



Board Report

Washington, D.C.

NEA—Great Public Schools for Every Child

February 13, 2010



CALIFORNIA DIRECTORS: Tamara Conry (District 1), Claire Merced (District 2), Marc Sternberger (District 3), KC Walsh (District 4), Carol Mathews (District 5), Sonia Martin-Solis (District 6), Margie Granado (District 7), Darla Bramlette (District 8), Kendall Vaught (District 9), Elizabeth Ahlgren (District 10), Katherine Underwood (District 11), George Sheridan (District 12), Sergio Martinez (District 13), Sue Cirillo (District 14), Ron Edwards (District 15), Carole Bailey (District 16), Gilda Bloom-Leiva (District 17), Theresa Montañó (Higher Ed At-Large), Michael Musser (ESP At-Large), Jolene Tripp (ESP At-Large), Greg Bonaccorsi (Alternate), Alexandra Condon (Alternate), Peg Myers (Alternate), Paula Monroe (Executive Committee Member), Dixie Johansen (non-voting member).

Conference Call & Webcast

Due to the snowstorm, “snow-mageddon”, in Washington, DC, the NEA Board of Directors meeting was cancelled and the NFIE Gala was postponed until April 30th. The February NEA Board Meeting was held using a conference call and webcast on Saturday, February 13, 2010. There were 176 participants present for the meeting with 164 voting-members present/on-line. The meeting lasted approximately three (3) hours.

photos by Paula Monroe.



Above: Weather map from NBC - Morning of Feb 10, 2010



Above: NEA Headquarters 16th and M, Washington, DC

President’s Report

President Dennis Van Roekel began this special meeting of the board of directors by extending a huge thank you to the NEA staff. They spent many hours, working from home because they couldn’t get to the NEA building, to setup this conference call and webcast meeting. Dennis stated “this was the first time”, he could recall, “that we have ever had to cancelled an entire meeting.” He also stated, “the original agenda was a rich one” and “we hope to hold some of the discussions and observations planned during future meetings.”

Board Steering Committee and the Resolutions Committee Appointments

The Board approved the appointments of members to the Board Steering Committee and the Resolutions Committee as presented. These appointments included the Steering Committee appointment of CA NEA Board Member Tamara Conry.

Schedule for Future NEA Board Meetings

The Board approved the schedule for future NEA Board meetings through the years 2017-18; with the exception of the October NEA Board meetings scheduled in 2012-13, 2015-16 and 2017-18. These three meeting dates will be discussed and determined at the next regularly scheduled Board meeting, as the dates proposed may conflict with national elections and/or recesses of Congress.

Report of the Secretary Treasurer NEA Membership Dues for 2010-2011

The Board approved the NEA Membership Dues for the fiscal year 2010-2011. The Board received a presentation from Becky Pringle, Secretary-Treasurer, explaining how NEA dues are calculated using the procedure established by Bylaw 2-7. The dues for certificated members will be \$166.00 for full

time and \$96.50 for full time Educational Support Professionals (ESPs).

Tiered Dues

The Board was asked to vote either to “accept the report of the Tiered Dues Committee but not its recommendations” or to “accept the report of the Tiered Dues committee and accept its recommendations” as presented at the December 2009 NEA Board Meeting. The Board held a lengthy discussion, (*including participation of several CA NEA Directors*), weighing the pros and cons of the proposed tiered dues structured. The Board considered a motion to postpone any decision, (*made by CA At-Large Director Michael Musser*), until the next Board cycle (September 2010). This motion was defeated. **The Board voted to accept the report but not the recommendations.** The Board still has the option to continue exploring different dues structures at a future meeting if it so chooses.

Report of the Vice President Constitutional Amendment 1

Lily Eskelsen, Vice President, gave the Board a presentation on the Constitutional Amendment No. 1 and the proposed Bylaw amendments, followed by a discussion of the Board. Constitutional Amendment No. 1 was brought to the 2009 RA by a petition of certified delegates and will be voted on at the 2010 RA. This Constitutional Amendment, referred to as the “**Gateway Amendment**,” allows state affiliates to determine who is an “Active member”.

The Board took a position of support of Constitutional Amendment No. 1 and chose to sponsor the Bylaw Amendments required to implement the Constitutional Amendment.

Constitutional Amendment No. 1 cannot be enacted without companion Bylaw amendments. The Constitutional Amendment and Bylaw Amendments will be combined into one action and all will require a 2/3 vote to pass the RA.

The three Bylaw amendments presented included amendments to **Bylaw 2-1(b) (iv) Membership** providing for any member of a state affiliate in an affiliate’s Active category, **Bylaw 2-7(a) and 2-7(n) (1) Membership Dues** providing for the dues being equal to similarly situated Active members and providing for persons with dual-national

membership, and **Bylaw 8-11(c) Standards for State Affiliates** providing a “grandparent” exemption of current members, if the affiliate so chooses.

GPO-WEP Survey and Video

The Social Security Offsets Task Force was also unable to meet last week in DC, but several things the Task Force was working on came out since they last met in December.

NEA is currently conducting a survey of members at <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/GQ76GHB> We are asking CTA leaders to forward this link on to all of their members. We encourage all of our members to take NEA's online survey. Forward it on only to members of CTA - it is a member and state specific survey.

The NEA Video: GPO-WEP - Penalties for Public Service is now available in two places.

Go to the NEA website:

<http://www.nea.org/home/16491.htm>

or to YouTube:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XeVDDbTfFW0>

Please forward this along to all of your members, put all of the above information in your newsletters, and post the links on your web sites and Facebook pages.

The Task Force will meet again on April 28, 2010.

Please Note!

The Deadline for submissions of **Nominations for the NEA Foundation Awards (NFIE)** has been extended to **March 1, 2010**

Questions? Comments? Please contact me!

Our CA hotel is posted as the Hilton Riverside which is the big hotel on the river, near the mall and the convention center in New Orleans at the NEA Rep Assembly.

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