

**Berkley Education Association  
Representative Council  
Tuesday April 28, 2009  
Minutes**

Call to Order: 4:00 p.m.

Attendance: Sign-in sheet distributed. Martha Spears absent with notice. Martha, you and your family are in our thoughts.

Minutes: Accepted as written.

Correspondence: A thank you note from the Michigan Humane Society for our donation in the memory of Andrea Kaye's mother. Operation Graduation thanks us for the \$200 donation.

Budget: Julie Simpson-Yellow sheet. Sandy Kowalski moved to accept the budget. Motion was seconded by Emily Welch. Motion passed to accept budget.

Executive Director: Lots of grievances.

1. Contract says the Board and the Association will confer when forming district committees. This has not been happening. The Superintendent's trend is to leave us out.
2. Cleaning grievance. The new plan is to bring in a substitute custodian the first day of a custodian's absence.
3. There is a grievance regarding placement on the Salary Schedule.

There is a concern due to no PA system availability in certain areas at Norup and BHS. This is a safety issue and our hope is that the administration agrees to provide a PA system with availability to every classroom. Mary Lou will bring this up again to cabinet members.

PTA Pam Landstrom—No new reports. PTA is having a dinner at BHS to thank the old officers and bring in the new. It is pot luck.

President's Report:

Seniority list is updated. Please post. When people take a leave of absence for a year, they lose that year in seniority.

Green page: Signing date seniority list was distributed so new teachers will know their order of signing.

District community meeting at BHS: It was announced that if the teachers would freeze salaries the district could save \$500,000. There is concern over this type of public announcement.

The Board has decided to offer a Separation Incentive Program. If we have 12-17 members sign up, they would receive \$30,000 over three years. If we have 18 retirees or more, the amount would be \$40,000. We will be announcing upcoming meetings to explain the SIP to interested parties.

Mary Lou has formed a BEA AD HOC budget committee. Mary Lou will present to the School Board, and one person per building will present at building PTA meetings. Please go to PTA meetings and Board Study Session with your beautiful blueberry blue Berkley shirts.

Surveys:

Please fill out the paper surveys if you want to enlighten the district with your opinions. Please fill out the association survey on survey gold.

**Building Concerns:**

Norup: a full time counselor is going on leave and the district has replaced her with a half-time sub. Many students will be affected by this.

Transfer requests – It is okay to have one on file each year in case you would like a change.

Burton- Teachers could not attend curriculum training because of lack of substitute teachers.

Child care workers who have worked for the district for 10 years or more could continue to work for the district.

Other child care workers now have to work through PESG.

Districts can borrow money at .6 % while waiting for money from the State.

Berkley uses the Durant funds for their internal banking system.

**New Business:**

New Budget presented for 2009-2010

NEA dues is going up \$4.00 per person. Other line items on the budget were presented:

Additional funding for NEA RA delegate for plane fare and other expenses.

Reduction in funding for Conferences

Reduction in Mentoring funds

Increased yearbook allotment

Respectfully,

Kriss Guleserian, who kindly substituted for Martha Spear.