

**THE TEACHER CENTER of Broome County**  
**Policy Board Meeting**  
**Meeting Minutes: November 10, 2009**

**PRESENT:** Susan Halpern, Sara-Jo Sites, Diana Simpson, Diane Richards, Evie King, Diane Sheehan, Erin Hitchcock, Mike Sabo, Debbie Sluzar, Sharon Wells, Colleen Cawley, Andrea Gresko, Dawn Shannon and Lisa Strahley

**EXCUSED:** Sheri Abdullah, Bob Carpenter, Heather Badger and Starr LaTronica

**ABSENT:** Mary Hibbard

Co chair, Susan Halpern called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm.

A motion was made by Sara Jo Sites and seconded by Diane Richards to approve the minutes of October 13, 2009 Policy Board meeting with a minor grammatical change.

**DIRECTOR'S REPORT** (includes financial report and other information items)

- Financial Report was given. The Teacher Center of Broome County has not received any grant funding as of this date.
- Liza Anderson's graduate education class visited the Teacher Center in October and is returning on November 11 from 4:40-6:40 for another session. Topic: Using Education Technology in Today's Classroom. Eighteen had attended the prior session. Gail has made arrangements for the TC to be open since the TC is closed on Wednesday for Veterans Day.
- Math Solutions Conference was held on Thursday, November 5, 2009. Eight full registration scholarships were awarded to teachers in the following districts: Chenango Valley, Whitney Point, Binghamton, BOCES, Deposit, Vestal, Windsor and Susquehanna Valley. Andrea had attended and she felt it was very worthwhile.
- Kathy Harasta will be attending the NYSCATE (NY STATE Computers and Technology in Education) conference in Rochester from November 22-23.
- The TC distributed approximate 1500 work force calendars to middle and high school teachers. The calendars were designed to provide information and links on careers and occupations to local teachers. An activity guide was posted online, <http://teachercenter.info/career.pdf> to coordinate with the calendar. Calendars were funded through a grant obtained by the Catskill Regional Teacher Center. A survey was also conducted related to Career Awareness- 248 of our teachers completed the survey more than any other Teacher Center in the Southern Tier.
- Gail Szeliga, Susan Halpern and Diana Simpson will be attending the NYSTC Fall Focus from November 13-15 in Albany. This event replaces the NYSTC Summer Institute and NYSTC Annual Meeting. Sue will do a presentation regarding technology.

**OLD BUSINESS**

- A motion was made by Debbie Sluzar and seconded by Erin Hitchcock to table Sue Halpern's request to purchase a video conferencing kit to loan to schools until the

- December board meeting. The motion was carried. Dawn said that many schools already have contracted with BOCES for a video conferencing service so individuals would be able to take advantage of the equipment without adding additional monies in their budget for a video conferencing service.
- The board reviewed the application for the new **CURRICULUM INTEGRATION REVOLVING MINI-PROJECT**. The following changes were recommended: pg. 1 the word "The" was not highlighted in the sentence, "The **majority of the money....**"; pg.2 change or eliminate "grant" on the website link; pg. 7, fifth bullet should the word "awards" be used?

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

- The Online Course Policy Development Committee has not met yet so there was no report.
- The Program Co-sponsorship Committee received one application from BARC asking for funding for Jane Yolen presentation scheduled for May 11, 2010. They requested \$3000 (presenter costs \$3500 plus travel). The committee approved \$500 as a sign of support.
- Conference Passport Committee approved five conference "passports".
  - C. Reagan - SV - \$75 to attend NYSCAFCE Conference from 11/16/09-11/17/09.
  - Keith Rosko - CF - \$137.50 to attend the 21<sup>st</sup> century Smart - NYS Art Teachers Conference from 11/21/09-11/22/09
  - Shannon Stout - BCSD - \$90.00 to attend the NYS AHPERD Conference from 11/19/09-11/20/09
  - Tina Conklin - CV - \$50.00 to attend the national Writing Project Annual Meeting in Philadelphia from 11/18/09-11/21/09
  - Yvonne Phinney - Deposit - \$287.50 to attend the NAEA (National Art Education Association) Conference from April 14-18, 2010

Peer Visitation committee approved the visit of April Huyck, CV CSD to Miss Waskie, librarian at the Harshaw school, CF CSD on October 26, 2009. Ms. Huyck will observe and share best practices with Miss Waskie an experienced librarian.

## NEW BUSINESS

- Dawn Shannon gave a brief update. The federal grant money has not been received. No idea when they would be receiving it.
- We discussed the letter for ARRA funding received by the state and a memo received from the Teacher Quality and Professional Development Team. The TC needs to report income made between 7/1/09-9/9/09. Whether this will be deducted from our original ARRA grant is yet to be determined.

- The board was asked to approve an hourly pay increase (3.8%) for Elaine Andrejka. Elaine is not a member of the BSSA bargaining unit since she is part time. Dawn said Elaine was a BOCES employee and would be given an increase even though she wasn't part of a bargaining unit.

The motion was made by Evie King and seconded by Andrea Gresko to adjourn the meeting at 5:25 pm.

**The next meeting is December 8, 2009 - at the Teacher Center @ WSKG.**