



Robbinsdale Federation of Teachers

Robbinsdale Federation of Teachers Executive Council - January 11, 2012

Minutes

Special Order of Business:

Election of Delegates to Education Minnesota Representative Convention, April 27 & 28.

Nominees: Nancy (3), Denise (4) and Jim (11) were named alternates. All others were elected delegates.

1.	Tony Nelson	11.	Jim Wangenstein
2.	Peter Eckhoff	12.	Jacob Givand
3.	Nancy Lehn	13.	Jan Sanden
4.	Denise Dooher	14.	Nancy Cordes
5.	David Esposito	15.	Debbie Cranston
6.	Karen Krussow	16.	Deb Olesen
7.	Adolphus Bates	17.	Laura Steman
8.	Tom Dooher	18.	Rita Schweitzer
9.	Vicki Arabanos		
10.	Tracy Mena		

1. **Secretary/Treasurer's Report – January** – approved as submitted by membership
2. **Announcements**
 - a. Gift Certificate Reminder – Drawing for Byerly's certificates
 - b. Wednesday, February 8 next Executive Council meeting
 - c. Read Across America - Materials Available: www.nea.org/readacross
3. **President's Report**
 - a. Revised Staffing Timeline – Action Item -Proposed change adds a pre-pool for STEAM Magnet and then greater flexibility for other elementaries to fill any newly vacant positions via pool 1. Revised timeline approved by membership
 - i. Preliminary ratios presented January 9, 2012 – no change
 - b. School Board Officers (newly elected)
 - i. Chair: Barb Van Heel
 - ii. Vice Chair: Sherry Tyrrell
 - iii. Clerk: Mark Bomchill
 - iv. Treasurer: Linda Johnson
 - c. Teacher of the Year: 38 Nominees – moving on to next stage; announced in May
4. **Negotiations Update** Tracy Mena – There have been 12 meetings with some progress. A community member attended the last negotiation meeting under the open meeting law. He has been at bus drivers' meetings as well and blogged about it, affecting the dynamics of the meeting. More meetings are scheduled.



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5. **National Meetings:**
 - a. NEA: Representative Assembly: Washington, D.C., July 2-5 (no RFT funding)
 - b. AFT: Business Convention, Detroit, July 26-30 (April Election, up to 4)

6. **Clinic** – Rooms at New Hope are being remodeled. On 1/23/12, the city council of New Hope will vote on a zoning change required for clinic operation. Target opening date is 2/1/12. Dr. Gunn will be travelling to buildings to meet people and answer questions. The hours of operation are not finalized. We are advocating for a variety of hours to maximize the availability for teachers at all levels.

7. **STEAM** – The board approved the application policy for magnets which will serve to balance buildings and reserve about 1/3 of the space for open enrollment. The policy prioritizes seats for racially identifiable schools and children on free and reduced lunch. Teachers who teach at the STEAM school will automatically be able to have their children be in the building but not a part of the class size ratio.

8. **Right to Work** – Update: SD is already a Right to Work state and their governor is proposing to eliminate seniority, provide bonuses for math & science teachers and provide bonuses if your students' performance is in the top 20% of the state.

Minutes submitted by Jacob Givand, 1/17/12