

THE TEACHER CENTER of Broome County
Policy Board Meeting
Minutes: Tuesday, February 14, 2006

PRESENT: Susan Halpern, Alice McNeely, Diana Simpson, Cheryl Naslund, Debbie Sluzar, Diane Richards, Evie King, Sharon Wells, Diane Sheehan, Colleen Cawley, Bob Carpenter, Mike Sabo, Erin Hitchcock and Gail Szeliga.

ABSENT: Heather Badger Brown, Carol Eaton, Starr LaTronica, Kate Griffith

At 4:10 pm, Susan Halpern called the meeting to order.

Minutes of December 13, 2005 meeting were approved.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT (includes financial report)

- Mileage forms – please turn in at June 2006 meeting – rate has been reduced to .445
- 5 new laptops have been received. We are installing Office 2003 on all of the laptops.
- Write Traits Training has been set up at request of the Binghamton CSD. A free registration will be offered to each district and BOCES. Any PB member who would like to attend can attend for free. Non-transferable. Dates: May 10 and May 11.
- Visual Communicator: Educating with Video - study group begins in March – seven participants.
- Marco Polo training – almost all districts have a training scheduled for February or March.
- 2006 needs assessment – will be sent out in March – Policy Board members were asked to review a draft copy and give suggestions. 10 (\$10) Barnes and Noble gift cards - \$100 - were approved for purchase to use as incentives.
- Windsor CSD asst. superintendent has asked for Teacher Center support towards the purchase of a copy of a professional development book for teachers related to an upcoming conference. The Teacher Center will be listed as a sponsor and given credit for

providing monetary support for the books in all documentation. The Teacher Center would also be able to offer some consortium teachers the chance to attend.

- **Project Look Sharp**, a program for Health, Phys. Ed. and Social Studies teachers is scheduled for March 7, 2006. Flyer distributed.
- CV and Windsor have requested on site workshops – Classroom Management and Brain Gym during the month of February.
- Local Conference Sponsorships – Cortland Educator’s Conference (\$25) on March 11, In the Beginning – Science Lecture Series (\$30) – Ithaca, NY on March 18 and NYSCATE (\$45) on March 18 at Binghamton High School.
- Conducted BC Headstart technology training – 22.5 hours @ \$40.00 per hour.
- March 9 – all day substitute teacher training scheduled at Columbus school.
- Heart Walk – April 22, 2006 – think about joining the Teacher Center team.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Conference Grant Committee – report by Debbie Sluzar.

Conference grants are awarded to teachers to offer them the opportunity to attend a professional conference/training seminar in their field. Awards up to \$400.00 are possible. This grant must be matched dollar per dollar by the individual applicant or their school district

Only registration, hotel and meals are matched for this grant. No travel, substitute costs, taxes, membership dues or tips are matched.

39 have been awarded so far this year.

Peer Visit Grant Committee – report by Andrea Gresko.

Peer Visit grants are awarded to teachers to offer them the opportunity to

9 have been awarded so far this year.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Motion made by S. Wells and 2nd by A. McNeeley to approve a \$1000 co-sponsorship contribution to be used towards the purchase of professional books for the Windsor CSD professional development activity.

FS10 A – Budget Amendment as listed below was approved in order to move money into different categories.

SUBTOTAL	EXPLANATION (Provide same detail as required in FS-10 Budget)	SUBTOTAL INCREASE	SUBTOTAL DECREASE
15 Professional Salaries	Decrease amount allotted for teacher presenters and study groups participants.		\$7000
16 Support Staff Salaries	Decrease amount allotted for support staff salaries.		\$1000
40 Purchased Services			\$5000
45 Supplies & Materials	Increase for mini-grants and supplies.	\$13,000	

Self Study –committee appointed to plan and implement the 2006 self study at the April meeting. Members: Diane Sheehan, Diane Richards, Sue Halpern, Mike Sabo and Evie King.

Motion made by S. Wells and 2nd by D. Simpson to designate a max. of \$4500 towards the Technology Integration grants that were approved via e-mail in December 2005. Second by --. Motion carried.

Workshop Policy – Motion made by D. Simpson and 2nd by Erin Hitchcock to add this addendum:

The presence of children, including babies, at Teacher Center professional development activities is not allowed. Please DO NOT BRING CHILDREN OF ANY AGE. We do not provide child care during workshops, nor do we allow any children in the office while workshops are being presented. While we understand that this may be a hardship, please do not place us in a position where we have to deny you access.

Diana Simpson discussed NERM 2006—North East Regional Meeting for the American Chemical Society.

Next Meeting – March 14, 2006 at 4pm at Columbus School.