



United Teachers of Seaford

Executive Board Meeting Minutes

September 13, 2021

Present:

Absent:

Matt Adler
Ed Kent
Maura Coghlan-
Jennifer Wemssen-
Curtis Tripoli-
Keri Degnan-
Jen Walsh-

Jean Marie Aplustille
Lisa Doris
Ann-Marie Motisi

Suzanne Mooney
Kerry Hansen
Maureen Sabella

Danielle Alveari
Brian Horner
Michael Milano

Christine Lindquist
Joanna McCloskey
James Scourtos
Mary Simons

1. RECORDING SECT'Y-Keri Degnan

- a) Jen W made a motion to approve the amended minutes of June 7, 2021. Danielle seconded the motion. All in favor.

2. TREASURER/MEMBERSHIP CHAIR-Jen Wemssen

3. PRESIDENT-Matthew Adler

- a) **Vaccines/Testing-** The mandate from the state is that if you are unvaccinated, you have to submit to weekly testing. You may see your doctor and submit your results or be tested at the district. We don't know what the disciplinary action will be if you refuse to be tested, but you will have the full support of the UTS and NYSUT.
- b) **Live streaming for quarantine students** – Elementary service providers were given a directive to hold live streaming. If you are given a directive, you have to do it, but the UTS will fight it. Live streaming is not effective. On the secondary level, if a student is quarantining there will be no live streaming. Send asynchronous work home, live streaming is not successful. If you are asked for live streaming, ask the administration to put it in writing and we can see about fighting it
- c) **Teacher in charge position** – At any school function where students are in attendance, a Principal or Assistant Principal must be in attendance. If they are not there, the district needs to identify a Teacher in Charge and they need to be compensated. If you are at an event, and there are no administrators present, take attendance and let the union know. Be sure to include the date and time of the function. Clubs are included if there are spectators in attendance.
- d) **PAC public relations event planning committee nominations** – If you are interested in participating in the committees, please let your building reps know. We will vote on it next month. Activities of the positions are:
- Internal PAC- attend board of education meetings
 - External PAC- committee of 100 meeting
 - Social Event Committee – plan the back to school luncheon and the retirement dinner
- e) **Middle school sports/extra help conflict**
Coaches can give extra help in the morning. If teachers have a conflict with the morning, Central Administration needs to rectify the problem. If you are a coach, you do not have to do all of your extra help in the morning. The district did have a paid advisory position to watch the athletes during extra help, but no longer. Middle school coaches also do not have to hold practice on the days they have extra help. There is nothing in the contract that says how much practice time you have to do.
- f) **ARTS** -Currently there is a growing problem with health insurance for retirees. NYC and Bayshore are forcing retirees to purchase a medicare advantage provider. This is anticipated to be a HUGE problem in the future.

4. OFFICER REPORTS

- a) **Maura-** Thank you to the members for being cooperative and flexible. We thought this year was going to be easier, but it is not. This year's opening was not well organized.
- b) **Ed** – We are going to negotiations this afternoon, we are still talking with the district. I hope your school year started up nice.
- c) **Curtis-**Our vendor had a sizable increase in the prices, currently, it is \$47 for polo, the prices are even higher for hoodies and ¾ zips. One of the reasons the price is high is because we purchase from a union shop. Members

asked shirts could be made on a cricket machine? Barbara Richko and Jillian Egan are willing to explore this idea. Jillian Egan had some shirts made last year and will look into if the company she used (is it a union shop?)

d) Jen Walsh-She had nothing to update, she is living the dream!

6. Building News – Please start with positive news!

a) Manor Head Building Rep-Jean Aplustille-

- i. Good news! Mary Lombardi had a grandson!
- ii. Building reps met with the administration and discussed the start-up tech issues and the lack of materials for classes. They also set up their TAC committee.
- iii. Members are concerned about the remote aspect of specials, they are being forced to do it.
- iv. Members are also concerned about how to safely remove a violent student. Staff needs crisis prevention intervention training. One aide was last trained over 5 years ago. The UTS does not want anyone to get hurt. Jen Walsh is a certified trainer for the district and she offered to train members. She told the administration was available to train during the summer, but the district is not promoting the training. If you are not trained, please email the administration that you need to be trained. An administrator has a list of all staff and the dates of their training for the district. Unfortunately, all members have had their district training expired. We do not want to have any liability issues and no one getting hurt. Jen will get the list and forward it to Matt. Please put all requests in writing.

b) Harbor Head Building Rep-Suzanne Mooney

- i. Things are looking good at the Harbor. That is the good news!
- ii. Parking is fine, and there are wonderful new teachers, but there have been some technology issues. Teachers have no idea what happened to the carts over the summer. Teachers left carts in perfect condition, but computers are missing, and there have been no updates on the devices. People are still trying to find their stuff in boxes.

c) Middle School-Head Building Rep-Danielle Alveari

- i. Good News! Stephanie Delucia has baby number two on the way, and there is a bunch of great new teachers! The middle school has had the biggest change this year, staff and students are no longer trapped in pods. Teachers can eat together, and the kids are moving to their classes. All are positive changes.
- ii. The biggest concerns are about technology. Similar issues of the other buildings. There are also questions about the unvaccinated staff.
- iii. Parents are beginning to question staff about the following scenario; if a student and family are quarantined, the secondary student is not supposed live to stream, but their sibling in elementary is.

d) High school Head Building Rep-Christine Lindquist

- i. Good News! Diane Archibala had a baby girl!
- ii. The biggest concern of the staff is that the teaching schedule was given out so late. There were a lot of mistakes. Some classes have 30 students while other classes in the same subject have 9. The workload is not equitable. ICT classes were all put in for the 9th period. Had the schedules been completed and distributed earlier, many of the problems would have had more time to be fixed.
- iii. Special education logs have been changed by an administrator to quarterly. According to the building principal, there are no special ed logs because no one has talked to her about it. There seems to be some disagreement among the administrators.
- iv. Teachers no longer have swipe access to any doors at the end of the A or C wings and teachers are upset. If teachers can be trusted to educate children, we can't be trusted to use a door? Central Administration said they are going back to pre-Covid days, to limit building access.
- v. In High School, we are altering TAC. Meetings between building reps and principals overlaps with the TAC committee. TAC agendas will filter through the building reps. TAC should be building issues, not union issues, but because of Janus, anything that affects a member is now a union issue. At the HS the issues are always the same, and both TAC and building reps are trying to accomplish the same goals.
- vi. Some stipends did not get approved yet. Staff should check to see if it is on the agenda for the Sept 22 agenda. Many members are questioning why wasn't it on the agenda before the start of the school year?

7. COMMITTEE UPDATES

- a. **PAC – Scott Gilbert** There is not a lot going on politically, because we just got a new governor.
- b. **Internal PAC Joanna McCloskey** – nothing

8. GRIEVANCES – None right now.

9. NEGOTIATIONS- There is a meeting today at 5 pm with Central Administration.

10. MEMBER CONCERNS – There were no member concerns brought up. Suzanne Mooney made a motion to end the meeting. Maura seconded it. All in favor. Keep up wearing green on Friday! The Sea of Green was great!