

# GATES CHILI TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Cabinet Meeting Minutes

September 18, 2008

Middle School

Present:

**OFFICERS:** Bill Ahearn (Pres), Erik Johnson (VP), Sue Evans (Corr Sec), Jennifer Kulikowski (Rec Sec), Linda Quinlan (Treas)

**BUILDING REPS:** Kathleen Bailey (MS), Christina Bathgate (FB), Jeannine Bezon (NA), Karen Bovenzi (PR), Lori Cypressi (WD), Eric Fooks (HS), Jill Gorski (MS), Todd Gundy (NA), Judy Lawler (WD), Todd Martin (HS), Maureen Mertz (WD), Stephanie Platania (HS), Chad White (MS)

## I. Call to Order: Meeting was called to order at 4:00 PM.

## II. Approval of the minutes from May 2008 meeting

A. Recording Secretary: Minutes were approved unanimously in a voice vote after a motion made by Todd Martin, and seconded by Jill Gorski.

## III. Officers Reports

### A. Treasurer

#### 1. Monthly Report – Current Account Balances

<b>Share Draft (Checking)</b>	\$24,159.37
<b>Savings A</b>	\$29.72
<b>Savings B (Scholarship)</b>	\$3107.38
<b>Money Market</b>	\$55,719.27
<b>Total</b>	\$83,015.74

#### 2. FDIC info – Insured up to a max of \$100,000

a) If dues are paid up to date, we shouldn't have more than \$100,000

#### 3. Annual Budget

- a) Preliminary Budget handed out and discussed
- b) 07-08 budget about \$11,000 over – This is a concern.
- c) Need to tighten up this year
- d) Won't have AFT this year
- e) Computer purchases in past increased costs
- f) Conference and delegate costs were up last year
- g) E-mail Linda with any questions
- h) Adoption of budget to be voted on next month

### B. Corresponding Secretary

#### 1. Voice

- a) Reps to be listed in next Voice to go out Sept/Oct
- b) Approached by Credit Union to place ad in Voice
  - (1) What do we charge for ad? We get \$100 bimonthly for full page ad from AFT.

(2) Do we want to charge them? No, but may have to take different sizes depending on the month.

2. Retirees

- a) One retiree has sent in money (\$5) for membership
- b) Good response for VOTE/COPE from retirees

C. Vice President

1. Membership

- a) Met with new hires before school started
- b) 60% response
- c) Blank membership forms will be sent to building reps

2. Grievances

- a) Arbitrator ruled HS science day didn't qualify as a work day
  - (1) Everyone will have to work for 1/200<sup>th</sup> for summer work that is not curriculum work
  - (2) F&P training should have been 1/200<sup>th</sup>
    - (a) If curriculum pay was accepted and no grievance filed – Too late to file
  - (3) Summer work is either curriculum or teaching

3. Improving Communication with Members

- a) Building reps are being asked to hold periodic meetings – preferably after faculty meetings
- b) Inform Bill, Linda, or Erik Johnson and they will try to come and facilitate and answer questions if needed
- c) Erik J. passed out some talking points

4. Negotiations Support Buttons

- a) NYSUT will give us supplies at cost and we can make our own, or we can go on-line and buy them
- b) Non-tenured teachers should not be pressured to do anything to jeopardize their jobs
- c) Statement should be positive at 1<sup>st</sup> – "GCTA – Professionals taking the time"
- d) Window decals, Any other ideas – E-mail Erik Johnson

D. President

1. Opening of 2008-2009 – New Members

- a) See previous

2. Negotiations

- a) Not going well
- b) District has re-named their team and has added a Board Member – Lowell Benjamin Jr.
- c) 9/23 – All day session scheduled with mediator
- d) No offer for settlement has been offered
- e) Meetings have been very short
- f) Unusual circumstances this year
- g) Important to alert staff that any negotiations info will be on purple paper

3. All GCTA members received letter from Board President about Superintendent search
  - a) We weren't asked to help
  - b) Bill will reply that GCTA is willing to help in process
4. Building Reps
  - a) List of Building Reps given to Sue Evans

#### **IV. Committee Reports**

- A. Grievance
  1. Possible grievance with elementary teachers and movement
    - a) NYSUT has said it can't be grieved
    - b) Can be discussed at negotiations table
- B. Community Relations
  1. Info on highway cleanup to be coming from Bill
- C. Scholarship
  1. About \$1200 made from Student/Faculty Basketball game last year

#### **V. Items for Discussion**

- A. Breast Cancer walk info available

#### **VI. New Business**

- A. Business from the floor

**Meeting Dates for 2008-2009**  
Oct 16<sup>th</sup> Armstrong  
Nov 20<sup>th</sup> Brassier  
Dec TBD  
Jan 15<sup>th</sup> Disney  
Feb 12<sup>th</sup> Paul Rd.  
Mar 19<sup>th</sup> High School  
April 16<sup>th</sup> Middle School  
May 14<sup>th</sup> General Meeting High School
- B. Building Concerns
  1. Armstrong
    - a) Staff being asked to cancel groups and cover partial days
    - b) Pressure to be at activities before and after school – Do not have to attend and can not be put on end of year evaluation.
    - c) Open House? – Professional obligation to be at one. (Past practice)
    - d) Can we be forced to be on building committees? Yes, if held during school day
    - e) ELP days? – There are no more ELP's, so there are no ELP days.
  2. Brassier
    - a) ELP days – see previous
    - b) Procedure for being hit by student
      - (1) Report to supervisor & nurse

- (2) Could call police – your discretion
  - (3) 1<sup>st</sup> offense – out of classroom
    - (a) "Zero tolerance"
    - (b) Student is not permitted back until action is taken by principal
3. Disney
- a) ELP days – See previous
    - (1) Language issue
    - (2) Day was traditionally used for RRR, not paperwork
4. High School
- a) Many new rooms have no blinds
    - (1) Kids are blinded
    - (2) E-mail from Mike Mamo to Todd Martin that assessment of blinds will be done after teacher's lounge and cafeteria
  - b) No faculty bathrooms
  - c) No ETA on faculty room
  - d) Rooms are not finished
    - (1) Finish work not completed
    - (2) Keep e-mailing Administration what is not done
    - (3) Safety issues – Send e-mails to Erik J. and Todd Martin
  - e) Expanding role of TIC's – keep monitoring
  - f) Idea to create committee to get more people involved in Union
    - (1) Start with building reps to have more meetings
5. Middle School
- a) Goals – Professional goals
  - b) HW club – Teacher obligation?
    - (1) Do not have to do it. Another duty.
  - c) Possible issues as year goes on
  - d) Homework – Teachers are being told they **must** accept HW:
    - (1) 1 day late at 10% off grade during 1<sup>st</sup> quarter
    - (2) 1 day late at 25% off grade during 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter
    - (3) Do not accept late during 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> quarters
  - e) Book given to TIC's to read
    - (1) Erik J. to talk to Chris Hamrick about issue
    - (2) TIC's are not administrators. Won't tell teachers beneath them what to do.
    - (3) If administration wants to change role of TIC's, it must be negotiated.
    - (4) Read book during contractual time if you can.
6. Paul Rd.
- a) ELP days – See previous
  - b) Id pad needed by playground
    - (1) Needed for student safety
    - (2) Have parent of student with asthma write letter to principal, Board of Ed, Superintendent

(3) E-mail principal every week and cc John Brondon

**VII. Announcements: Next Meeting - October 16, 2008 Armstrong School 4:00pm**

**VIII. Adjournment: Motion was made to adjourn at 5:50pm**

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Kulikowski  
Recording Secretary