

NCPTA Advisory Council Meeting

March 8, 2013

Attending:

Dianne Grumelot – Cumberland County, Vicki Wilson – Cumberland County, Rhonda Fleming – Forsyth County, Brian Littke – Nash/Rocky Mount, Charles McDowell – Moore County, Regina Denton – Wilson County, Scott Denton – Durham County, Chris Jones – Robeson County, Vernice Murphy – Bertie County, Fred Klumpp – Henderson County, Kevin Griffin – Harnett County, Wesley Stokes – Washington County, Errin Bryant – Bertie County, Derek Graham – DPI, Binford Sloan Nash/Rocky Mount, Jim Ellis – Chapel Hill/Carrboro, Terry Campbell – Iredell County, Carol Bowes – Person County.

Roll Call/Sign In: Carol Bowes

Called to Order: 10:03 by NCPTA President Jim Ellis – ITRE Raleigh, NC

Introduction: Jim Ellis

Minutes:

Carol Bowes Motion to accept/second

Treasurer's Report:

Brian Littke. Brian handed out a financial report sheet showing available and encumbered balances. There was a discussion regarding where we are this year compared to where we were last year at this time. Because of the banking changes the two do not compare exactly but Brian felt that we were in the same place as last year. He will have figures at next meeting. Motion to accept Treasurer's Report/Second

DPI Updates: Derek Graham

We have a new governor with new priorities.

We have requested fuel money from the state to make up the difference between what was funded and what we actually pay. Statewide this total is almost 14 million dollars. Waiting to see if we get that funding.

There is no funding for school buses. We have 19 buses that are going to counties with air quality issues. Somewhere between twelve and twenty buses will be able to be replaced with the money from the sale of school buses. Looking at sale buses now to see how many more buses we can order. The contract expires at the end of March. It is a lean year with zero monies appropriated for new school buses.

We have lost two students, one in Forsyth County and one in Harnett County, when they were hit by a passing motorist at a bus stop. We must get Stop Arm Violation Information out to the public! Information is the key.

- a. The DPI student video competition about passing stopped school buses is open. Encourage your schools to get involved with that. It's a May wrap. Then one week voting period.

- b. Encourage your county to be involved with the Roadeo. May 21 is state competition. Roadeo is NCPTA sponsored.

Legislative Report – Scott Denton:

HB 162 – To lengthen bus mileage from 200,000 to 250,000 miles before replacement. Derek is going to send an email that mileage is not the only issue about older, high mileage buses...there is a safety issue with the older buses not having the same safety features as the new buses, the body rust issue – particularly in counties that must use a lot of salt during winter driving, and the parts/equipment issue with the difficulty of obtaining parts for older buses.

Derek is going to look into drafting a position paper and we are all encouraged to get in touch with our own Reps in the General Assembly to let our opinions be known.

HB 16 – General Assembly looking into Revoking the License of a person who passes a stopped school bus. Discussion centered around the difficulty we have in getting convictions in the courtroom.....Not certain this will make a huge difference but ANY awareness that we can get out to the public is a plus. Losing your license if you pass a stopped school bus is easier to understand than five points on your license and what that would mean. Perhaps a fine would be appropriate too. Agreed that any awareness we can get out there to the public is a plus.

There is a bill proposed that the speed limit for school buses on an interstate be changed from 45 to 55...as long as students are not on board. Agreed that this would not make much difference to each county.....will see where this proposal goes....

TAG meeting has not been held....Don Byrnes had a knee replacement and has been recovering. TAG continues to work on physical performance standards for the state of NC.

Conference Update – Binford Sloan:

Conference planning is going well. We will have the full use of Brunswick County High School in Shallotte. Shuttles will run from Sea Trails to the high school for all classes.

IT Staff at Brunswick County are already on board. They will help with conference center IT too. We do need some projectors, white screens, and lap tops for presentations. If anyone has any they can bring please contact Binford. bsloan@nrm.k12.nc.us

The Sea Trails room reservations page is ready. Go to website and encourage each county to go ahead and make reservations.

Early bird registration forms will be due on April 12 – the week after spring break. Early Bird registration is \$75.00. Registration for classes that are charged will be sent with registration forms....schedule for other classes will be sent when it is finalized.

Glenn Ward is keynote speaker.

Conference begins on Monday with a couple of paid classes and the regular pre-conference meetings and continues through Thursday afternoon.

There was a request that the classroom hours be put on the class certificates so that the technicians could use the class hours as part of their 20 hours of recertification.

The NCPTA board chose the conference gift.

Vickie asked our opinion about the pin colors for the year pins for this year. The board decided to keep the pin colors the same.

Old Business:

Charles McDowell is chairman of the recognition committee. Jim will send email asking for nominations for the NCPTA recognitions for Trailblazer and Hall Of Fame awards which will go to Charles and his committee.

We discussed starting a NCPTA Facebook page. Rhonda has a person on her staff who could administer the Facebook page. NCPTA President would need to approve content. Will continue working on that.

NCPTA is awarding the \$250.00 prize for the student video contest.

School Bus Roadeo is scheduled for May 21.

Conference coordinator applications were reviewed and a coordinator chosen for next year so they could be in place this year and shadow Binford to learn how it is done.

David Twiddy is in charge of Trade Show this year with Scott Denton helping. A discussion ensued about whether to make the trade show coordinator a paid position or to give some sort of monetary token of appreciation for all of the hard work that goes into the trade show. It was decided that a \$500.00 token of appreciation would be given to the trade show coordinator with apologies to Scott Denton for waiting until he was not in charge to put this in place.

Jim Ellis will be sending out a request for nominations for the position of Secretary for 2013-2014 in an email and we will have those back by April 12 to be discussed at the next meeting.

Diane informed us that she will be unable to attend the conference this year due to previous commitments. Therefore someone else needed to be in charge of the merchandise trailer. Some discussion ensued with Jim Ellis agreeing to take charge of the trailer for a while...The trailer is in Nash/Rocky Mount and will be brought to the State Roadeo Competition in May for Jim to assume responsibility.

We discussed merchandise with the old logo on it and whether we should sell it at a bargain to make way for new merchandise. It was agreed that we would hold a clearance sale of old merchandise.....we had no need to continue hauling it up and down the road...it would only get more dated.

It was agreed that the next NCPTA meeting will be held on May 21, 2013 at 1:30 at the NC State Fairgrounds after the State School Bus Roadeo.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

