

Diman Teachers Association
Annual General Body Meeting May 26, 2020
Meeting held via Google Meet due to COVID-19 School closure

The virtual meeting was called to order by President Mitch Sweet at 2:47PM once it was determined that a quorum (71) was present.

Jonathan Root delivered the Vice President of Grievances report. All grievances went directly to Dr. Elvio Ferreira, since he was the interim superintendent/principal this school year (2019 – 2020). There was an MOA for COVID-19, where all issues were brought to administration. There was one department specific grievance, which was brought to Level 3. After the School Committee brought the grievance back to administration, and were able to come up with an MOA for administration and the department, the issue was solved. There were some minor happenings, but only one major grievance. There was a motion to accept this report by Karyn Robertson, which was seconded by Cathie Noversa, motion passed; report accepted.

Tom Librera delivered the Vice President of Negotiations report, noting that this was not a contract year, but there was still some negotiations with the department head job description, Appendix D, and the COVID MOA. He noted that this MOA was a strong one, statewide, and that the association was proud of it. He also noted that this was a busy year in terms of unforeseen events that came forward. There was a motion to accept this report by Karyn Robertson, which was seconded by Tracey Collins, motion passed; report accepted.

Wilson Valente delivered the treasurer's report through Karyn Robertson's shared screen. He went through the report and the finances. Wilson Valente dictated while Karyn Robertson advanced through the slideshow. There was a motion to accept this report by Cathie Noversa, some discussion took place. This report was seconded by Jonathan Root, motion passed; report accepted.

Karyn Robertson delivered the yearly secretary's report. There was a motion to accept this report by Decio Matos, which was seconded by, Deborah Boscombe, motion passed; report accepted. A motion was made by Decio Matos to accept the minutes from the Annual General Body Meeting from May 20, 2019. This motion was seconded by Jonathan Root, motion passed; report accepted.

Mitch Sweet delivered the President's report. We sent well wishes to the faculty due to COVID-19 situation. He expressed his gratitude to the retirees and noted how it was a very strange end to the year. Regarding the COVID-19 MOA, we must wait, due to commissioner report updates, as there is a concern for September, which is unknown. Regarding perfect attendance, it is not being provided to the other unions within the buildings, since the building was shut down mid-March of 2020. A motion was made by Mitch Sweet to not pursue the second term perfect attendance stipend. Steve Cloutier seconded the motion, there was no discussion, motion passed; perfect attendance stipend will not be granted for the second term of the 2019 – 2020 school year.

Decio Matos learned that the two senior class advisors each had to pay one hundred dollars for the lawn signs for the seniors. Decio made a motion that the DTA write checks to reimburse the senior class advisors, Alice Goddard and Lindsey Wood, for this special one-time occurrence. This motion was seconded by Jessica Fiola-Tavares, some discussion was made about whether this was legal for the school to do or not. Decio amended the motion that if the advisors do not get reimbursed by Diman by June 19th, then the DTA would reimburse the class advisors. This motion passed.

There was a question about DTA members who have compromised immune system regarding school return and COVID-19. The association will have to wait to see what the COVID-19 guidelines say. There was another question about how teachers will be informed over the summer about any updates. The email system will be used. There was a question about if there will be prorated stipends, no stipends will be prorated. There was a question about class schedules for next year. Decio spoke about the schedules and requested them for July 1st, 2020, but was denied and told not to expect them until August 1st, 2020.

There was a motion to adjourn at 3:28 PM by Jonathan Root, which was seconded by Tracey Collins, motion passed; meeting adjourned virtually.