

BERGEN COUNTY EDUCATION ASSOCIATION
210 WEST ENGLEWOOD AVENUE
TEANECK, NEW JERSEY 07666

**MINUTES OF BCEA COUNCIL MEETING
JUNE 10, 2009**

Executive Committee members present at the meeting: Bischak, Brady, Coppa, Coppola, Frangiosa, Goldman, Holz, Kelly, Lipoff, Luthin, McBride, Meeks Manning, Otis, Policastro, Sheppard, Testa, Walsh, Wulster
Presidents or representatives present from: Harrington Park, Hasbrouck Heights, Haworth, Oakland, Saddle River, Teaneck

Executive Committee members present from (districts not listed above): BCC, Bergenfield, East Rutherford, Englewood Cliffs, Fort Lee, Franklin Lakes, Glen Rock, Hackensack, Leonia, Mahwah, Teaneck, Tenafly, Wood-Ridge

The Council meeting was called to order at 4:15 p.m. by Joseph Coppola, Jr., President. The minutes of the May 13, 2009 meeting were accepted.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT – Joseph Coppola, Jr.

A written report was submitted. Mr. Coppola reported received a very nice letter from Dr. Graham recognizing BCEA for co-sponsoring, along with the Bergen County Superintendents' Association, the Bergen County Teacher Recognition Program. Mr. Coppola announced Ms. Maryanne Woods-Murphy from Northern Highlands Regional High School has been selected as Bergen County Teacher of the Year. He also reported that he worked on a project with Sheriff Leo McGuire, and he took part in a "Re-Entry" program presented to Bergen County inmates. Mr. Coppola thanked Ms. Janet Bischak for serving on the Bergen County Professional Development Board as her eight year term limited has expired. Mr. Coppola discussed a documentary by "The Cartel" that was billed as the Hoboken Film Festival that was shown on May 30 in the Teaneck movie theater. The documentary was about vouchers, tenured teachers, merit pay and Urban districts.

1st VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT – Bill Brady

A written report was submitted. Mr. Brady reported on the upcoming screenings. Tomorrow they start with the Freeholder screenings, and starting on Monday, June 15th screenings for the Assembly candidates will begin. He reported that the PRIDE campaign is certainly moving along with our proposal that must be submitted in July to the NJEA. Again this year, the proposal will be over \$105,000, and we will ask NJEA for reimbursement. Mr. Brady reported the BCPD had their last meeting on May 27. Mr. Brady thanked Ms Janet Bischak for all her hard work on the PD Committee.

2nd VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT – Rina Goldman

A written report was submitted. Ms. Goldman reported the schedule and topics for next year's IPD is finished. She reported the last edition of the *Reporter* is at the printer. There is an article written by Ms. Betty Meeks Manning regarding the Human Rights Committee and nominees for the Human Rights Award.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Dennis Testa

A written report was submitted. Mr. Testa reported the budget will presented for 2009-2010. Mr. Testa discussed the budget, and reported there is no increase this year for BCEA dues. Ms. Laura Lepore, Co-Chair of the Budget Committee, moved to adopt the \$1,534,200, Ms. Donna Lee Sheppard 2nd, a vote was taken, so moved. Ms. Laura Lepore moved to keep the 2009-2010 BCEA dues the same as last year, at \$85.00 (\$80.00 dues, \$5.00 Dimitriadis) for Active Professionals, \$45.00 (\$40.00 dues, \$5.00 Dimitriadis) for Active Supportive, \$45.00 (\$40.00 dues, \$5.00 Dimitriadis) for Part-time Active Professionals, and \$25.00 (\$20.00 dues, \$5.00 Dimitriadis) for Part-time Active Supportive. Ms. Janet Bischak 2nd, a vote was taken, so moved. Mr. Testa thanked Ms. Lepore for co-chairing the Budget Committee. Mr. Testa then asked for a motion to combine two funds; Paul Dimitriadis and Kay Stillwell Fund. The name of the new fund will be Kay Stillwell Fund. Ms. Marion Luthin made a motion to move, Ms. Pat Wulster 2nd, discussion followed, a vote was taken, so moved. Mr. Testa reported there is a packet on the side table dealing with the ESP of the Year. This is for **informational purposes only**. This year the nominations are due at the BCEA by September 18th for consideration. Please get your nominations in on time. The committee has less then a month to review the applications, interview the candidates, make a selection, and get the paperwork to NJEA. Do not send the nominations to NJEA. They must come to BCEA. Mr. Testa discussed health benefits and the increase in premiums.

NJEA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE – Joseph Coppola, Jr., Janet Bischak

A written report was submitted. Ms. Bischak reported the approval of the 2009-2010 NJEA calendar, the approval of Convention Committee Recommendation of individuals to receive an Award for Excellence at the 2009 NJEA Convention. She also discussed the NJEA budget and dues increase. Ms. Bischak thanked members who serve on the NJEA committees. The next meeting will be held on June 12, 2009.

NJEA WORKING CONDITIONS COMMITTEE – Marion Luthin

Ms. Luthin reported it has come to the attention of the Working Conditions Committee that the Military Tenure the committee was working on getting passed in the DA, and which did pass in the DA, is already in the law. Ms. Luthin discussed the High School graduation requirements and the impact on working conditions will be the topic that the committee will address in September. They will also be working on the Teacher Protection Act, and a possible recommendation will be presented to the DA hopefully by the second DA caucus.

NJEA BUDGET COMMITTEE – Andrew Policastro

Mr. Policastro reported the headquarters are paid for. He noted that working on the Budget Committee and with Mr. Wendell Steinhauer has been a highlight for him.

NJEA MINORITY LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE – Betty Meeks Manning

Ms. Manning reported the next conference is May 21 & May 22. She reported the committee works with the New Jersey Future Educators of America Association. They did two conferences and if you are interested in attending future conferences you can find information on line. She discussed the Urban Teacher Academy. If you have any students interested in becoming an educator, please go to Trenton on July 8 at 9AM.

BCEA GOVERNMENT RELATIONS STATE COMMITTEE – Patricia Kelly, Howard Lipoff

A written report was submitted. Mr. Lipoff reported the committee met on May 13 and they discussed the Legislative Dinners that were held in the State. He reported the committee discussed whether it was a good idea to endorse Freeholder candidates; some of the other counties in New Jersey don't endorse Freeholder candidates. Mr. Lipoff discussed the State budget. Ms. Kelly discussed the lobby days, and a flyer was distributed. The dates are Thursday, June 18, Monday, June 22, and Thursday, June 25. Members are encouraged to attend. Ms. Kelly and Mr. Lipoff will be attending the lobby days, and Ms. Kelly offered to drive members if they need a ride. Mr. Lipoff discussed the new High School Redesign. Mr. Lipoff reported on a conflict between meetings for January 2010. NJEA Government Relations committee listed their meeting dates for next year, and once again their January meeting is in conflict with our LAT meeting; it is his hope that in the future, we can consider a date change.

OLD BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS – None

ANNOUNCEMENTS – Mr. Coppola announced this is the last Council Meeting for Mr. Dennis Testa as Treasurer of the BCEA. He thanks him for his friendship and all the work he has done for this organization.

MEETING ADJOURNED – There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 6:00 PM.