



United Teachers of Seaford

Executive Board Meeting Minutes

March 7, 2022

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. Meme of the Month



Mike Kelly
@_Mike__Kelly

Remember when educators' biggest stressors were fidget spinners and bottle flipping? Those were the days.

2. RECORDING SECT'Y-Keri Degnan

a) Jean Marie made a motion to approve the amended minutes of Feb 7, 2022. Mary seconded the motion. All in favor.

3. TREASURER/MEMBERSHIP CHAIR-Jen Wemssen

a) Jen paid our \$2,000 award for the Patriot Award dinner (4 members may attend.) There was also a bill for additional black tee shirts for \$1416. Finally, we paid our lawyer a \$40,000 retainer fee. Jen is looking ahead to schedule a meeting for the 2022-2023 budget. It will probably be a zoom meeting.

b) FYI-the UTS dues for tax purposes are \$1218.

c) There have also been two more membership dues deductions since the last meeting (this is 11 out of 16 deductions.) Danielle made a motion to approve the budget summary. Keri seconded the motion. All in favor.

4. PRESIDENT-Matthew Adler

a) **Congratulations to the Cheerleaders! They took home the state championship! Congratulations to Coach Ferrari!!!**

b) **Covid Update** – Masks are optional. Be sensitive to people who want to wear masks. The weekly testing is coming from the state, not the district. Last month the elementary teachers expressed concerns regarding curriculum night. Details for the evening are being worked out. It is not going to be the same as in the past. It might be in the hallways. A central TAC meeting is coming up and the details will be determined then.

c) **New Administration-** Dr. Dunn left for Valley Stream, Jen Bisulca was moved to the Middle School. Anthony Murray started today as the High School's newest Assistant Principal. Tom Lynch is being promoted to Asst. Superintendent as of July 1. They are in the final stages of interviews for Asst. Supt for Curriculum and Support.

d) **Master Schedule for 2022-2023 school year** – The UTS is pushing for a look at the schedule before it is finalized as we do for the proctoring schedule to exams. Margaret Glancy will send out a zoom link for the retirement meeting. It is an open meeting to NYSTERS members on March 16 at 4:30 pm.

5. OFFICER REPORTS

a) **Maura-** Nothing specific, it is a downward spiral to the end of the year. We are so happy about Jen Wemssen's pregnancy! Building Reps in both Harbor and Manor schools met together, thank you for your hard work. We are a solid group together.

b) **Ed** –It is great with no masks. The contract negotiations are ongoing.

c) **Curtis** – Nothing! A few small quarter zips were delivered. Thank you, Curtis for your hard work.

d) **Jen Walsh-**Jen is feeling better! We need to start thinking of the upcoming elections for President, Treasurer, Parliamentarian, and Administration Secretary.

6. Building News – Please start with positive news!

a) **Manor Head Building Rep-Jean Aplustille-**

i. **Good news!** Everyone is healthy. Our good news is that Suzanne and Jeanine had a meeting with the administration and worked out details for the Curriculum Night. It is voluntary, not mandatory. It evening is not in our contract. We do not have a contract, and strongly suggest members think before

they choose to participate. Teachers should keep the classroom doors locked. There will be one piece of work of the students' writing in the hallway. This is the year to pull it back and let the evening not become a teacher competition on who can use the most construction paper. The administration is pushing for a STEAM event– Tom Lynch could help bring it back and focus on coding. We have not been doing the coding. Keep it simple, if anyone is approached to participate, please do not engage.

- ii. **The faculty still want the copy machines back!** Staff also would like their rugs and furniture.
- iii. We will not be a cookie-cutter copy of the Harbor. Keep it simple, we don't want all the parents in the classrooms.

b) **Harbor Head Building Rep-Suzanne Mooney**

- i. For Curriculum Night administration wants one writing piece on the student's desk. The staff wants the work displayed in the hallway, but the administration wants it in the classroom. There will be consequences of having the parents in the classrooms. No faculty from the Harbor will be attending.
- ii. A suggestion was to make the evening like a path for the budget vote. Staff would like it similar to IKEA, in one door and continue in one direction and out through another door. Matt will push for it.
- iii. For the end of the year festivities, class parents will be allowed in the room for class celebrations and for Harbor day (which is outside.)
- iv. The staff would like Youtube to be unblocked for the students since we have Classwise.
- v. Another thank you for the GREAT job the elementary reps for working together!

c) **Middle school-Head Building Rep-Danielle Alveari**

- i. Good News! Congratulations Jen!
- ii. School feels like it is back to normal. Teachers and kids are feeling positive. Playing without a mask is a great experience!

d) **High school Head Building Rep-Christine Lindquist**

- i. Good News! Our building has all new administration staff. We have heard great things about Anthony Murray. He was around the building getting to know everyone. We also have a lot of pregnant people in our building!
- ii. The staff is concerned about our schedules next year, and about testing.

7. COMMITTEE UPDATES

- a) **PAC – Scott Gilbert** – The upcoming election for Board of Ed. election, both Herbert and Umhafer have picked up packets as well as Kevin Devlin. We will reach out to all candidates about meeting with the UTS and getting endorsed. It is also almost time for Vote Cope. Scott would like to make a presentation at the faculty meetings, so please let Scott know when the meetings are.
- b) **Public Relations** – The committee is meeting tomorrow for the end-of-the-year party.

8. GRIEVANCES – none

9. NEGOTIATIONS-

- a) **Mediation-** supposed to have a meeting on April 2nd. The last one was postponed due to the district's lawyer having a medical issue. The plan is to picket after the next mediation. As soon as we get a date for it, we will put out a date for picketing. The next BOE meetings are on March 23, or April 6. It is not in their interest to put this off our contract, it will affect their next year's budget.

10. ARTS

- a) RC17 meeting is tomorrow. There will be an ARTS meeting in early June, we want to wait for the snowbirds will be home.
- b) Please let Barbara know who is retiring, she would like to ask the retirees to make a small Vote Cope deduction from their pensions.

11. MEMBER CONCERNS –

- a) Reminder the trust fund reimbursement for both Optical and Medical is due by the end of the month.
- b) Music is still keeping students 6 feet apart. Music is still being held in the cafeteria on camera. The cameras are supposed to be off, but there was an incident last year, and they are still on. The camera should NOT be on. It was stated directly by Central Administration it should be off. Sports have zero restrictions, classrooms are at 3 feet, and the music class is still at 6ft. The students have been blowing all year with no masks no one has gotten sick. Some of my students are 80 feet + away from the teacher. An email was sent to Central by a member and she has not had any response. There was no distancing for the HS drama show, the pit band was not separated. Why are the elementary bands and chorus being discriminated against? Matt will bring it up at Central TAC.
- c) Maura made a motion to end the meeting. Everyone else seconded. All in favor.