

TEACHERS ASSOCIATION OF ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY

2521 Riva Road, Suite L7
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

MINUTES - Representative Assembly Meeting

Wednesday, March 13, 2024

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by the President, Nicole Disney-Bates, at Severna Park Middle School, at 5:14 p.m.

Reading of Mission, Vision, and Month Acknowledgment - President Disney-Bates read the Mission, Vision, and the Acknowledgment for Women's History Month.

Dana Schallheim, running for re-election to serve a second term on the Anne Arundel County Board of Education, addressed the group.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

It was moved by Russell Leone, seconded by Cathy Hall Guay, to move the speeches for President to the end of the agenda after Committee Reports. The motion was approved.

It was moved by Alex Tougas, seconded by Deanna Edmunds, to adopt the agenda with flexibility. The motion was approved.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

It was moved by Will Johnson, seconded by Melissa McHarg, to approve the February 21, 2024 Minutes. The motion was approved.

LOCAL

Pittman Budget Forum - Mike Magee reported that there is a very brief window between now and April to convince Pittman that it is a 5% salary increase for the full year and no cuts to health insurance benefits. The Town Hall will be held Wednesday, March 20, at Corkran Middle School. We have 150 members that said they will come to the event.

Government Relations - Endorsements - Brendan Maltese and the Government Relations Committee have recommendations for endorsements.

District 1 - The recommendation for endorsement is for Gloria Dent.

It was moved by Jessica Roth, seconded by Will Johnson, to approve the recommendation by the Government Relations Committee to endorse Gloria Dent in District 1. The motion was approved.

District 2 - The recommendation for endorsement is for Bob Silkworth.

It was moved by Cathy Hall Guay, seconded by Angela Vogt, to approve the recommendation by the Government Relations Committee to endorse Bob Silkworth in District 2. The motion was approved.

District 3 - The recommendation for endorsement is for Erica McFarland.

It was moved by Maggie Graham, seconded by Angela Vogt, to approve the recommendation by the Government Relations Committee to endorse Erica McFarland in District 3. The motion was approved unanimously.

District 7 - The recommendation for endorsement is for Jeremy York.

It was moved by Will Johnson, seconded by Russell Leone, to approve the recommendation by the Government Relations Committee to endorse Jeremy York in District 7. The motion was approved.

District 4 - The recommendation for endorsement is to make no endorsement in the Primary.

PAC - Amanda Menas reported that the next Government Relations Committee will be held on April 8, 2024. If you give to PAC or increase your donation, there is cool stuff for you to earn.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR UPDATE

Special Education Stipend – Executive Director Soares reported that we are very close to finishing and having a resolution on the Special Education Stipend. We came to an agreement on what the final resolution will be and brought it back to the affected employees. There are a couple of clarifications that need to be made with AACPS.

Office Renovations – Executive Director Soares reported that we got our plans back from the architect based on our feedback. The staff will meet on Friday to review the plans and then get them back to the architect. At that point, we can start looking for contractors and getting permits. We will not break ground until after the election.

Negotiations – Executive Director Soares reported that Negotiations will be tomorrow. We have a tentative agreement on the Career Ladder. We have an MOU that came out of Negotiations that a committee will put together, and we will have a co-facilitator from TAAAC and a co-facilitator from AACPS with 5 members on each side. The committee will meet in May as an initial meeting to set up meetings in the fall to address planning time and a couple other things. This is a pathway to get more planning time.

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Executive Director Soares reported that the NEA Organizing Fellowship Academy happens every year. If you are interested in becoming a UniServ Director, this is a program that you would want to be involved in. Applications are being accepted until April 5, 2024.

UNISERV UPDATE

Mike Magee reported on things happening at the TAAAC office.

NEW BUSINESS

None

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Government Relations - Brendan Maltese reported that we took a position of no position last month on the Bill for 1080 v. 180 days. This Bill is going to probably die.

Mr. Maltese reported that the Student Loan Repayment Plan passed the Senate yesterday.

Mr. Maltese reported that the Ombudsman Bill is probably dead.

President Disney-Bates reported that she has her monthly meeting with Dr. Dwarte. She stated that she will address a list of questions from literacy teachers about a variety of things. The Board of Education needs to be made aware of why these folks are important and what they are doing.

Credentials - Jon Boughey reported that 41% of the total Representatives were in attendance, which is 76 out of 144, and 29% of the total units.

Racial and Social Justice - Maria Côté reported that in the packet is a flyer from the Bond Academy. It will be held from April 26 - April 28, 2024. TAAAC will pay for up to 10 participants. This is a program trying to get more minority male educators.

Ms. Côté reported that we are trying to get more information on the Annapolis/Anne Arundel Hispanic Heritage which will be held in September/October.

Ms. Côté reported that June 1, 2024, will be the Pride Parade and June 22, 2024, will be the Juneteenth Parade. There will be information on the website about signing up.

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LOCAL CONTINUED

Speeches - Diane Barnes reported that speeches will be given by the candidates for President in the runoff election. Nicole Disney-Bates, running for President, addressed the group. Kristina Korona, running for President, addressed the group.

Diane Barnes reported that the election closes at 5:00 p.m. on March 15, 2024.

Nominating - Diane Barnes reported that the TAAAC Nominating Committee announced last month that nominations are open for 8 seats on the Credentials Committee and 15 seats on the Nominating Committee. There is a preliminary ballot in the packets. Nominations will close at the April RA. Nominations are now open for the Sick Leave Bank Approval Committee and the Calendar Committee (Elementary). Both committees have one seat open. Nominations are open until the May RA.

Finance - Diane Barnes reported that the Finance Committee will be meeting Tuesday, March 19, at 5:00 p.m., at the TAAAC office.


ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next Representative Assembly will be held on April 17, 2024.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Approved:



Diane Barnes, Secretary-Treasurer



Nicole Disney-Bates, President

Minutes approved at Representative Assembly Meeting 4/17/2024

(Date)