

Lakes Region Council Meeting @ Fugaky Restaurant 10/19/17

Members Present: Veronica Barton, Dale Benton, Jennifer Bradbury, Katie Bryant, Mari Burnham, Dawn-Joyce Daigneau, Elaine Fabian, Troy Harris, Brenda Lawrence, Chris Long, Karen McCloud, Vivian O'Brien, Kim O'Neill, Jessica Scudder, Nancy Trowsdale, Megan Tuttle, Mary Vishton, Paul Yelle, Anita Ross, Edna Miller

Francesca Mudge was on the list but not confirmed-signed in. Please check on this.

Co-Chairs: Vivian O'Brien & Kim O'Neill presiding:

Meeting began at 4:40pm. Needed a motion to accept minutes from September meeting. McCloud motioned and Daigneau 2<sup>nd</sup>. Uni-Serv Chris Long brought up he had heard the state-wide avg. for health insurance rates for next yr is 3.5%. – hadn't been voted on yet. Talked about a 6 million holiday – Cigna

President Megan Tuttle introduced herself – 18 yrs. – social studies teacher, held offices on Exec Bd. and is now President. Spoke about politics in education & current bills NH NEA is working on.

1. House Bill regarding death benefit for school employees, sensing the Governor's support.
2. FMLA-mainly for ESP is at 1250 hr. mark; want to bring it down to \_\_\_\_ hours instead. (Please edit).
3. Also mentioned something about military & spousal bill?
4. Re-visiting tenure: want it back to 3yrs from 5
5. Also working on certification for teachers at charter schools to be held to the same standards we are held to
6. Voucher Bill – Looking for that to die – Home schooling has zero accountability, the theory is ... please edit here.

In summary: Tuttle is focused on changing the conversation, accenting the positive, wants to hear members' stories, why you love your job? How do you make a difference? Megan is interested in visiting your school to read to children, willing to assist in anyway. There was an invite to read, an invite to be a guest chef for a Winnisquam economics class, a challenge to present a mini

lesson to a Plymouth Regional H.S. physics class, etc. In the spring there will be a certified therapist dog ready for gr 3-5. Megan is committed to Read Across NH. Simply Contact her at the Office. Megan shared an interesting concept that 4<sup>th</sup> grade (Beaver Meadow-Concord) is doing: Adopt a legislator, become pen pals, track a bill & follow it, visit State House, learn how a bill becomes law, working toward getting Senators & Reps into schools, pilot format now so stay tuned. There is a Federal Judge (M.) from District Court who loves to visit schools--obtain last name) please edit. Contact Megan for this information.

Break – dinner

Resumed:

Question/Comments from a member: How long should locals store records? It's called a retention policy. There was talk of scanning docs. Get rid of paper files; maybe have a 180 day policy. Grievance you can keep forever.

Chris Long – Uni-Serv: Spoke of 9 contracts, 1 settled. Prospect had started in June, really pays to start early. Rumney: impasse after 3 meetings, Thornton has Luminos plan, rates are low, 92% Pd by district, 8% by employees: \$2500. Deductible, HAS too, salary increase of 3%

NEA Member Benefits – emphasis to explore this - quite a savings to members re: cars, appliances, loans, etc.

Another successful fall instructional conference! Spring conference will focus on ESPs and new teachers (1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, & 3<sup>rd</sup> year)

Laconia Blitz went well. Caitlin Rollo organized this. Caitlin is our Organizer. Contact [crollo@nhnea.org](mailto:crollo@nhnea.org) if you want any help/support with organizing your group.

There was a question about the pocket calendars. Chris will get them out to us next week.

There was mention of para educator conference coming right up

McCloud shared the RESPECT posters received at a recent Exec. Board meeting for members to bring back to their schools and post.

Co-Chair Vivian O'Brien mentioned American Education Week 11/13<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup>. Strongly recommends visiting NHNEA's web-site` great resources. ESP Day is

Wed. 11/15<sup>th</sup>. Co-Chair O'Neill mentioned she acknowledges members/non-members.

The Educator/Insider is looking for stories from the Lakes Region. You can share what's happening within a local with students/teachers.

President Megan Tuttle chose the raffle winner. Jennifer Bradley from Plymouth Elementary Support Staff was the winner.

Next meeting will be held in Meredith @ Hart's Turkey Fam 11/16/17.

Meeting adjourned – 6:40pm

Respectfully submitted,

Karen McLoud