**New Bedford Educators Association, Inc.**

**Board of Directors Meeting**

**Thursday, January 6, 2022**

**3:30 pm**

# **AGENDA**

## **Call to Order**

This meeting is called to order at 3:30

## **Roll Call**

Jodi Aurelio Thomas Nickerson

Doria Bryant Steve Nowell (E)

Chris Donnelly (L) Jacob O’Brien

Lynn Drayton Fred Pearson

Chris Garcia Kim Pearson

Charles Lapre Kady Plante-Szady

Kristen Liming (E) Alexandria Rioux

Jeffrey Longo (E) Ryan Saucier

Kathleen Mackenzie Karen Surprenant

Justin Mare Heidi Telles (E)

John McCarthy (E) Jennifer Thomas

Sara Mello (E) Amanda Gonzalez

1. **Reports:**
   1. **Written:**
      1. **Secretary’s minutes for December.**

You have received the **Secretary’s minutes for December.**

## Do I have a motion to accept said minutes?

## Motion made by \_\_Katy Plante-Szady Do I have a second?

## Seconded by \_\_\_\_Lynn Drayton\_\_\_\_\_\_

## 

## So moved

* + 1. **Treasurer’s report for December .**

## You have received the Treasurer's report for December.

## Do I have a motion to accept said minutes?

## Motion made by \_\_\_Ryan Saucier\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

## Do I have a second?

## Seconded by \_\_\_\_\_\_Jen Thomas\_\_\_\_

Questions? Are there any questions about the report? - Utilities were low- only the water and sewer bill had arrived before the report was created

## So moved

* + 1. **President’s calendar for December.**

## You have received the President's Calendar for December.

## Do I have a motion to accept said minutes?

## Motion made by \_\_\_\_\_\_Jacob O”Brien\_\_\_\_

## Do I have a second?

## Seconded by \_\_\_\_\_\_Alexandria Rioux\_\_\_\_

## 

So moved

* + 1. **Oral:**

1. **Grievances: Christopher Garcia Will provide an update on grievances.**
2. **Negotiations: Unit A- Update from Christopher Garcia;**

**Unit A Team:**

Karen Suprenant     Elementary

Victoria Jones             Elementary

Jen Thomas             Elementary

Chris Donnelly         Middle

Kady Plante Szady         High School

**Unit B update from Jeff Longo**

1. **Other**

## **Correspondence**

None

## **Old Business:**

None

## **New Business:**

**Dias and Lapalme has been contracted to complete our annual NBEA audit and QRGA to oversee the audit of our Health and Safety (Dental) account)**

* Proposed grievance chair phone- This phone would be assigned to the appointed grievance chair and stay with the position when a new person took the role. This method of communication is essential because the grievance chair is in contact with any of the over 1300 Unit A or B members who needs assistance, as well as any and all district administrators. That individual will also need to access her/his nbeducators.org email regularly for similar correspondence. It is a tremendous burden that should not be absorbed by the individual in that role. The cost of the additional line is approximately $40 per month. The iphone 12 is free with the line.

Is there a motion to approve the addition of a grievance chair phone line?

Motion made by \_Katy Plante-Szady\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Second? \_\_Chris Donnelly\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

## 

So moved

## **Informational**

* 1. On Tuesday, the New Bedford Light contacted me with questions about staffing issues in all areas of the district, including bussing, punctuated by a question about how NBPS was able to stay open when some other districts could not. I explained that I did not have real-time access to staff attendance, and that the paraprofessionals, AFSCME, and bus drivers are not part of the NBEA. I explained " To ensure that schools remain operational, the district complies with the Collective Bargaining Agreements they have negotiated among the three unions, NBEA, Paraprofessionals, and AFSCME. The language is complex, but in general, substitutes are utilized initially.  Other educators are also covering classes because of increased need, but the intricacies of coverage are dependent upon a litany of factors ranging from grade level to position and can be influenced by various scheduling criteria." The reporter stated in her article that I told her that the schools were open because the district uses subs. Thankfully, one of our members caught this and emailed me. I thanked the member and promptly had the NBL amend the article. If you hear any talk about this, please redirect them to the article which features a clearer depiction of my response.
  2. The District continues to share **PPE** inventory with members upon request.
  3. **Rapid tests:** From HCS on Monday, January 3rd - "Unfortunately, the District only received a fraction of the tests from DESE than initially stated.  We were happy to learn that we had enough tests for every employee that elected to get one yesterday.  We also permitted employees to pick up tests for other employees yesterday to help ensure those that wanted a test could receive one.  As staff reach out to HCS with COVID related issues we are finding many are symptomatic/non close contacts and cannot schedule testing anywhere. This scenario/ COVID protocol allows the results of a rapid to be used, so we will make any remaining tests available to those folks.

Mr. O’Leary, on copy, has reached out to DESE in an attempt to secure additional tests f or both NBPS staff and families.  If we receive additional tests and can do another drive through distribution like yesterday we will be sure to announce it to all, including Union leaders."

* 1. Clothing Drive: $4,000 given to nurses. Lou offered to get donations
  2. Union dues and allocation- $106.38 per pay period for members who were hired in September and join now. The rate decreases if the individual was hired later in the year.
  3. Joshua Amaral's statement to the NBEA has been posted on our website and in the member memo for this week. Josh's support will be missed, but we look forward to working with the two new members in the future and building those relationships.

1. From The MTA:
   1. "For many districts and locals, this week has been difficult if not chaotic. The surge is spiking, and we need more resources and support from the state. On Saturday January 8 at 9 am, we will have a follow-up All Presidents meeting to get further updates and work together to plan next steps in dealing with this escalating crisis.

Local Presidents: you may invite up to five additional leaders (CAT team members, building reps, etc.) from your local to this meeting.  All attendees must be registered in advance to attend.  Upon registration, the meeting link will be emailed to the registrant.  Do not share your meeting access link with anyone.  Rather, share the REGISTRATION link below with those you wish to invite to attend."

**All-Presidents Meeting**

**Saturday, January 8**

**9:00 am – 10:30 am**

[**Register Here for Zoom link**](about:blank)

If you are interested in attending this virtual meeting, please let me know in writing

* 1. In-building Bidding lists will be available by the third week in January in accordance with the CBA. HCS should have it available as early as next week. Please let me know if there are errors.
  2. **Membership:** The NBEA continues to sign up new hires. The need continues to reach all new hires and sign them up. Updates are sent to reps weekly. Please assist where possible. We still have over 40 new hires not signed up to date. We need them joined as soon as possible because the weekly contributions are rising as time goes on
  3. NBEA office secretary reviewing staff lists to ensure accuracy
  4. **The next MACER and Discipline and Health and Safety meetings will be on 3/1. First Vice President Garcia and Vice President Pearson along with President Nickerson will represent the membership at these meetings.**
  5. Joint Committee on evaluation should be meeting soon, but a date has not been set. Rubrics to be worked on.

## **Adjournment**

Motion to Adjourn: Chris Garcia

Second: Katy Plante-Szady

All in favor?

Opposed?

So Moved.

This meeting is adjourned at \_\_\_\_\_3:59 pm\_\_\_.