

**MINUTES – Rep Council Meeting
January 14th, 2010**

- I. Call to Order**—*at 4:10 p.m.*
- II. Minutes of the Last Meeting**—*Accepted & discussed.*
- III. Treasurer’s Report**—*Accepted & discussed.*
- IV. Reports**
 - A. Internal Reports:**
 1. Scholarship Fund-Raising
 2. Scholarship Selection Committee
 3. Public Relations Committee
 4. Vote/COPE Committee
 5. Grievance Committee—*Going forward w/ a grievance--
Step #1: 2 elementary teachers requested a job share--Board
denied. We’re filing b/c Board going back on past practice—as
recently as 2007-08. If get to Stage #2, may have to request public
pressure fr. members—names on petition.*
 6. Elections Committee
 7. Negotiations Committee/Team
 8. Charitable Donations
 9. Sunshine/Rain: -- **Clarksville:** *Katie Ostrowski’s grandmother
passed away; **Eagle:** NONE; **Elsmere:** NONE; **Glenmont:** NONE;
Hamagrael: *Mary Szczech’s mother passed away, Jackie Gaffney’s
mother passed away; **Slingerlands:** NONE; **Middle School:** Candy
Dolen’s father passed away, Patti Rider’s mother passed away, Leslie
Bruff had surgery; **High School:** Rachel & Matt Rehbit had a baby boy,
Kelly Ciavardoni’s father-in-law passed away, Charles Evans’ sister-in-
law passed away, Anthony Mazilia got engaged.**
 - B. District-wide Reports:**
 1. Professional Advancement Committee (P.A.C)—*One
sabbatical available next year. April 1st deadline. Get application
from Cindy Bradley / or on website.*
 2. Professional Practice Council (P.P.C)
 3. Process Committee
 4. Board of Education Meetings—
 - Dec. & Jan. Reports: **Eagle & Slingerlands**
 - February Coverage: **Clarksville**
 5. Technology Committee
 6. Health & Safety Committee
 7. Calendar Committee—*Nothing certain but next year no
students on Tues, Wed. after Labor Day (as per new contract)
AND Jewish holiday on Thurs., so 1st day for students would be
Friday after Labor Day.*

8. Health Insurance Committee—*CANA/RX: District still looking into getting drugs from Canada. Virtually free b/c district saves huge \$; many other districts considering—Guilderland been doing it for years. Still illegal, though.*
9. Curriculum Leadership Committee
10. Special Education Committee—*Introduce committee members to rest of faculty at faculty meeting--need to be seen as point person. Reps tell committee members to let all know where will past info., etc.—a lot of supposed problems may go away when more info. disseminated to members/community.*
11. Cabinet Meetings

V. Old Business

- A. BCSD Budget Issues & Process—*Worst case scenario IF BUDGET PASSES: 11 staff members will be cut throughout schools & special ed. Attrition will take care of only part of this. At secondary level they are looking a full positions—that’s where the savings is—probably then more 7-12 teachers moving between the 2 buildings. Will be cuts to athletics, cross-curricular. District wants to take balanced approach—not slashing into one department, for example*
- B. Other

VI. New Business

- A. Personnel & Personal Issues—*Remind members in building meetings that need to go to reps 1st w/ an issue. Then rep, if necessary, can go to Dave, Kelly. It’s a real time management issue for Dave & Kelly—need to stress this to our members.*
- B. Seniority Rights & Seniority Laws—*Next year’s projected budget increased by \$4 million—that’s our salaries & benefits alone. Greater likelihood staff reductions next year. Contingency rate set at 0%. IF BUDGET NOT PASSED, that means district can only spend next year what they spent this year--they’d have to cut that \$4 million.*

*By law, **teacher reductions must be based on tenure area** (e.g. science, English, secondary language, etc.)—e.g., a teacher may be tenured in science but certified in chemistry. Here’s how that might play out: district set to offer Chinese (4 sections throughout district)—part-time Chinese teacher would be reduced and 4 other secondary language teachers with seniority may be asked to teach one section of Chinese each (district may ask teachers to teach one section outside of his/her certification)*

*Teacher “**bumping rights**” (doesn’t apply to supvs., principals): Teacher A 1st got 10 years’ seniority in English, next went to Soc. Studies—got 7 years’ seniority there. Reduced from Soc. Studies dept. b/c least years’ seniority there; goes back to English dept. b/c “bumps” out Teacher B, English dept. member w/ fewer than 10 years’ seniority.*

2 teachers got tenure approval on same date (our district does it as “blanket approval”—all approved that year on same date). So, to figure which teacher gets reduced, district goes to next procedure—e.g., who signed paperwork 1st, etc. Teacher A: replacement year counts if move onto probationary position next year, but if Teacher B hired as probationary on same start date is the same as Teacher A, he/she has priority.

- C. Other—*Kim Hopkins mentioned state’s 25/55 retirement incentive on TRS website as tentative. Is this a possibility? Nothing official yet.*

VII. Announcements

VIII. Adjournment--@ 5:10 p.m.

ATTENDANCE: Dave Rounds, Kelly Ward, Shannon Casso, Zach Assael, Melissa De Paoli, Mary Bigelow, Tom Michalek (Exec. Council); Marilyn Valentini (C); Rob Helm (Eag); Cori DiFabbio (Elm); Andrew Kourt, Linda Seymour (G); Liz Gentile (S); Amy Ludik, Becky Beiter (MS); Bill Cleveland, John Fontanella, Kim Hopkins (HS); Fred Powers (Supvs.); Molly Fusco (Nurses).