

**OCVTEA
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

February 1, 2011
Toms River Center

- Call to Order:** The meeting of the OCVTEA General membership was called to order at 3:14 pm by President Howard Polenberg.
- Officers in Attendance:** Howard Polenberg, President
Tom Vassallo, Vice President
Alicia Carney, Secretary
Michael Clarke, Treasurer
- Constitutional Change:** The regular business and reading of the minutes were postponed to allow for consideration of the proposed amendment to the OCVTEA Constitution. The amendment would return the amount of OCVTEA General Meetings per year from two meetings per year to four meetings per year.
Tom Pernal made a motion that the amendment, which had been forwarded to all members in accordance with the by-laws at least one week in advance of this meeting, be accepted as read by President Howard Polenberg.
Second: Cathy Buckley
Only two dissenting votes were noted. The motion carried with over two-thirds majority of the members present as required under the OCVTEA Constitution.
- Reading of Minutes:** Alicia read the minutes from the General Meeting held on November 16, 2010. No additions or alterations were noted.
Motion to accept: Andy Dennison
Second: Pat Wake
- Treasurer's Report:** Mike Clarke presented the Treasurer's Report.
Motion to Accept: Laurie O'Donnell
Second: Tom Pernal
Treasury report was accepted unanimously.
- Sunshine Report:** No report was available. All information has been posted on the OCVTEA web site.
- Membership Report:** Mike Clarke reported that his count shows 195 members. This number will be checked, due to the discrepancy from the 210 members reported by Howard Polenberg during the November meeting.

Standing Committee Reports

Public Relations Committee: Tom Vassallo reported that the usernames and passwords have now been distributed to the membership by the building representatives. He asked the members to urge other members to read the updated information on the site at least on a monthly basis, since the minutes to all meetings are now posted on the site within a few days. He indicated that members can get information on meetings, the OCVTEA Constitution and our current contract with the board. He also spoke about the upcoming voucher bill.

Legislative Committee: Colleen Gordon followed up with information on the voucher bill currently being prepared for a vote in the state legislature. Joan Szlaga also reported that it will impact public school districts. She stated that the state is in the process of dismantling public education in New Jersey.

Social Graces Committee: Sharon Clougher was unable to attend. There was no new report available.

Internal Affairs Committee: Catherine Ferrara was unable to attend. There was no new report available.

Professional Development Committee: Eileen Verde was unable to attend. There was no new report available.

Constitutional Committee: The vote on the constitutional amendment was held earlier.

Elections/Nominating Committee: Howard Polenberg reported that the association is still in need of a few committee chairs and members.

Old Business: Howard asked members to sign up for committees and get involved. There were questions as to why the members who did sign up have not been contacted. Howard stated that it was something that had to be clarified.

R.O.C. Committee, NJEA – Is a way to get information to your members. The idea is to use building leaders to disseminate information to members immediately at each center. Howard is asking for a volunteer from each center.

Stipends-

Andy Dennison spoke about how he is working on obtaining rates from contracts in other districts. He stated he would like to meet with all committee members to discuss the information. Joan mentioned that if we need additional contracts to contact her office.

We have a legal opinion on 1.5% contribution. A full report on the opinion will be presented after the Executive Council meeting scheduled for February 9.

New Business:

Howard Polenberg reported that the "Curriculum Mapping" now being done at the academies will affect all shared-time instructors next year. Tom and Howard met with Curriculum Supervisor Lori Young and Assistant Superintendent Nancy Weber-Loeffert to discuss the issue at the board office in December.

Tom explained "curriculum mapping" to the members. He also reported on the "curriculum mapping" meeting that was held at the Lakehurst Center in January. A compromise was offered at the meeting that teachers could be awarded professional development hours. Many of the staff seemed to be amenable to that. However, it is the position of the OCVTEA that staff should be paid for curriculum work, as it is felt that there is a clear precedent in the district.

Some members expressed the opinion that the district "Curriculum Specialist" should be the one doing the mapping. Joan Szlaga reported that is how it is handled in many districts. There will be another meeting on the issue at MATES to discuss this in more detail on Thursday, February 3 at 2:00 pm.

Laurie O'Donnell asked for a clarification on "prep time". Tom Stated that it is very clearly stated in the contract that prep time is "duty-free". Therefore, if we are given any additional duties during prep time, we are to be paid at the district approved part-time rate.

Joan Szlaga read the language from the current contract pertaining to the four monthly meetings per month. She stated it is clear that those meetings are for faculty or staff meetings but that does not include curriculum work to be done at those meetings.

Good of the Order:

Tom Pernal reported that he had represented a staff member at a meeting with a principal, supervisor and the Assistant Superintendent and an instructor. He indicated that the meeting was recorded. He stated that he felt it was a great idea to do this for any future personnel meetings. Howard reported that this had been discussed with Nancy

Weber-Loeffert and she stated that all the principals have digital recorders and she agrees with the idea as well.

Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn: Laurie O'Donnell
The motion was seconded by several members.
The meeting was adjourned at 4:45 pm.