



Livermore Education Association Rep Council Minutes, June 3, 2004

The meeting was held at Beebs Restaurant. President Keith Pickering-Walters called the meeting to order at 3:50 P.M.

Janice Paquette gave a tribute to Joyce Keeler, the outgoing President of the association. Retirees were honored by guest speakers. The association had a gift for each retiree present.

President Keith Pickering-Walters introduced the new LEA Executive Board. Vice-President is Terri Nighswonger, Secretary is Karen Framsted, Treasurer is Kathleen Goucher-Real, Elementary Rep-At Large is Sue Yalom, Middle School Rep-At-Large is Linda Garbutt, High School Rep-At-Large is Grare Davis.

Membership Information:

The association is asking teachers for home and e-mail addresses to form a central database for the association. Check with your rep for the form. We will use this information to print an association address book for all LEA members.

Negotiations:

Terri Nighswonger presented information about health coverage. The district had a miscommunication and was not available during the last scheduled negotiations session. The mediator spend the day with the LEA Negotiating team reviewing the funding for the programs listed. The association looked at CALPERS, CENTRAL VALLEY TRUST and what we have now. CALPERS will not accept retirees. Central Valley Trust comes closest to meeting our association needs. The district does not want to continue the present level of coverage for employees or retirees. As the plans are reviewed the negotiating team looks at the premiums for Kaiser and Blue Cross PPO, and Health Net. HMO's are not being looked at as so many doctors are refusing to take HMO insurance.

Terri also shared what the negotiations team does. If you are interested in being on the negotiations team please contact Terri Nighswonger at East Ave. School or the Association at 447-1199 or livlea@pacbell.net. We are looking for representatives from elementary, middle and high schools.

Electing Site Reps for the Fall:

Kathleen Goucher-Real discussed getting reps elected in August so that they can attend rep training in September and October at the Rep Council meetings.

Communication Jump Start:

Keith shared with the council that the office and leadership need a total technology equipment infusion, software and services including a dedicated line, and wireless

computers for all members of the Exec Board. Keith discussed the need for web site upgrade which would allow teachers to communicate with the association over this line rather than send private and personal information over the district line. The Council voted \$155.00 per year for this line. The Council unanimously approved a technology expenditure of up to \$10,000 for computer equipment and software, DSL line and web site.

New web site name:

Keith presented different titles that could be used for the web site name. We would also purchase variations of the name to prevent domain confusion. Another entity could pretend to be the association and give out misleading or inaccurate information, misstate LEA's position on issues or editorialize against the association. This will cost about \$36.00 a year.

Communication:

Sharon Abri asked that the association survey the members on issues including: (1) teacher needs, (2) how teachers feel about LEA, (3) what needs to be improved, (4) what can the association offer teachers and, (5) what would you like the association to do for you? The Exec Board will put this survey together this summer.

Summer Leadership Training:

Keith discussed the CTA Summer Leadership Program held on the campus of UCLA during the week of July 25-30th. This is a tremendous opportunity for those interested in leadership, negotiations, finance, communications, instructional and professional development. Rep Council authorized the association to send up to 18 LEA members to the Institute.

Keith discussed having LEA print up a membership directory and a copy of the LEA contract (once that is settled and voted on,) for all teachers.

How to Contact LEA over the summer:

Try the LEA e-mail account at livlea@pacbell.net or the office at 925-447-1199. If you don't get an answer please contact Keith at teach@onlinepw.com or call Keith at 925-337-0173.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 for an executive board meeting.

Karen Framsted
LEA Secretary