

THE TEACHER CENTER of Broome County
Policy Board Meeting
Meeting Minutes: Tuesday, October 10, 2006

PRESENT: Susan Halpern, Kate Griffith, Andrea Gresko, Cheryl Naslund, Debbie Sluzar, Starr LaTronica, Diane Richards, Evie King, Diane Sheehan, Colleen Cawley, Bob Carpenter, Mike Sabo, Alice McNeely, Erin Hitchcock, Sharon Wells, Jeff Van Syckle and Gail Szeliga.

ABSENT: Diana Simpson, Carol Eaton, Heather Badger Brown, Sheri Abdullah

At 4:10 pm, Susan Halpern called the meeting to order. Minutes of Sept. 12, 2006 meeting were approved.

New policy board member Jeff Van Syckle was welcomed. Alice McNeely was thanked for all her years of service. Jeff will replace Alice.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Financial report was given for the state grant and the local account.

It was suggested that Kathy adjust her hours to work 4 hours extra a week permanently – until 5 pm. - Monday - Thursday. NOTE: Policy Board would have to pay her time and half per her union contract after 40 hours.

Part time program assistant will be hired for 12 hours a week.

Updated Fall workshop list was distributed.

Windsor and Whitney Point school districts have requested training on the Six Traits and the Four Square Writing methods.

All day substitute teaching training will be held on November 2, 2006.

We are co-sponsoring a conference with the other 10 teacher centers entitled “Roadblocks to Learning”. It will be held in Ithaca on Oct. 19 and focus on Childhood Developmental Disorders.

The 4th annual STETS conference (Southern Tier Educational Technology Showcase) will be held Oct. 21, 2006.

Director, Gail Szeliga serves on the Roberson Education advisory board and the WSKG Advisory board.

Teacher Center grant information are posted on the website at this address:
<http://teachercenter.info/grants/grants.htm>

CORRESPONDENCE

Thank you letter was received from Phelps Mansion in regard to our support for their “DBQ’s at the Mansion” project and booklet.

OLD BUSINESS

Sue Halpern informed the Policy Board that the Policy Board training session will be held in November. Survey questions were distributed so training would be more focused. More information will be forthcoming. Planning committee: Mike Sabo, Sue Halpern, Colleen Cawley and ?.

Cheryl Naslund and Diane Sheehan gave very positive reports on the DuFour conference held at Windsor. They both attended.

NEW BUSINESS

MEMBERSHIP LIST – updated by PB members. Master Teacher Subscriptions were requested.

ELECTION OF CO -CHAIRS FOR 2006 – 2007 – Our by-laws state that co-chairs will be elected in October. Ballots were cast for nominations and those who accepted the nomination were added to the slate of possible co-chairs. Diana Simpson and Susan Halpern were re-elected for another one year term.

FINANCIAL:

The Policy Board passed a resolution authorizing the director to get a documented understanding of the fees associated with the LEA's handling of the TRC grant and local funds, including a clear understanding of why we don't get interest or a return of some kind on our local fund balance. Also determine from the state ed. Dept. what the options are with the placement of local funds.

OTHER:

A new method of advertising Teacher Center services was observed – VidiTalk – Diane Sheehan and Sue Halpern will pursue this idea for our Teacher Center.

Sue Halpern introduced the new Technology Placement Program being rolled out by the NYSTC Technology Committee. More information will be coming.

Cheryl Naslund made a motion to allow Kathy Harasta to extend her hours each week by working up to 4 hours additional. She will be compensated according to the terms of her contract. Second: Evelyn King. Motion carried. The new Program Assistant will be hired for 12 hours per week.

Meeting adjourned at 5:40 pm.

Next meeting on Nov. 14, 2007 – place to be announced.