

Connetquot Teachers Association, Inc.

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Tony Felicio, Jr.
President

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MINUTES OF THE: Connetquot Teachers Association Board of Directors Meeting of
Tuesday, May 11, 2021

PRESENT: Tony Felicio, Jr., Brad Lindell, Chris Dolce, Ellen Perz, Rob Bachisin, Diane Boyle, Beth Caiola, Diane Boccio, Christine Constantine, Paul Rondinella, John Zambriski, Peter Leis, Jeff Vitale, Christine Dassler, Frank Saladino, Charlie Hafner, Stefanie Litchult, Lisa Manzo, Joanna Zalewski, Shannon Lehnert, Jennifer Ronayne, Laura Getman-Vaca, Kevin Keane

ABSENT: Carolyn Paul, Rob Burger, Nichole Johnson, Leslie Sewell

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 4:32 pm

MOTIONS:

Motion to Approve Treasurer's Report 4:33 pm

- Motion made by Peter Leis and seconded by Chris Dolce to approve April '21 Treasurer's Report: **PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

Motion to Approve 5th Grade Awards 4:47 pm

- Motion by Jeff Vitale and seconded by Joanna Zalewski, give to each of 4 students per class \$15 gift card, totaling \$1200-1500: **PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

Motion to Approve \$155 per Retiree 5:03 pm

- Motion by Rob Bachisin and seconded by Chris Dolce: **PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

Motion to Approve \$15 Frames for Retirees 5:05 pm

- Motion by Chris Dolce and seconded by Laura Getman-Vaca: **PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

Motion to Approve up to \$3000 for Office Painting/Carpet Cleaning 5:19 pm

- Motion to up to \$3000 made by Brad Lindell and seconded by Diane Bolye: **PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

Motion to Approve CTA 2021-22 Budget 5:26 pm

- Motion made by Brad Lindell and seconded by Paul Rondinella: **PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

Motion to Approve \$100 to Helping Hands for High School Banner 5:47 pm:

- Motion made by Brad Lindell and seconded by Chris Dolce: **PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

Motion to Approve \$20 to Thank Nurses 5:52 pm

- Motion made by Chris Dolce and seconded by Ellen Perz: **PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

COMMITTEES:

- 4:34 pm: District Health & Safety Committee
 - Brad reported there was no meeting. Buildings reported nothing.
- 4:34 pm: Political Action

- 25/55 was not included in budget but legislature is trying to push it through before June. Potential it may pass this year, which may affect a few teachers. This option would only be good for one year.
- 4:39 pm: Emergency Fund
 - Sent out \$250 gift card for family hit by a house fire.
 - Harry D'Onofrio (security guard) passed away, CTA purchased Italian food for family
 - Former Sycamore student, Somers Julian, now at John Pearl, gift card for family.
- 4:44 pm: Public Relations
 - Emails sent out to 5th Grade teachers. Deadline to respond is June 4th.
 - Birthday in a Box delivery is restricted, boxes in office, will be delivered soon. Thanks to Cheryl Sosa, Rob Bachisin, life skills and NHS students.
 - 12 current retirees (pending 25/55). All will be missed.
 - Discussion regarding gift cards for 5th graders. Only two of four nominated currently receive gift cards, some feel it's not fair. \$15/student
- 5:08 pm: Technology
 - Chris met with Alise Pulliam. Working on device for every student: grades k-2 receive ipads in school, grades 3-4 receive chrome book in school, grade 5 receive chrome books to keep until grade 8, grade 9 receive chrome books to keep HS career.
 - E-spark reading problem should have been rectified
 - Question regarding elementary students using chrome books for pleasure during recess, lunch

OLD BUSINESS:

- 5:12 pm: Arbitration & Grievances
 - MOA approved Tuesday night. Grievance regarding administration observations digitally being settled via MOA
 - Grievance of Hearing of others withdrawn
 - Academic freedom grievance slated for arbitration
- 5:14 pm: BOE Elections
 - Next Tuesday is schoolboard elections, Tony will send out local union supported candidates to membership
- 5:14 pm: CTA Elections
 - Friday, May 21st is the deadline for anyone who would like to run for a position.
 - President, Vice-Presidents require a written petition with 50 signatures along with a personal bio.
 - All other officers require a written petition with 25 signatures along with personal bio.
 - Building Representatives only require a nomination (anyone can nominate, including nominating oneself).
 - May 28th candidates will be announced.
 - June 11th Election
 - Absentee ballots need to be requested from Jeff 2 weeks in advanced before the election.
- 5:18 pm: Cafeteria, Masks, 3/6 feet
 - Cafeteria should maintain a distance of 6 ft, classrooms 3 ft . All buildings seem to be abiding by guidelines
- 5:20 pm: Other
 - Nothing to report

NEW BUSINESS:

- 5:19 pm: Painting/Cleaning Office
 - Office looks old and needs painting and carpet cleaning
- 5:23 pm: Virtual Program/Teacher Excessing
 - Virtual teachers questioning their status for next year. State has not given guidance. There most likely will be some type of virtual component.
 - Whether teacher is virtual or in-class, excess is based on seniority.
 - Teacher who took leave, there is no guarantee they will return to same building
- 5:26 pm: Budget Approval
 - Basically same as last year
 - Will be presented to general membership at June 8th meeting
- 5:29 pm: Other
 - Diane Boccio John Pearl AC issues in 1 room
 - Community is questioning what CRT is: **Critical Race Theory** was used as a political tool to run against incumbents. More about systemic racism built into society.
 - Voice your vote at June meeting to approve budget
 - Nothing new to report regarding negotiations.
 - Helping Hands asked if possible to get donation for banner to thank Mr. Moran
 - Chris Dolce and Ellen Perz recently attended NYSUT rep assembly. NYSUT platform as of the end of this school year: no teacher should be required to teach live and virtually at the same time.
 - Suggestion to thank nurses from CTA. Send ideas to Lisa or Joanna. Possibly plants from Locust Ave Farms? Spend up to \$20 per nurse

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 5:55 PM

Respectfully submitted by Rob Bachisin, CTA Interim Secretary