

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

MINUTES OF BCEA COUNCIL MEETING
March 17, 2010

Executive Committee members present at the meeting: Bischak, Brady, Celentano, Cobb, Coppola, Feinstein, Goldman, Holz, Kelly, Lipoff, Luthin, Manning, McBride, Policastro, Snyder, Wulster
Presidents or representatives present from: Demarest, Englewood, Hasbrouck Heights, Ramsey
Executive Committee members present from (districts not listed above): East Rutherford, Englewood Cliffs, Fort Lee, Franklin Lakes, Glen Rock, Hackensack, Haworth, Hillsdale, Northern Highlands, Norwood, Oakland, Pascack Valley, Ramapo Indian Hills, Ramsey, Tenafly, Wood-Ridge
Other: UniServ

The Council meeting was called to order at 4:15 p.m. by Joseph Coppola, Jr., President. The minutes of the February 10, 2010 meeting were accepted.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT – Joseph Coppola, Jr.

A written report was submitted. Mr. Coppola reported many people did sign up for the Teachers Citizens Police Academy, and they will meet tomorrow for the first time. Mr. Coppola discussed at length the Governor's Budget Address and the state's financial crisis. Mr. Coppola also reported on health care and pensions and taxing of fringe benefits.

1st VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT – Bill Brady

A written report was submitted. Mr. Brady reported the Annual Legislative Dinner and Conference will be held on March 24th at the Venetian in Garfield and if your local is still interested in buying tickets, you must get in your registration quickly. He also discussed the PRIDE campaign, *Get Out the Vote*. We have a large campaign with ads on the NJ Transit buses and trains. He reported there will be a Leadership Conference Weekend at The Minerals Hotel at Crystal Springs Resort on April 30 through May 2. Rooms are going quickly, so get your registration in.

2nd VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT – Rina Goldman

A written report was submitted. Ms. Goldman discussed the lobbying days in Trenton she attended last week. She reported the IPD Overnight Workshop will be on April 16 & 17 and the PD Committee will have a Dinner Workshop on May 6. The *Reporter* will be sent out at the end of April and it is an election edition. She is looking for articles for the *Reporter*.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Jenn Celentano

A written report was submitted. Ms. Celentano reported she attended the Bergenfield Fact-Finder Meeting and also that Englewood had an unsuccessful Fact-Finding Meeting. She discussed the need to motivate and organize members to get involved in actions for the locals. She reported she has been working with our bookkeeper and NJEA to bring all of our accounts and By-Laws and Constitution in line with the IRS regulations. Ms. Celentano reported she will be meeting with the Budget Committee to begin budget planning. She reported the ESP Pension Workshop will be on April 22.

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

A written report was submitted. Ms. Bischak reported the extensive discussion on NJEA's position on current legislation regarding pension and health benefits. She reported each division director reported on their efforts toward pension and benefit attack which will continue after the Budget Address on March 16 until budget passage at the end of June, and the plans to constantly monitor and change/respond to the current conditions. Ms. Bischak reports in terms of Action; Bergen had two people, Mr. John Kline and Ms. Maryann Woods-Murphy appointed to the Hipp Grant Selection Committee and also Bergen had two workshops approved. She reported the approval of the renaming of the NJEA Union School, in honor of the late John Warms, to the John Warms Union School. The next meeting will be on March 19.

NJEA WORKING CONDITIONS COMMITTEE – Marion Luthin

Ms. Luthin reported the committee spent time on the Legislative Report as to what each county is doing. Next DA meeting they will have a report with recommendations dealing with changes in working conditions and the Teachers and School Employee Protection Act.

NJEA URBAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE – Carol Feinstein

Ms. Feinstein reported the committee met last week. The April workshop that was planned has been postponed until the fall due to poor member response.

NJEA CONGRESSIONAL CONTACT COMMITTEE – Carol Feinstein, Sue McBride

Ms. McBride reported she and Ms. Feinstein attended the committee meeting yesterday. She reported they discussed the PAC screening for the Congressional Districts. They also discussed at length the Governor's State Budget speech. Ms. McBride also discussed NCLB and also *Race to the Top*.

NJEA PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE – Jenn Celentano

Ms. Celentano reported the committee met on February 23. She reported NJEA has a Professional Development Institute and they have DA policy and regulations that need to be updated. The committee will be working on this for the next couple of months.

NJEA MINORITY LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE - Betty Meeks Manning

NJEA HUMAN AND CIVIL RIGHTS COMMITTEE – Betty Meeks Manning

Ms. Manning announced that at this time of year, she is asking you to look around your locals for someone who is worthy of receiving a nomination for the State Human and Civil Rights Award. The deadline to get in the nominations is October 1, 2010. Also the NEA's award nominations are due in December 1, 2010. Ms. Manning discussed the NEJA Apprentice Program. The applications for this program are due in by April 21. She reported the NJEA has formed a partnership with Future Educators of America.

NJEA BUDGET COMMITTEE – Andrew Policastro

Mr. Policastro reported the committee will meet on March 23 and the following Friday the committee will have a retreat.

NJEA WORKSITE SAFETY & HEALTH COMMITTEE – Kathy Snyder

A written report was submitted. Ms. Snyder reported the Glucagon law was passed. Members should be aware of the unintentional consequences associated with volunteering for administering the Glucagon shot. She reported the Temperature bill has been reintroduced into the Senate as S-824. Ms. Snyder reported the committee will be surveying local presidents about the status of health and safety committees at the local level. She handed out a short survey to be completed and returned to her.

NJEA YOUTH SERVICES COMMITTEE – Patricia Wulster and Carol Otis

Ms. Wulster reported April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month. She discussed the Chair of the committee will make a request for Governor Christi to make a proclamation to declare National Child Abuse Prevention Month. She also discussed the National Don't Fry Day sponsored by the American Cancer Society. Click here for more information <http://www.epa.gov/sunwise/index.html>

BCEA GOVERNMENT RELATIONS STATE COMMITTEE – Patricia Kelly, Howard Lipoff

A written report was submitted. Ms. Kelly reported Gov. Christie signed his 17th Executive order, creating a taskforce to study and make recommendations on the potential efficiencies to be gained from privatizing certain functions of state government. She reported on March 16 Gov. Christie gave his budget speech to the legislature and reported his plan for the state's budget for fiscal year 2011. He vows to take bold action and says it is time for a change. Ms. Kelly also went on to discuss some of the "sound bites".

OLD BUSINESS – None

NEW BUSINESS – None

ANNOUNCEMENTS – None

MEETING ADJOURNED – There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 5:45 PM.