

**Clarence Teachers' Association
Meeting Minutes of the
Building Representatives and Executive Board
November 14, 2016**

The meeting was called to order at 4:11 PM.

The minutes from the October 11, 2016 meeting were tabled.

President's Report (Elizabeth Dunne)

- **ECCTUP Meeting – October 11, 2016:** None of the candidates we endorsed won. Next ECCTUP meeting is November 15, 2016.
- **TEPS Meeting-October 5' 2016:** Another round of funds will be available in January 2017. Last year there was over \$5,000 leftover.
- **NYSUT Pension and Retirement Committee:** Every 20 years voters must vote whether to hold a Constitutional Convention. Members should vote "no" in 2017. Information on how to get the word out and talk to your neighbors about voting against a convention will be coming in the future. It costs between \$350-\$450 million to run a Constitutional Convention.
- **TRS Employer Contribution:** Rate for 2017-18 school year has decreased from 13.26% to 11.72%. This is good news because there will be more money on the table for next year's Budget. NYS has the best TRS rate in the nation.
- **BOE-Information and Video:** [CCSD BOE Public Agenda Packets and Minutes](#)

1st Vice President's Reports (Brenda Hogan)

- **VOTE COPE:** Campaign participation is up again this year. Payroll deductions will be taken out of the last 5 checks of the school year once deductions for dues have ended. 2016 total contribution from Clarence Teachers will be given at December meeting.
- **Political Action:** 1st VP Hogan thanked Jen Tanski, Stella Gillick, Kathleen Montesanti, Colleen Hodgson, and President Dunne for their participation in the October 24, 2016 phone bank to get the vote out for NYSUT endorsed candidates.

2nd Vice President's Report (Paul Runfola read by Elizabeth Dunne)

- **APPR Update:**
 - Meeting with Superintendent: came to agreement that 55% will be passing for students with disabilities. Individual differentiation for SPED is no longer required.
 - Block 2 Teachers who were to be observed by E. Vohwinkel have been reassigned to Blocks 3, 4, or 5 and will be observed by his replacement
 - Members concerned about observation blocks or anything to do with APPR should share with their concern with building representatives.
 - Reps should complete a Google form for each instance.
- **Retirement:** Retirement letters are due February 1st.
- **Level Change Committee:** Met in March and have made 2 requests to meet again. Monetary changes were approved over the summer by G. Kaszubski, sent directly to Dr. Hicks bypassing the committee.

Treasurer's Report (Kim Crotty)

- **Donation:** As in previous years, a donation was made to the High School's fall play
- **Dues:** Installment #1 of 12 has been taken out.

A motion was made by J. Tanski and seconded by R. Brooks to accept the Treasurer's Report. The report was approved unanimously.

Unity Report (Deb Wehrlin and Katrina Judd)

- **Retirement Dinner:** Will be held at Orazio's Restaurant, 9415 Main St. Clarence again this year – Date in May TBD.
- **Social:** Co-chairs will be planning another Happy Hour in January. Happy Hour will be for members from all buildings rather than holding separate events for the different levels.
- **CTA Gear:** Mary Pat Nichols- CTA fleece jackets for men and women have been added to the website. We can run a sale to get a better price. An interest survey will be sent out to members.

On Target (Lisa Panek)

- Submissions: Get in by 15th of the month. Send in Word format
- [CTA On Target](#) is online

New Business:

- There will be a breakout session after a brief December 12, 2016 meeting for Elementary representatives to discuss inconsistencies between Elementary Buildings.

For the Good of the Order:

Harris Hill: Harris Hill reported morale is very poor for this early on in the school year. Teachers are overwhelmed by the additional programs and responsibilities being required of them with nothing being “weeded” out. They are discouraged by the inconsistencies between the elementary buildings. Teachers are being told that initiatives such as “Writing Rtl” are required and being carried out at all buildings, yet that is not accurate. President Dunne suggested that Building Reps meet with administrators to ask questions and discuss individual building issues and suggested holding a Round Table with Superintendent and Director of Curriculum after December's Elementary breakout session.

Ledgeview: Ledgeview reported things are going well in the building.

Sheridan Hill: Sheridan Hill reported a good start to the school year.

CMS: At the Middle School the issue of co-teachers being pulled continues to be a major issue since those teachers are being pulled from a teaching assignment.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by R. Brooks and was seconded by T. Gardner. The November 14, 2016 Clarence Teachers Association Building Representatives and Executive Board Meeting was unanimously adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brenda Hogan, 1st Vice President

(in for K. Lucia-with her gratitude)