

**TEACHER CENTER OF BROOME COUNTY
POLICY BOARD MEETING
SEPTEMBER 16, 2003**

PRESENT

Kate Griffith, Michelle Sexton, Colleen Cawley, Gail Szeliga, Betty McAndrew, Diana Simpson, Heather Badger/Brown, Mike Sabo, Diane Richards, Alice McNeely, Cheryl Naslund, Sherri Abdullah, Sharon Wells

ABSENT:

Starr LaTronica, Susan Korteweg, Ann Laczak, Bob Carpenter, Carmen Ciullo, Tina Conklin, Diane Sheehan

Minutes were approved from the June 2003 meeting with the correction that Colleen Cawley was present at the meeting.

WELCOME:

New Policy Board Members:

- Heather Badger Brown - Harpursville CSD - Special Ed. Teacher
- Diane Richards - Whitney Point CSD - Kindergarten Teacher
- Diana Simpson - Non Public Schools Representative - Science Teacher
- Diane Sheehan - Chenango Forks CSD - Art Teacher

A Fond Farewell to:

Janice Fiore - Chenango Forks CSD - Librarian

Jan has resigned from the Policy Board due to her many new duties and commitments this school year. We wish her all the best. She served seven years on the Policy Board.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Gail Szeliga, Director presented the local and state grant budget report. The State Education Dept. approved our budget this summer for the exact amount we received last year. We recently were notified from State Ed. that we will lose between 2 and 6 thousand dollars because of an error. Our base budget will be less than last year.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Policy Board Manuals:

Please bring your new blue Policy Manual to each meeting. They will serve as reference books during the meeting. Members can leave them at the center between meetings if they wish.

Mileage Claims:

Policy Board members are eligible to claim mileage to and from meetings at the rate of .36 cents per mile. Claim forms tracking mileage can be submitted in December and June. The claim form is in your blue manual. Round trip mileage should be claimed from home to the Teacher Center and from the Teacher Center to your home. Only mileage related to Policy Board business can be claimed. Policy Board members cannot claim mileage for workshop or conference attendance.

Workshops At School Sites:

Workshops can be arranged by request at school sites. We are piloting the Brain Gym workshop at Homer Brink in Endwell and at the Bell School in Windsor this fall. Policy Board members - please poll your teachers through your ambassadors to see if they would like a workshop

scheduled at their school for the Winter/Spring semester. All workshops that can be offered are included in the new Staff Development directory that you just received. We can also schedule new workshops if you would like to pilot one at your school location.

Summer Program:

An "Encouraging Teacher Leadership" Program for administrators was given in the summer with Bob Blenn as facilitator. The location was at BCC. Twenty people attended.

The Teacher Center had a very successful summer program - we sponsored 20 workshops, 15 study groups, and two programs this summer. A complete list was given to each PB member.

The annual Teacher Center Summer Institute was held in Buffalo. There were many worthwhile programs. The next summer institute will be held in Glen Cove on Long Island in July 2004. Policy Board members are invited to attend with expenses paid.

School Based Teams:

Charts listing each district's school based team were distributed. Each policy board member was asked to contact their school based team members to introduce themselves, encourage them to promote the Teacher Center programs and grants and to communicate needs and information via their policy board representative.

Grant Selection:

The Teacher Center will offer four grants this school year - Conference, Peer Visit, Program and Study Group. Current grant applications are included in each PB members blue manual. They are also located online at: Policy Board members were asked to sign up for a grant selection committee. Most of the selection work is done via e-mail except for the study group grant selection committee, which requires a three-hour meeting in the fall and spring.

NEW BUSINESS

A new policy board co-chair was nominated and elected. Cheryl Naslund, our parent rep. has agreed to fulfill this position for 2003-04.

Teacher stipends were increased from 16 to 21 dollars upon request of BOCES. They would like us to match their designated amount. Stipends are paid to study group members and occasionally for training workshops.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Relocation Committee Report:

The committee looked at space at WSKG studios and at Roberson museum. Roberson was not willing to lease the space we wanted. The WSKG had some perks and some drawbacks. At this time we decided not to make WSKG an offer. We are going to approach Roberson again and also talk to Binghamton CSD about the door situation

Mike Sabo motioned that we tell Binghamton CSD to include an escape clause into the new lease stating that if we are not satisfied with the door situation we would be allowed to break the lease with 3 months notice.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:35pm.

Submitted by:
Sharon Wells, Acting Secretary