnni Vindiola, Shelley Wong, and Karen Bossi. Elsbeth Roach was also nominated, but declined the honor. Penny D. Smith

moved to accept the nominations, Steve Dinise seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Nancée Fine and Penny D. Smith will attend the awards on behalf of our Association. If others would also like to attend, please notify Nancée by Friday, April 13.

- **AB 1133** – This 7-year grant is available to schools in “Program Improvement” status (we have 3 schools from previous performance data that qualify: Green Tree East, Irwin and Puesta del Sol). Significant money is available (\$500 per student in grades K – 3; \$900 per student in grades 4 – 6). Once the applications are submitted, schools/districts will be chosen from a lottery.
- **Elections** –Elections were held concurrently with the Rep. Council Meeting. Results will be reported to Site Reps. on April 11 to announce to their staff.
- **Scandia End of the Year Celebration/General Meeting**– Shelley Wong announced that we have booked Scandia for Saturday, June 9th 10:00 AM – Sunday, June 10th 1:00 AM. The cost of the bracelet will probably be \$11.95 (or less, depending upon the amount of participants). Members may bring friends and family and purchase the wristbands at our special rate. The wristbands allow for re-entry into the park. Representatives should try to get an approximate count of attendees. Shelley has asked for help with the arrangements and Nancée volunteered. Shelley mentioned that Scandia would require a bright flyer (which VETA will produce) to show that each person purchasing wristbands qualifies for the discount rate. VETA will provide ice cream on the patio from 2:00 – 4:00 pm. The flyers will be ready to give to Reps by May 30. Each site Rep. will be given admission to the park and a wristband for free!
- **Day of the Teacher** – Jeff Bragg has done some research to honor the teachers in our district. Discussion ensued about an appropriate gift and price. Keith Dale moved to spend \$10.00 per teacher on a Starbuck’s gift card. Joyce Applegarth seconded the motion. Elsbeth made a friendly amendment to purchase a few extra cards that will be given to Site Reps to use at their discretion for long-term substitutes. We will also give a card to each member of the Cabinet and Board of Trustees. Shelley Wong moved to purchase 570 cards. Penny D. Smith seconded and the motion was passed unanimously.

New Business

- **Tardies** – Discussion ensued about keeping accurate information about student attendance. Currently, our sites report “official” student tardies occurring 30 minutes after the start of the school day. If teachers keep additional records for tardies that occur less than 30 minutes at the start of the day, this data can be recorded on the report card. However, if a parent contests these figures, the report card may need to be changed to reflect only the “official” tardies.
- **Announcements** – The following announcements were made which Linda Smith and Tanya Benitez will send condolences on behalf of our Association: David Hunter-Inman’s mother passed away, Dr. Elder’s father passed away, and Barbara Aguirre’s husband passed away. Additionally, Paul Barr was in a serious accident. An e-mail was sent district wide that gave details about his condition and information for giving assistance.

10-Minute Meeting Items:

1. **VETA Scholarships** - available online. Applications are also available from Site Reps. The deadline for submission is April 30.
2. **Scandia Count** - Please ask members to give you information about how many people will attend the June 9th Scandia event.
3. **Paul Barr** - Please check your district e-mail for the status of Paul Barr and ways to assist.
4. **Coverage for Salary Protection** - being changed from Unum Provident to Standard. A form has been recently mailed to members' home address that must be returned before the end of April to continue coverage without a doctor's examination. Nancée will check about getting additional forms, as members are concerned about receiving them in a timely manner.
5. **Health Insurance Change** – Both PPO and HMO plans have a change in deductibles, this information should be shared and posted.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:47 PM. The motion was made by Steve Dinise and seconded by Keith Dale.