

Connetquot Teachers Association, Inc.

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President

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MINUTES OF THE: Connetquot Teachers Association Board of Directors Meeting of
Tuesday, February 8, 2022

PRESENT:

Tony Felicio, Jr., Brad Lindell, Chris Dolce, Ellen Perz, Rob Bachisin, Paul Rondinella, Rob Lehnert, Shannon Lehnert, Beth Caiola, Jeff Vitale, Christine Dassler, Stefanie Litchult, Kevin Keane, Diane Boccio, Rob Burger, Nichole Johnson, Christine Constantine, Leslie Sewell, John Zambriski, Diane Boyle, Jennifer Ronayne, Joanna Zalewski, Laura Getman-Vaca

ABSENT:

Carolyn Paul, Frank Saladino, Lisa Manzo, Charlie Hafner

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 4:38 pm

MOTIONS:

Motion to Approve Wed/Thurs on Calendar 5:55 pm

- Motion made by John Zambriski and seconded by Christine Constantine to approve starting on Wed/Thurs for the 2022/23 school year: **PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

Motion to Approve two Superintendent Conference Days Calendar 5:59 pm

- Motion made by John Zambriski and seconded by Paul Rondinella to approve calendar with two conference days for the 2022/23 school year: **PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

Motion to Approve Superintendent Conference Day committee 6:03 pm

- Motion made by Shannon Lehnert and seconded by John Zambriski to approve formation of a committee to assist in planning conference days: **PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

***No Treasurer's Report or Expense Report at the time of the meeting

COMMITTEES:

- 4:39 pm: District Health and Safety Committee
 - Meeting focused on high school guidance suite being redone in April. Main concern confidentiality.
- 4:43 pm: Political Action
 - State waiver to cancel state testing, Education Dept. denied
 - Gov. budget: increase cap 3% in every district, teacher centers included in budget
 - Committee 100 virtual again this year
- 4:46 pm: Public Relations
 - Questions regarding retirement party, need to confirm June 21, 2022
 - Retirees from last 2 years invited
- 4:50 pm: Emergency Fund
 - No thing to report
- 4:50 pm: Technology
 - Meeting with Tech Director Alise Pulliam
 - Successful in getting tech company to install smart boards in elementary schools
 - Replacement parts for smartboards are hard to find and costly, with that in mind be mindful of smartboard light bulbs

- Teachers should not be using any website that is not State Ed Law 2D compliant (controls who can use student data and how it's stored).
- Question for Tech: Any guidance regarding independent student browsing?

OLD BUSINESS:

- 4:59 pm: Arbitration & Grievances
 - Academic freedom grievance arbitration set for April. Optimistic will be settled but BOE declined last agreement.
 - Nurse prep period: no new developments
- 5:01 pm: Virtual Teaching for Quarantined
 - Attorneys on both sides discussing, delay is caused by language
 - Number of students it pertains to have gone down significantly
- 5:04 pm: Discipline Committee Update
 - Jan 27th meeting, purpose to assist elementary schools in handling similar discipline to keep uniform and trackable throughout district
 - Ms. Poppe offered support
- 5:08 pm: Other
 - Teacher college, no new update, is supposed to revisit in spring.
 - Negotiations currently going nowhere, district wants to declare impasse without really ever attempting to negotiate. Exercise patience for now, but be ready to react. Reps should gauge where members sit on this. **Current proposal: 0.75% salary increase, cap insurance buyback to \$5000, reduce leave days by 2, increase insurance to 20%**
 - BOE votes on impasse tonight
 - Fact finding and mediation is non-binding

NEW BUSINESS:

- 5:37 pm: Superintendent's Conference Day/Calendar
 - Most recent draft, Superintendent concerned regarding 184 days, though language says up to 184. Keep Superintendent Conference Day at beginning of year instead of in March.
 - Most recent calendar most consistent with BOCES
- offering committee for 2nd Superintendent Conference Day
- 5:29 pm: Calendar
 - Met with Ms. Poppe to discuss problems with reading program
 - (See motions above)
- 6:05 pm: New Guidance on Isolation/Quarantined
 - Forms need to be filled out when isolating/quarantined sent by Gail Santos via email
 - If you test positive, (still accepting home testing kits) you do not use days and still have up to 10 days
 - If you return earlier than 10 days, use k95 mask supplied by school
 - Teachers may be out due to COVID on 3 separate occasions and not utilize days. If they are just quarantined, teachers may instruct from home and not utilize leave days, otherwise leave days will be used.
- 6:12 pm: Other
 - Special Education: Laurie O'Hara and Tony had discussion
 - Conferences don't have to be in person, phone conference okay
 - IEP coordinators cannot direct teachers, they are used as a resource only
 - 23-page packet has misinformation
 - Whole process needs more consistency
 - Announced observations weigh more (90%) than unannounced observations so administrator that knows teacher better should do announced as per APPR
 - Don't go on my learning plan to acknowledge, should receive hard copy
 - First observation should be returned before second observation is conducted

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 6:22 PM

Respectfully submitted by Rob Bachisin, CTA Secretary