

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

**MINUTES OF BCEA COUNCIL MEETING
SEPTEMBER 9, 2009**

Executive Committee members present at the meeting: Bischak, Brady, Bulger, Celentano, Cobb, Coppola, Frangiosa, Goldman, Kelly, Lipoff, Luthin, McBride, Meeks Manning, Nordstrom, Otis, Policastro, Sheppard, Snyder, Walsh
Presidents or representatives present from: Carlstadt, Demarest, Harrington Park, Haworth, Northern Highlands, Oakland, Pascack Valley, Wood-Ridge
Executive Committee members present from (districts not listed above): Bergenfield, East Rutherford, Englewood Cliffs, Fort Lee, Glen Rock, Hackensack, Leonia, Mahwah, Norwood, Teaneck, Tenafly

The Council meeting was called to order at 4:15 p.m. by Joseph Coppola, Jr., President. The minutes of the June 10, 2009 meeting were accepted.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT – Joseph Coppola, Jr.

A written report was submitted. Mr. Coppola requested a moment of silence in memory of past-presidents, Mr. George Velotto and Mr. Arthur Rispoli. He reported BCEA received a thank you note for the contribution made to Teen Arts. Mr. Coppola announced Ms. Barbara Keshishian, President of the NJEA appointed Mr. Dennis Testa to chair the NJEA Health Benefits Committee and Mr. Paul Daniele, was appointed to chair the NEA Convention Committee. Mr. Coppola congratulated Ms. Betty Meeks Manning on being selected for the NEA Women's Training Conference. He reported there will be meeting regarding elections on September 10 and 17 for presidents of the local associations. Mr. Coppola announced the annual County Luncheon will be held on September 21 at the Fiesta. This luncheon is for the local superintendent or their designee, and local presidents or their designee. The topic will be Professional Development. Mr. Coppola announced a farewell dinner will be held on October 18 for Ms. Joyce Powell. He also discussed NJEA School Emergency Preparedness Conference on Saturday, October 24 at the Heldrich Hotel, New Brunswick which will be presented by Mr. Vincent Bove. BCEA will fund members of the IPD Committee, and chairs of all BCEA committees. Mr. Coppola discussed an Anonymous Threat Reporting System for students. He reported he has received numerous thank you notes for the *Newspapers in Education* program that we sponsor through PRIDE. Mr. Coppola explained that the Deferred Compensation Account has to be changed to comply with the new tax laws. Presently it has to be taken in two years and at your discretion, now, he would like it approved to be changed to three years of equal payments so as to comply with the new laws. He then asked for a motion to move. Ms. Marion Luthin made a motion to move, Ms. Janet Bischak 2nd, so moved. Mr. Coppola reported that since the upcoming election is such an important one, a special election edition of the *Reporter* will be printed. By doing this we will go over budget the *Reporter*, therefore he is asking that Council vote to print this special edition. Mr. Howard Lipoff moved, Mr. Dave Walsh, 2nd. Discussion followed. Mr. Howard Lipoff moved to print this edition, not to exceed \$9,000, Mr. Dave Walsh, 2nd - a vote was taken, so moved.

1st VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT – Bill Brady

A written report was submitted. Mr. Brady reported the BCEA PAC Committee met yesterday. They have made the following recommendations for Freeholder endorsements: Julie O'Brien (D) and Vernon Walton (D). Mr. Coppola called for a vote. Mr. Bill Brady moved to endorse, Ms. Jenn Celentano, 2nd. A vote was taken, and passed by majority vote. NJEA PAC Operating Committee met on August 1, and they have endorsed Governor Corzine. The list of the endorsements for the State Assembly is on the side table. Mr. Brady discussed phone banks and the Committee of 1,000. He announced the first meeting of the LAT is Wednesday, September 16. This is an important meeting for your LAT representatives to attend. Mr. Brady reported the PRIDE proposal for this year is approximately \$100,000.

2nd VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT – Rina Goldman

A written report was submitted. Ms. Goldman discussed the upcoming election and urges members to vote for Governor Corzine. She reported the first overnight IPD workshop will be held on September 25 and 26, and at the October 21 IPD workshop, Mr. Vincent Bove will be the presenter. She reported the *Reporter* is almost complete. She discussed the election issue of the *Reporter*.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Jenn Celentano

A written report was submitted. Ms. Celentano reported one of her duties as Treasurer included investigating the Articles of Incorporation as an association. Next year will be the 50 anniversary of the incorporation of BCEA. She reported the Fall Focus meeting, on September 23 at the Venetian, is an important meeting to attend. Eleven members per local may attend. Ms. Celentano discussed her ideas for the Action Committee, which includes technology as a way to keep members posted on events in a timelier manner. She reported she attended Summer Leadership in August and learned how to do budgets and financial reports on the computer. Ms. Celentano discussed the New Member Workshop which will be held on October 23. This is a new workshop for the local president or his/her designee, BCEA officers and staff, UniServ officers and staff and any new member of the association. It must be their first year in that local, even if they have worked in another local.

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

A written report was submitted. Ms. Bischak reported since Council met last the Executive Committee had two meetings on June 12 and August 1. The reports are on the side distribution table. She reported Chris Christie replied to NJEA's invitation to participate in the screening process by sending a letter expressing no desire to participate, nor did he fill out the screening questionnaire. She also reported the NJEA Summer Leadership Conference has changed the name to the "Jack Bertolino Summer Leadership Conference". Ms. Bischak reported all the Committee appointments were approved. She reported a motion was made and carried to continue Richard Grey in the dual role of Assistant Executive Director/Director of Research and to approve his contract through November 30, 2011. The next meeting is September 11.

NJEA PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE – Joseph Coppola, Jr.

Mr. Coppola reported the Committee will be meeting September 11 to approve the third leg of the Matrix. He discussed at length the School Based Plan.

NJEA WORKING CERTIFICATION, EVALUATION & TENURE COMMITTEE – Thomas Papaleo

Mr. Papaleo reported the Committee met twice over the summer. The Committee is developing a Policy Manual for the members of the Committee.

BCEA GOVERNMENT RELATIONS STATE COMMITTEE – Patricia Kelly, Howard Lipoff

Mr. Lipoff reported the Committee has not yet met. He discussed the Lobby Days that he and Ms. Pat Kelly attended at the end of June. Mr. Lipoff discussed Tax Amnesty, and the State's budget. He reported legislation passed that NJEA has long opposed regarding diabetics and injections. Ms. Kelly discussed phone polls made to our members regarding the election. She discussed the campaign strategy. Ms. Kelly reported on voter registration. She distributed the Vote by Mail Application for Mail-In Ballot forms. The new trend is to vote by mail. She informed members of the dates for the phone banks at BCEA office.

OLD BUSINESS –

NEW BUSINESS –

ANNOUNCEMENTS – Ms. Bischak reminded members to pick up the BCEA Pocket Calendars.

MEETING ADJOURNED – There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 6:10 PM.