

TAWC - The Teachers Association of West Covina

Representative Council Meeting

October 16, 2017

Coronado Alternative School - 3:15 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

David Boege (Vine); Jo Ann Van Eyk (HMS); Melina Mena (EHS); Mariah Cheng (California); Ellen Bezaire (California); Kathleen Pena (Merlinda); Ted Moser (WCHS); Susan Hunter (Monte Vista); Carol Collins (Merlinda); Monique Ramos (Vine); Jorge Alonso (California); Ana Raymond (Cameron); D. Rich (Cameron); Roxanne Crawford (EMS); Manuela Hamilton (Merced); Vanessa Obenhaus (Merlinda); Karen Manus (Orangewood); Eileen Gonzalez (Vine); Jennifer Bocanegra (Vine); Vince Leighton (WGIS); Jennifer Corsaro (Wescove); Marissa Cisneros (HMS); Karen Wirth (WCHS); Jackie Butler (CTA Staff).

Guests: Jill Rodriguez, Tomoko Price

I. Call to Order

The *October 16, 2017* Representative Council meeting was called to order by President David Boege at 3:25 p.m.

II. Approval of Minutes

Susan Hunter made a motion to approve the September 18, 2017 Rep Council meeting minutes and Ellen Bezaire seconded. The minutes were passed as presented.

III. President's Report

A. Meeting with Superintendent

1. Dr. Hinman seemed surprised so many teachers were upset. President Boege expressed how Merlinda and Cameron were targeted during Dr. Hinman's site visits. Dr. Hinman was surprised people were afraid to approach him when he feels everything is going well at the district. Dr. Hinman has not been happy that the district is taking so many TK students without state compensation.

B. Site Visits

1. Teachers are under increased pressure, with so many other responsibilities.
2. Teachers may not suspend students from school, but teachers have the right to suspend them from class. If you wish to suspend from your class, call the front office, and the office has to provide a place for the child. Teachers need to communicate the action and cause to their supervisor as well as the child's parents. Teachers are not to be given the excuse, that the lack of student engagement is the problem.
3. Mr. Boege has been taken aback by the tone administration uses towards him, that he has no right or reason to be visiting campuses.

C. Goals and Objectives

1. The window is closed to meet with our Administration for Goals and Objectives.
2. BTSA participants can tie their goals with those of the district. However, BTSA information stays with BTSA, and is not for administration.

D. Parent-Teacher Conferences

Respectfully submitted by Mariah Cheng, TAWC Secretary

1. Friday, November 17, we have no students at the elementary level. Make sure you have an appearance with the office and/or admin so they know you showed up. The district is watching for no-shows as it backs up to Thanksgiving break.

E. Grading Policy

1. Nobody can tell teachers to change grades or what they are/should be. We base grades on our teaching practices. Attempt to notify parents if students are receiving unfavorable grades.
2. Secondary: If they are moving someone in or out of your section, you have the right to know why. If you are out for any reason, your grade stands until you are back. It needs to be factored into the final grade.

F. Differentiated Instruction

1. Don't feel you need to do the same project or assignment at the same time as your colleagues. Every student is different; every class is different. The only one who may have an influence is your immediate supervisor. Ask for clarification; it's not insubordination.

IV. Treasurer's Report

Melina Mena presented the September 2017 Treasurer's Report. Susan Hunter made a motion to approve the report and Karen Manus seconded. The report was accepted as presented.

VI. Committee Reports

A. Negotiations

1. Negotiations went well. We added SLP to the contract and are seeking a MOU for Catastrophic leave. We worked on cleaning up language on Observations. We will meet Friday, October 20, 2017. The district team is Mike Seaman, Paige Ramos, Sonia Gonzalez, and Ronnie Maddox.

B. Grievance

1. None at this time.

VII. CTA Updates (Jackie Butler)

A. Member engagement.

1. Friedrichs lawsuit was set up to take away the district's ability to take out dues for Union (referred to as "fair share"). Non-Union members don't get certain things as dues members get i.e. voting, or access to an attorney, placed on admin leave). We need a plan to engage members. "What are you looking for in a union?" Executive Board will watch a video on the loss of a union. The link will be shared with Mariah Cheng, and pushed out to reps to share with staff at site meetings. In the video, we will see what people were willing to do to keep union. Others have lost collective bargaining, now have merit pay, and set hours of employment.
2. Member Engagement team will be headed up by Susan Hunter and Kathleen Peña. We now have Janus case in front of the Supreme Court in March. It favors conservatism. We don't know how soon it'll be in effect, however, we assume it will rule favorable towards passing the case, disbanding Unions.

VIII. Site Concerns

A. Monique Ramos (@Vine): do not take on clerical jobs such as printing out weekly attendance reports. Differentiation you do not tell your team to do it all because (4.2.5...you take into account the need of the students) you are new. Support your team, shouldn't be teacher vs. teacher.

B. Kathleen Peña (@Merlinda): Parents bypass admin and go straight to the district. Teachers should be able to see a formal complaint in writing. You also have the right to face your accuser with your admin, the parent,

and Association Rep. The district is supposed to refer the complaint back to the site's principal. The principal should have asked the parent if they spoke with the teacher.

1. SIPPS Rich and Shelly are trainers from Newport taking notes. Notes about the teacher need to stay in the room. TOSAs are being told they're going to start taking notes during rotation. "My union association advises me to ask you to close your notebook."

C. Continue to speak at Board Meetings; be polite and concise, show no emotion.

D. Insects:

1. Termites @ Walnut Grove. Termite dust falls on the students in class.
2. Red ants @ California

F. Former RVA site is now a Mt. Sac extension site while renovations are going on on the other half of the campus.

IX. New Business

For the November rep meeting, Mr. Boege is working on gathering a speaker who taught before collective bargaining and after collective bargaining. She has a good story to tell about working rights and, retirement rights.

VIII. Adjournment

The October 16, 2017 meeting adjourned at 4:23 PM. The next Rep Council meeting is November 27, 2017