

# **Park Ridge Education Association Governing Board Meeting Minutes**

**DATE:** Monday, September 8, 2014  
**LOCATION:** Lincoln School - Room 101  
**TIME:** Promptly at 4:00 pm  
**President:** Andy Duerkop      **Vice President:** Franny Keyes  
**Treasurer:** Jane Everett      **Secretary:** Tom Nasshan

- I. Called to order at 4:06 pm.
- II. Treasurer's Report: The current balance is \$45,030.30.
- III. President's Report
  - A. The Governing Board is made up of the executive board (officers), building reps, and committee chairs. We meet the second Monday of each month of the school year, and then we meet with Administration the following Thursday.
  - B. Building rep responsibilities are:
    1. You are the PREA rep at your building to hear concerns, answer questions and resolve any issues you can.
    2. You are the liaison between your staff and the principal. You should meet at least twice a month with the principal or whatever is necessary to communicate concerns. Be sure to take notes, and it is best if you can have two or more reps at each meeting. Also keep track of actions that are taken regarding your concerns.
    3. If you cannot resolve problems, please bring them to the Governing Board and/or the Executive Board.
    4. Tom Nasshan will publish minutes with talking points from the Governing Board meetings and the meetings with Administration that you should share with staff at the building level.
  - C. New committees are:
    1. Public Outreach (Cindy Davies is chair) to develop and maintain a positive presence within the community.
    2. Board Member Election (Tony Belmonte is chair) to help find and support candidates for the upcoming Board elections. Four board member positions will be open this spring. Region 36 can also help with this.
  - D. We need to use our website more. Please visit it and read the information there.
  - E. The QIT committees must remember that this is a joint committee with teachers and administrators sharing equal power. This committee is guaranteed in the contract and we need to make sure it maintains its value.
  - F. Dr. Heinz asked Andy what items were outstanding from last year. She wants to make sure these are resolved.

G. Open positions must be posted exclusively to PREA members for at least two weeks before the position becomes open to the public. The Franklin second grade position had less time because of logistics of getting the position filled as soon as possible. Andy and Dr. Heinz, as a one-time exception, agreed upon this. A subsequent discussion took place regarding “unfair” hiring practices within the District concerning staff vs. non-staff hiring. We might want to have “non-arbitrary” reasons become clearer.

IV. Association Committee Reports (Please make all reports short, clear, and concise)

- A. Elections (Jody Baty) – no report
- B. Grievance (Jerry Mulvihill) – Staff need to contact Jerry if there are any questions concerning hiring decisions for PREA members; some questions came up concerning what would happen if a mentor building facilitator actually wants to be the mentor, which prompted further discussion regarding mentor selection. Going forward we should have 2 mentor facilitators per building.
- C. Insurance (Andy Duerkop) – no report
- D. Membership (Jane Everett) – 401 members as of today
- E. Negotiations (Mark Stefanik) – We are still looking at those retirees who exceed the 6% salary increase over their past 4 years of work and the subsequent fines and punitive damages. This will be looked into in the next contract.
- F. Personnel Relations (Lisa Gray) – no report
- G. Professional Growth (Michele Larson) – no paper copies anymore; enter everything into Skyward.
- H. Teacher Mentoring (Lisa Garcia, Nancy Jensen) – 10 new teachers, all full-time except one; 12 mentors because several are splitting
- I. Credit Union (Steve Senf)
- J. Region 36 (Erin Breen, Franny Keyes, Mark Schalke) – Region 36 has not met this year yet. Mark is stepping down; so, we need another rep. Contact Andy if you are interested. Erin reported that there would be lots of information coming up because of the gubernatorial elections. Jerry is the new grass roots rep for the Region.
- K. Political Action (Jerry Mulvihill) – no report
- L. Public Relations (Cindy Davies) – Cindy will get any needed t-shirts out shortly – looking for any opportunities to get involved with the community – TAs had asked for shirts but we did not because they are not PREA members -- Cindy would like more elementary teachers on the committee; so, she would like a rep from each building (do not meet monthly) but will be meeting on 9/18 from 4 to 5 pm at Lincoln– Teacher Talk is part of this; would like ELF grant recipients to write up something

M. QIT District (Jerry Mulvihill) – talked at their District meeting regarding growth learning goals/targets – there is no consensus yet regarding growth and teacher evaluations. PERA and evaluation committees are moving

TALKING POINTS:

- *Explain that all reps will meet with principals once or twice a week with the intent being to facilitate better communication.*
- *Recruit for the Board Election committee. Very important! Contact Tony Belmonte @ Franklin.*
- *Reiterate that QIT is an important committee in which the leadership is shared equally between the lead teacher and the principal. The teacher leader should be voted by the teachers on the committee. Contact Jerry Mulvihill with questions or issues.*
- *Each building should have two mentor liasons whose only job is to approve mentor appointments in consultation with the building principals. Please report names to Nancy Jensen(?), Andy and Tom (for records).*
- *We are in need of one or two Region 36 reps to attend monthly meetings at Skokie office with Erin Breen.*
- *Public Outreach is an outstanding committee. They would like at least one rep from each building. Contact Cindy Davies @ Emerson. Next meeting is 9/18.*