

A.T.A. Chinook Local #29
School Representative Council
Saturday, March 26th, 2011

Attendance:

Ruth Barrett	Jim Burnett	
Crystal Exner	Mike Fleck	
Renee Furedy	Michelle Glavine	
Tony Hamilton-Irving	Paul Lavery	
Kerry Langhorst	Brent Lendvay	
Kathy McElroy	Theresa O'Neill	
Denise Werbowski	Andrea Wiest	Lauren
Zulyniak		

Andrea opened the meeting with a prayer.

Approval of Minutes from February – Theresa O'Neill

Andrea asked if there were any corrections to be made in the minutes. The minutes were approved as circulated.

President's report – Andrea Wiest/Kelly Timmons

- Kelly attended the President's meeting in Edmonton.
- There was a lot of speculation about the budget at the meeting.
- The School boards did not think that the meeting went well
- ATA out bargained the school boards and we came out looking like the bigger man.
- ATA met with the government, and were constructive trying to get to a bargain, but they never saw this with the school boards.
- There will be teacher layoffs and the AISI budget will be cut. Maintenance will probably be cut back as well.
- Are we meeting quorums at General meetings?
- Learning coaches – probably 4/5 teachers who are already doing this.
- Success in School plans – should be doing this.
- Inclusion plan – to replace an IPP. Goals of the curriculum and drop down menu to check off what you are doing with the students.
- At the meeting the members met in like groups – same size as our Locals. Same concerns and same issues.

Treasurer's Report – Crystal Exner

- Cgrystal handed out her Balance, Profit and Loss report.
- Crystal explained her report.
- Discussion and questions followed the presentation of her report.
- Crystal moved that we accept the balance and profit and loss report as presented.

Teacher Welfare – Jim Burnett

- A teacher contacted Barnett House in regards to buying back some of their leave years. The teacher had been told not to buy their years back. Jim recommended that we buy back our teaching leave years. It is worthwhile. You can roll over RRSPs to cover the cost.
- Jim discussed the report of school board financial statements.
- 250 million dollars in surpluses in the province
- 93,800 interest in investments made by our board.
- Jim discussed some of the key points found in the survey that the teachers completed.
- 301 teachers completed the surveys
- 154 teachers are in category 4.
- 111 teachers are in category 5.
- 196 teachers are in category 6.
- 6 – 10 years teaching experience is where we have the most teachers.
- Personal leave – paid days – most important. 53.9%
- Personal day attached to extend a break.
- The ability to carry over unused personal days.
- 60% would like to see an inclement weather day
- Classroom conditions - # of students in the class, special education students , educational assistants, ESL students in the class
- Hours of work – limit number of students, limit on instructional time, ESL students, limit voluntary work.
- Part-time teachers – benefits, stable FTE, continuous work day
- Sub teachers – their salary.
- Internal coverage – 42.6% very important.
- 65% - prep time returned.
- Do not copy and give out the survey results to the members at the present time.

Professional Development – Renee Furedy

- Renee will be attending the spring Professional Development workshop in Edmonton.

Palliser Convention Report – Renee Furedy/Tony Hamilton-Irving/Theresa O'Neill

- No report at this time.
- Next meeting is on April 16th, 2011

Communications Report – Grant Gay

- Grant sent his report to Andrea.
- A new version of our web-site has been submitted for posting with the changes suggested at the November meeting being implemented. Once the site is up, Grant will send an e-mail notifying everyone that it is ready to be used.

- Any posts that we would like to have on the site, we need to direct to Grant's e-mail address, lco.local29@gmail.com. PDF documents are appreciated if possible.

Political Representative Report – Kurt Phillips

- We receive updates from Kurt on a regular basis.
- Morinville report – watch what is going on with that.

District Representative Report – Michelle Glavine

- Michelle congratulated Jim on his new position. Jim has been elected to sit on the economic consultant board.
- Dianne Sellers is our new District Representative for our district. Michelle will continue in her position until June.
- Michelle expressed her appreciation for working with this division.
- Tripartite negotiations may not be done and they may be coming up once again, but not until after 2012.
- Michelle will attend the Wild Rose AGM to see what their policies are regarding Education.
- Hancock – ATA – went to the legislature – Charter School will be receiving the same funding. A place focusing on innovation. Same increases in funding as what the public schools have.
- School Act is not tabled as of yet. Come out in late April. Might not get past the first reading. ECS entry age to be solidified. Less competition between the boards to accept the students.
- 4.3 - 4.4% - should be available April 1st. (AAWE)
- Specialist Council Membership – once in one then you are in that membership until you decide on a different membership. Set up by the fall.
- Invitational symposium – Finland speakers spoke to a large group – a great symposium. Minister of Education was there. Great response from that.
- School board trustees also attended.
- President's course will be offered for a full week this year at Summer Conference.
- PEC – 62 boards negotiating at the same time.
- Ballots for the ATA election that just took place. There were many problems with teachers being on the wrong lists or some schools not receiving ballots at all. This will be discussed at the next PEC meeting. It was worse then the last election.

New Business – Andrea Wiest/Kelly Timmons

- a. **CAFEC Meeting – Paul Lavery**
 - Attended 2 meetings – University is not jumping through all the hoops of the ATA,; the only university recognized for its education program in our area is the University of Calgary.

- Our division is making use of the St. Mary's practicum students. Mount Royal is given university status.
- 3 Universities in the Calgary area have students graduating from Faculties. We need to include some of the other universities. We can not continue to ignore them as University faculties.
- This has been discussed before. The ATA believes that the Education Degree has to come from the University. Change is on the horizon, but it has not taken place as of yet.

a. **ATA PD Fund Allotment**

- Crystal sent out a history of our PD funds. 65% goes to conferences. 25% to University courses, 10% goes to teacher resources.
- Times have changed as most of us have technology in our classrooms. (smart boards, computers, etc.)
- Crystal discussed the report that she presented to us.
- If any teachers want to buy something technology related or something else which they are unsure about, they can send an email to Crystal or Andrea.
- Apply for it and then we will go from there. It must relate to your PGP.

a. **Hospitality Suite for next year?**

- Andrea explained the situation to the committee.
- It cost us around \$10,500 in the end.
- We need to look at other options such as teaming up with other locals, looking at another room at the Hyatt or checking on Milestones across the street?
- Andrea will get in touch with some of the presidents from other locals.
- Crystal has contacted the Hyatt to see if there are other rooms available that would be about half of the cost. Would that be more cost efficient?

a. **Meeting Quorum?**

- Are we meeting quorum at the general meetings? We might need to look into this. What is our constitution? Mini retreat to put together a portfolio for each of the positions on the executive. Andrea and Kelly have been doing this together for a little while.
- Defining for a school rep – how do I keep my staff informed? Bring our roles and the responsibilities for your position.

a. **Spring Scholarship – Andrea Wiest**

- 5 teachers applied for a scholarship.
- The four winners of a scholarship were:
 - **Michelle Leitner (Holy Cross Collegiate)**

- Anna Ferrazzi (Holy Family Academy)
- Luann Sunohara (Holy Trinity Academy)
- Pamalla Hauser (Holy Family Academy)
- The dates for the scholarships for next year are at the November and March meetings. October 31st and February 28th are the deadlines to apply for a scholarship.

Next Meeting: **May 25th, 2011**
 STRATHMORE at HOLY CROSS COLLEGIATE.
Meeting will start at **6 o'clock** and **dinner will be**
 provided.

Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:40 a. m.