



Minutes of CSA Executive Board Meeting

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Tuesday, January 27, 2009

ABSENT: **Membership Classification:** Tracy Atkins, HS AP-Supervision; Lisa Pollari, HS AP – Supervision; Jacqueline Foster, HS Principals & Alt. HS Principals; Elena Talamo, Assistant Principals-Special Schools & Citywide; Amoye Neblett, Supervisors Of & Coord./Asst. Coord. Adult Ed.; Ravonda Oden, Aspiring Principals & NLNS.

Districts: Luis Malave, 6; Ezra Mathias, 9; Winston Simmons, 12; Mary Barton, 22; Stephen Leo, 26; Willie Quintana, Bronx HS; Ramon Namnun, Bronx HS; Robert Yanez, Queens HS; Barbara Vellucci, SI HS; Elizabeth Fong, Manhattan HS; Lantigua Sime, Manhattan HS.

Excused: : Evelyn Santiago, Assistant Principals; Sheila Willard, Day Care Directors & Asst. Directors; Williesteen Moore, Day Care Directors & Asst. Directors; Orlando Rodriguez, Education Admin & CSE Chairs; Luz Torres, Education Admin & CSE Chairs; Joanne Epstein, HS AP-Special Education; Adrienne Edelstein, Principal-Special Schools; Nancy Sing Bock, 2; Eileen Perez, 4; Elvira Maresca, 8; Benjamin Soccodato, 11; Leslyn Ward, 18; Mark Goldberg, 21; Francine Marsaggi, 30.

The meeting was called to order by Ernest Logan.

1. **The minutes of December 16, 2008 meeting were accepted as written.**

2. **PRESIDENT’S REPORT – Ernest Logan**

2.1 **Political/Legislative Update** – The Democrats have taken over the NYS Senate. Now we have some new people that have become chairs of committees that directly affect us. Suzy Oppenheimer has now become Chair of the Education Committee. Diane Savino of Staten Island is now the Chair of the Labor Committee and Velmanette Montgomery is now the Chair of Families and Children. Kathy Nolan continues to be the Chair on the Assembly and as more become available I will be announcing them. The Governor has appointed Kirstin Gillibrand to fill the seat of Hillary Clinton

2.2 **Budget** –The City is projecting a possible cut of 1.3 or 1.6 Billion dollars in education but everyone has spent the Federal Stimulus Package and it has yet to be approved by either House or Senate and signed by the President. Since they have spent it this will help fill some of the holes, but we don’t know where we stand at the present time. What I’ve asked the Chancellor is to please give the schools an opportunity to set up a reduction plan on their own instead of going into school budgets and spending their money. On the State side we have heard the Governor state that he is going to cut education and health. Our situation is if we do get the Federal Stimulus package, can it go to the State so they can take their piece and then send it to the city? Or does it go directly to New York City so NYC can take it and do what they wish to do with it.

What I have heard from the Federal side is that when it comes to education they are looking at more accountability. NYC is in the best shape because we already have all the accountability that we can have on how money is being spent. It will fall on other people as to how they will come up with accountability.

- 2.3 Day Care Contract** – We have had a stalemate. We are going to speak to politicians to get them into the conversation about what to do about Day Care. We need to be aware that there is now movement to take early childhood away from ACS and give it to the public schools (DoE). We will then have ACS out of early education and have them dealing with family, and child protection issues and allow us as educators to deal with the education of children. Hopefully with the new Senator for family and children we will get that conversation and move forward.
- 2.4 Visit to Florida Retirees** – I spoke to them about what’s happening in NYC, what’s happening around the country and we also spoke of the health plans and the concerns they had. We spoke to them about what we need to have nationally regarding legislative activities, most importantly how we start to move the agenda in Congress to get the Governor to start negotiating the cost of pharmaceuticals. It is hurting our Active Fund as well as our Retiree Fund that we are unable to keep up the pace of the cost of drugs.
- 2.5 Inauguration** – There were so many emotions from the night before and the day of the event that I’m still savoring the moment. The spirituality, the feeling of this country coming together in a sense of hope that you felt in the crowd and with the people you encountered was incredible.

3. EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT – Peter McNally

- 3.1 PPR** – We have two sets of issues, one is the first year of PPR, which we have renegotiated into our contracts for 07-08 and the second issue is the Goals and Objectives for 08-09. Overall the vast majority of Principals have received their PPR. We have some Principals that haven’t but unfortunately we have some child abuse investigations still going on and those principals haven’t received their PPR. In the contract principals that have been rated 0 or 1 have the right to appeal. We have 20 out of 1540 principals that are appealing. We also have 2 principal’s ratings that were lowered for reasons that are not PPR rules. That is something that as a union we are grieving. If there are any other circumstances please make sure that your field staffs know so we can take appropriate action. Moving forward for 08-09, we know there has been major confusion over the Goals and Objectives. We met with Tweed back in December. We complained that the implementation of it was done very poorly by central. A new PowerPoint was designed and superintendents were brought in and retrained on what the expectations are to meet the goals and objectives. That doesn’t necessarily mean it was smooth sailing. We are aware that there is a lot of confusion and we are working with Tweed to try and straighten that out. Tweed wants specifics about what the issues are. If you aware of any of your colleagues having difficulties please have them notify our field staff immediately and we will work it through.

- 3.2 **Celebration of Teaching & Learning, March 6/7, 2009-** We are a major sponsor we are honoring Aspiring Principals in our ALPAP program, Leadership Academy and New Leaders for New Schools. We ask that many of our schools support this by purchasing tickets for their own CSA members as well as their staff. The full program and exact times are on a hotlink on the CSA website.
- 3.3 **Executive Leadership Institute** – As we have told you we are very pleased and proud that we are a subcontractor to the Leadership Academy. All workshops for Administrators are now given by the Executive Leadership. These workshops include Examining Data I and II. Some of our principals were amazed on how much information they received from these workshops. We encourage you to pass the word to have more members participate.
- 3.4 **Chair Retreat**– Your colleagues, District Chairs and Assistant Chairs are going away on retreat with us on February 6th and 7th. We have a very extensive retreat planned in collaboration with the Cornell Labor School.
- 3.5 **Retirees** – Interest has been expressed around the country about organizing additional regional units. At this time we are looking at North and South Carolina regions as well as a second one in Georgia.

4. **FIRST VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT – Randi Herman**

- 4.1 **Day Care Legislative Breakfast – February 26th**- We are going to have a breakfast for our Day Care personnel to meet with legislative officials. Last year it was very successful. Early Childhood is a hot topic on the President’s agenda so we are trying to make it an important item on New York City’s agenda.
- 4.2 **School Safety** –Safety Plans, Administrative Bldgs. – I don’t know if any one of our EA’s who are in administrative buildings has seen a safety plan. So if you or any of your colleagues find yourself in an administrative building and you don’t have a safety plan ask for one. See what answer you get: where is it?, who has it?, who developed it? and let us know please. I would be very interested to know which buildings do have a safety plan and which don’t.
- 4.3 **OSE** – Office of Student Enrollment is conducting an impact study analysis to try and determine where the seats are going to be needed as opposed to where there is going to be over crowding. We did make a point that Day Care center attendance is necessarily in the home zone. The thinking of how to do the impact analysis really did change. We do have a meeting in February when I will ask again.
- 4.4 **Parking Permits** – Arbitration – (Barbara Jaccoma gave a report) Parking permits are a mandatory subject of bargaining. Our contract says that matters that are proper subject for collective bargaining can’t be changed without talking to us and the Arbitrator understands that. We’ve had a couple of your colleagues come and give testimony and did a brilliant job. But we make no promises until we see the decisions.

5. GOOD AND WELFARE

- 5.1 Condolences to Ann Gordon-Chang on the passing of her father, Sigmund Gordon
- 5.2 Ted Elsberg, former President of CSA & AFSA, passed away on January 17th.

7. DISCUSSION

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting. Meeting was adjourned at 6:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Edward J. Torres