

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, February 7, 2023

PRESENT:

Tony Felicio, Jr., Brad Lindell, Chris Dolce, Ellen Perz, Rob Bachisin, Jeff Vitale, Lisa Manzo, Joanna Zalewski, Kevin Keane, Christine Dassler, Rob Lehnert, Leslie Sewell, Rob Burger, Christine Constantine, Shannon Lehnert, Frank Saladino, Diane Boyle, Charlie Hafner, Stefanie Litchult, Nichole Johnson, Beth Caiola, Gina Cerulli, Diane Boccio, John Zambriski, Jennifer Ronayne, Paul Rondinella

ABSENT:

Anita Ekstem

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 4:00 pm

MOTIONS:

Motion to Approve Treasurer's Report 5:13 pm

- Motion made by Christine Dassler and seconded by Chris Dolce to approve the January '23 Treasurer's Report: **PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

Motion to Approve Committee 100 Trip 5:16 pm

- Motion was made by Kevin Keane and seconded by Christine Constantine to approve up to \$650 for Jeff Vitale to attend the Committee 100 meeting March 8 & 9: **PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

Motion to Approve ALS Honoree Recognition Benefit Ad 5:44 pm

- Motion was made by Leslie Sewell and seconded by Christine Dassler to approve a full-page ad for the benefit held on the 26th: **PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

Motion to Approve Representative Assembly (RA) Trip 5:50 pm

- Motion was made by Rob Lehnert and seconded by Frank Saladino to approve up to \$500 each for Chris Dolce and Ellen Perz to travel and attend the RA in April: **PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

Motion to Approve Cohalan Cares for Kids Dinner 5:59 pm

- Motion was made by Leslie Sewell and seconded by Brad Lindell to approve up to \$250 for Lisa Manzo and Joanna Zalewski to attend the dinner: **PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

4:00 pm Introduce Christina Poppe for discussion regarding district wide Behavior Issues

- Elementary: High student to teacher ratio in both special education and general classrooms. There has been an increase in meltdowns and outbursts with no protocol in place. Classrooms have been destroyed, teachers have been injured by students with disabilities and no disciplinary action taken. Concerns regarding other children who have their education interrupted and witness outbursts on a daily basis. Exhaustion and frustration are at an all-time high among teachers and support staff. All feel standards and expectations have been lowered. Support staff dealing with issues have no time to carry out mandated services. They feel even administration hands are tied while parents of children with disabilities are not fulfilling their duties (not attending meeting, cancelling doctor visits, etc.).
- Secondary: Teachers feeling like there is too much emphasis on student feelings and lack of action when regarding disciplinary issues. Students have stolen, cursed at teachers, brought in weapons with little consequences taken. Lack of communication with regard to disciplinary behavior. Without the discipline tab, process to find out about a child is impractical. Feel the need for more behavior specialists and support staff.

- Discussion regarding the Northwell support facility, district not going in that direction as of now.
- Questions regarding an overlying policy for disciplinary action. Poppe responded there is no such policy because every situation is an individual case.

COMMITTEES:

- 5:14 pm: Health and Safety
 - Nothing new to report
 - HS: school dude requests not being responded to
 - RMS girl's physical education office shower stench
- 5:16 pm: Political Action
 - Committee 100 coming up Mar 8th and 9th
 - NYSUT meeting: Looking into after tier 6, retire at 63 old, 55% of salary. Never stop paying into retirement. Discipline at state bills limiting suspensions (not supported by NYSUT). NYSUT dues increase for next 4 years at \$8 per year.
- 5:28 pm: Public Relations
 - New teachers can contact Joanna and Lisa at: ctacoordinators@gmail.com
 - Use personal email and or cell phone when corresponding
- 5:21 pm: Emergency Fund
 - Nothing new to report
- 5:21 pm: Technology
 - Subject specific questions must go thru proper administrator (response from Sum Dog)
 - Chromebook email issues
 - Secretary email attachments hard to open on chromebook
- 5:27 pm: PR/Media Specialist
 - Alert teachers to send information to Cathy Mongiello at cathydrew8@aol.com

OLD BUSINESS:

- 5:30 pm: Arbitration & Grievances
 - Nothing to report.
 - Closing statements received nurse grievance
- 5:31 pm: Negotiations
 - We now have profiles giving teachers perspective of contract hypotheticals
 - Unofficial proposals put us in the playing field district not interested to sit and talk about it
 - District lawyer Wants a counter proposal
 - 3/29 1st fact finding session. Consists of 3 sessions and is non-binding. Last fact finding was 2003-04.

NEW BUSINESS:

- 5:44 pm: 26th ALS Honoree Recognition Benefit FP Ad \$500
- 5:45 pm: Other
 - Superintendents conference day meeting Monday after vacation

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 6:02 PM

Respectfully submitted by Rob Bachisin, CTA Secretary