

Amityville Teachers' Association

Executive Council Meeting

Location: PARK AVE Conference Room

December 20 , 2023 at 4:00 pm

Minutes

Presiding: Nakia Wolfe (ATA President)

Recording Secretary: Tina Smith

Attendance:

Executive Council Member	District Role	Present	Absent
Dr. Talbert	Superintendent	x	
Dr. Lange	Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction	x	
Nakia Wolfe	ATA President	x	
Francis O'Brien	ATA VP/NYSUT & AFT	x	
Matt Greiss	ATA VP/Grievances	x	
Tina Smith	ATA Recording Secretary		x
George Alexander	ATA Treasurer	x	
Maria Lievano	NE BVP Recording Secretary for this meeting	x	
Nancy Davi-Ortiz	NW BVP	x	
Paul Grasso	PAMES BVP	x	
Kelly Ann Wilson	MS BVP	x	
Margot Howard	HS BVP	x	

Minutes:

OLD BUSINESS:

● **NW PARKING LOT**

ATA Comments	Administrative Response
<p>Parking Lots: People are still parking in the mud. Nakia said they are interviewing architects to address this concern.</p> <p>The district is responsible for providing parking. This is provided. There is also parking near the school. The district is not failing their obligation to provide parking. The district is working on improving the NW parking situation. This is not a contractual issue.</p> <p>Mike Greco updated the team about this parking situation: Fred and Mike offered to see if the village would allow the district to use the paved parking lot at the ball field. Mike is waiting for a response from the village.</p> <p><u>1st Update 12/7/22:</u> There is no update at this time.</p> <p><u>2nd Update 9/13/23:</u> The district planned to have an engineer visit the site over the summer, but that did not happen. Therefore, there is no update at this time.</p> <p><u>3rd Update 10/4/23:</u> There is no update at this time. Nancy will follow up with Ms. Hyland and Mike Greco.</p> <p><u>10/18/23:</u></p>	<p><u>10/18/23:</u> Dr. Lange said that a parking lot is not included in the budget for the 2023-2024 school year. The adjacent parking lot is not an option because it is not available from the town for purchase.</p> <p>The district would have to request that the BOE consider adding the funds for a solution in the 2024-2025 school year.</p> <p>Dr. Talbert will investigate this concern as well.</p>

<p>Nakia discussed the possibility of using the adjacent space in the back of NW School for additional parking.</p>	
<p><u>11/15/23:</u> Dr. Talbert shared the letter that she drafted to the town, with the ATA.</p>	<p><u>11/15/23:</u> Dr. Talbert has had conversations with the mayor's office and with town trustees. The district has visited the site at NW. They met with building and grounds and they agreed to maintain that space if used. The town trustees are bringing it before the Town Board. The district is willing to go to the town board meeting to share more information. The Amityville BOE is in agreement with moving forward with this plan. The cost for such a project is about \$380,000, so that is not an option.</p>
<p><u>12/20/23:</u></p>	<p><u>12/20/23:</u> There is an agreement with the village and the school district with conditions. The lot cannot be used during inclement weather (snow). The lot cannot be plowed. There will be no access to the lot when school is not in session. The goal is to have the final proposal approved at the 1/10/23 BOE meeting.</p>

● **SALARY STATEMENTS (Resolved)**

ATA Comments	Administrative Response
<p><u>10/18/23:</u> Salary statements have not been distributed to members as of yet.</p>	<p><u>10/18/23:</u> Dr. Talbert will follow up with this concern. She will investigate the</p>

Salary statements were not timely distributed to our members in 2022-2023 as well.	details and speak with the person accountable for the salary statement distribution.
<p><u>11/15/23:</u> Dr Talbert has shared how she can help with printing out these statements. This is the third year in a row that we are not rec sal sta and attendance info when expected. How can the district mitigate this process so that this delay does not continue to reoccur?</p>	<p><u>11/15/23:</u> Dr. Talbert offered an apology that the ATA members had not received by 9/30. Dr. Talbert has had conversations with those who are responsible for this duty. Dr. Talbert informed us that they are printed; and they will be distributed by the end of this week or the beginning of next week. Dr Talbert has discussed an internal timeline published between all departments. This will be a work in progress and the district will begin creating this internal timeline.</p>
	<p><u>12/20/23:</u> Salary statements have been distributed. This issue is resolved.</p>

- **Security at NW (Resolved)**

ATA Comments	Administrative Response
<p><u>10/23/23:</u> NW needs an additional security guard. The issue is that there is more than one point of entry and exit at NW School. If both security guards are standing at one point of entry, it may not be the best use of their resources. The ATA is</p>	<p><u>10/23/23:</u> Dr. Lange will speak with Ms. Hyland about the egress in the back and its accessibility.</p>

<p>suggesting that during arrival and dismissal, one security guard is placed at the front entrance and one at the point of entry and exit for the walkers towards the side parking lot. But NW School also needs a third security guard by the back portables for dismissal. Classes are going outside and walking around from the back without security.</p>	
<p><u>11/15/23:</u> The district was working on obtaining more security after the untimely passing of one of their security guards. The ATA inquired about strategically reassigning the current security guards throughout the building to address the current needs. The ATA recommended creating a new security plan that will cover all needed security concerns.</p>	<p><u>11/15/23:</u> Dr Talbert had a conversation with Ms. Hyland and Scott Lobono. Scott assigned three different security officers on a rotating basis to provide additional coverage. Ms. Hyland cannot provide security in the back of the building because one security guard is already assigned to the front of the building and the other security guard is covering the walker exit. Dr. Talbert said that they will readdress the current concerns with Ms. Hyland and Mr. LoBono.</p> <p>BVP's update: Ms. Hyland placed a security guard in the parking lot and he is watching the front and the side of the building. Nancy has asked about using the dismissal routine implemented during inclement weather. Security concerns still</p>

	exist. The current plan is not working well.
<u>12/20/23:</u>	<u>12/20/23:</u> There will be a mobile security vehicle at Northwest School from 2:45-3:20 pm daily. Dr. Talbert will follow up with building administration.

- **Communication**

ATA Comments	Administrative Response
<u>10/23/23:</u> The ATA is asking for communication to be transparent, consistent, and in a timely fashion regarding information to teachers, especially new items.	<u>10/23/23:</u> Dr. Talbert and Dr. Lange agreed.
<u>11/15/23:</u> Nakia shared that emails from teachers to building level and district wide departments, regarding students, and to central office administration are not being responded to within a timely manner, if at all.	<u>11/15/23:</u> Administration will remind administration to create a routine to answer emails.
<u>12/20/23:</u>	<u>12/20/23:</u> This will be followed up by central administration and addressed with building administration. The expectation is that there should not only be a chain of communication but that return responses should be timely.

- **Non-payment for Services (Resolved):**

ATA Comments	Administrative Response
<p><u>11/15/23:</u> A member has provided many coverages since last year. Payroll documentation has been sent over at least three times. Meetings were held with administrative staff to find a solution and facilitate payment. The member has reached out to the administration for updates on payment. Payment has not been distributed as of yet. An explanation/response about payment has not been received by the ATA member.</p>	<p><u>11/15/23:</u> This issue is resolved.</p>

- **PLC's:**

ATA Comments	Administrative Response
<p><u>11/15/23:</u> The ATA inquired about the purpose of PLC's. These PLC's are not often for matters of training or PD. Members would prefer to learn about these topics during PD time. Often the PD's mirror the PLC, so members are not being professionally developed effectively. The ATA</p>	<p><u>11/15/23:</u> Dr Lange will work on addressing this PLC issue. PD hours cannot be offered during the contractual day.</p>

<p>asked if there is a more effective way to utilize PLC's. Nakia asked the district's intention of the PLC's.</p>	
	<p><u>12/20/23:</u> There will be an effort to ensure that PDs and PLC's don't overlap and that teachers will not be precluded from taking a PD should something similar be offered during PLC.</p>

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Northwest Air Quality Concerns/Report**
Northwest School has requested the Air Quality Report be shared with the teachers and staff.
The district will provide Northwest with the report.

- **Northwest Extra Class and Special Area teacher coverages for these classes**
Northwest Special Area teachers have been covering extra classes. The district indicated that payment for NW teachers who provided the extra class prior to classes being combined is forthcoming.
Information has been provided to Dr. Lange to forward to HR to put onto the PAR and create a payroll change for payment.

- **Middle School Nurse Situation**
Students are being sent back from the nurse when students are not well. This issue is resolved. This will be followed up and addressed with building administration.

- **Communication regarding discipline at the High School**

Communication issues still exist regarding discipline concerns. There is inconsistent communication regarding building incident reports. Central administration will follow up with building administration.

- **Observation Reports**

The ATA will provide the district with what we expect across the board regarding observation reports; and the ATA will grieve violations of the agreement.

- **SOCIAL WORKER SERVICES at the Middle School**

The ATA asked if the independent contractor providing social work services is certified to do the work as a social worker. The district shared that the position is being posted.

- **Door to orchestra room in HS**

The parts were ordered for the door and they are waiting for installation. This issue is resolved.

District Concerns/Comments:

There are no district concerns.

The next Executive Council Meeting is January 17, 2024.

The meeting will be held at Park North unless otherwise specified.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tina Smith

Recording Secretary
The Amityville Teachers' Association

