

TAMPA BAY AREA COALITION

OF

School Administrators Association

Minutes of August 27, 2008

The 36th Bi-Monthly meeting of the Tampa Bay Area Coalition was held on Wednesday, August 27, 2008, at the Gary Adult High School Campus in Tampa, Florida. The meeting began at 9:05 and concluded at 11:05 AM. Coalition members present were: Peggy Johns of Pinellas; Jim Knight of Hernando; Jody Dumas & Don Hampton of Sarasota (District level); Ed Stickles of Lee; Neriah Roberts of Polk; David Underhill of Manatee; John Weant of Charlotte; Marjorie Ebersbach of Brevard; John Miliziano & Ken Allen from Hillsborough. Secretary Rob Aguis from Pasco; Richard Wells from Seminole; Loraine Colby from Sarasota (School level); David Underhill from Manatee; and Bob Clark from Orange were unable to attend. Linda Cobbe from the Public Information office of Hillsborough County Public School was a guest speaker.

In the absence of Rob Aguis, the minutes of February 6, 2008, were approved as written. John Miliziano mentioned that the bi-monthly meetings for April and June were canceled due to his medical problem. Treasurer Neriah Roberts presented the financial report dated 7/7/08 and noted that the balance of the Coalition's account held by HASA as of 6/11/08 was \$4,957.85. It was also noted that all 13 associations had paid their dues for 2007 – 2008. After some discussion the following motions were approved:

1. Coalition members are to pay their dues for 2008 – 2009 by the end of September. The dues structure remains the same; One dollar for every member of the association. John Miliziano will send an invoice to each association in the next several days. Checks are to be made out to HASA “for the Coalition” and mailed to John Miliziano at 5308 Redfield Lane, Tampa, Florida 33624.
2. The Coalition has pledged to contribute \$3,000 to the “Protect Our Public Schools” PAC which has been established to educate the public about Amendments 5 – 7 – 9 that may appear in the November Florida ballot. This contribution will be made if the Florida Supreme Court decides that the amendments should remain on the ballot.
3. The Coalition has pledged to comply with Jim Warford's request that local Florida administrators associations help post “Protect Our Public Schools” signs that will be purchased from funds contributed to the PAC.
4. John Miliziano distributed a flyer titled “Protect Our Public Schools” with a request that Coalition member districts solicit their members to contribute to the PAC. Ed Stickles announced that his Lee County association has already contributed \$2,000 to the POPS fund. John Miliziano and Peggy Johns also announced that their districts have pledged \$2,000 and \$10,000 respectively to the PAC fund.

Linda Cobbe, our guest speaker, told the group that the Central Florida Coalition of School Boards, the FEA & NEA, many local Teacher Unions, and many other social and civic

agencies and organizations are preparing a campaign to educate the public as to what the passage of these three amendments will do to Florida's public school education. Linda will be providing the Coalition members with a white paper that Jim Hamilton from the Mixon Agency has prepared on the amendments. Marjorie Ebersbach will also send John, for distribution to all members, a one pager on the amendments.

The AGENDA packet that was distributed at the meeting contained the following information for members to consider:

1. Information provided by Marjorie Ebersbach on State and Federal requirements to gain tax exempt status.
2. May 2008 Survey Results of Executive Directors Compensations.
3. An email from Dody Sapp, from Volusia, that gives her status with her battle with cancer. We are all thinking and praying for Dody's recovery.
4. Information about "An Evening With John Maxwell" a nationally renowned speaker and author in the field of administrative leadership.
5. Information list of all Coalition representative and their telephone numbers.

During a Round Table discussion the following items were shared:

1. Jin Knight announced that he would no longer represent his district on the Coalition because of the extra duties that have been assigned to him by his district. Jim promised that someone from the Hernando administrators association will be appointed to represent his group.
2. Peggy Johns informed the group that a push is on in her district from their Foundation and the Foundation's business partners to move her district to "Site Based Management". Peggy noted that her School Board and the acting superintendent are taking a cautious stance on this issue. Ken Allen from Hillsborough said that his district did a pilot on Site Based and found that there were numerous insurmountable problems with this concept.
3. John Miliziano reported that a Conference call was made by FASA and all affiliate districts that have CCE. A number of candidates running for the Florida Legislature were endorsed with some receiving financial contributions.
4. Most members reported on the effects that the recent state budget cuts are having on their districts. Among the most common cuts that districts are making are: No raises, staff reductions, curtailing benefits such as health insurance coverage, eliminating programs, and freezing construction of new facilities and opening new schools. Some districts are being forced to close some of their schools.

The next Coalition meeting was set for **9:00 AM Wednesday, October 8, 2008**. This meeting will be held in Tampa at the **Gary Adult High School Campus located at 5101 North 40th Street, Tampa 33610**.