

OCSEA REP COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Monday, October 15, 2018

The meeting was called to order at 4:10 p.m. by President Marlene Simmons, and roll was called by Secretary Beth Orlik. Rep council members present were Adriana Clark, Diana Freeman, Julie Lemonds, Dana Rishagen, John Wells, and Alison Wilson. With all four Executive Board members present, a quorum was established. The minutes from the September meeting were reviewed and approved without any corrections made.

Vice President Report: Laurie said OCSEA has eight new members, bringing our total number of members to 197. Not included in that number are six people who recently dropped their memberships, most citing objection to their dues supporting CTA's PAC.

It was noted that members may opt out of having the portion of their dues that supports CTA's lobbying, with that amount being directed to the general fund instead, and that that amount may be refunded to the member at the end of the year. Information about the procedure for opt-out reimbursement will be clarified and posted to the OCSEA website.

Laurie said that while she was at the NEA conference, she learned of several caucuses, including a conservative caucus, that some of our members may be interested in. Caucus information will be posted on the OCSEA website.

Members who are interested in attending CTA conferences should email Laurie before registering on the CTA website to ascertain that the maximum of 10 members for which OCSEA will cover registration fees has not been exceeded. Members who attend conferences will report out information learned at the next Rep Council meeting.

President Report: Marlene thanked Laurie Martinez and John Wells for handling various issues that arose while she was on vacation. She said there are currently 262 members in our bargaining unit, which consists of OCSEA members and nonmembers. The next negotiations meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 25. The negotiations process is expected to last several months.

Organizing Committee Report: Adrianna Beauchamp shared that a survey to gauge members' willingness to participate in supporting our bargaining team during the negotiations process had been emailed and that nearly half the membership had responded, with 65% - 78% of respondents indicating willingness to show their support by wearing an OCSEA shirt and/or button, posting photos of themselves wearing their shirts on social media, joining the association's Facebook and Twitter groups, and calling admin. Adrianna also shared that new

OCSEA polo shirts had been ordered - red this time in keeping with the nationwide Red for Ed theme - for members to wear on days that the IBPST meets.

The suggestion of utilizing Zoom or Facebook Live to enable more members to participate in the monthly Rep Council meetings was revisited, and technicalities of using each format were discussed. Since Marlene already has a Zoom account set up, it was decided that a soft opening, wherein only a few members who were not present in person would be invited to participate, would be implemented for the November meeting. An additional available option for members who are unable to attend a meeting in person or to watch it live would be for them to request that a link to a video file be emailed to them to watch at their convenience.

Safety Committee Report: Amber Hughes announced that a committee had been established to address safety concerns. Members of the Safety Committee will include Laura Strachan, other admin, and teachers Ruth Ramirez and Mike Anderson. A School Climate Committee is also being set up, to be led by Vern Burton.

LCAP Committee Report: Laurie Martinez said she had met with Laura Strachan and had emphasized the need for OCSEA to be included as a stakeholder. Members are needed for the LCAP committee, which will meet two to three times a year with Laura Strachan, Rick Martin, and Lisa Lanier of Title III, to discuss issues such as the need for Spanish teachers, reading specialists, art teachers, and ESL support staff.

Treasurer Report: The treasurer's report was available for review. John reported that he now has full access to all OCSEA accounts. Members may submit reimbursement forms along with receipts for union-related expenses, such as those incurred at conferences, to John via email, and a check will be mailed to the member.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:24 p.m.

The next Rep Council meeting will be Tuesday, November 13, 2018, at the ACCESS Area 3 Admin Office, 621 W. 1st Street, Tustin.

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