



# Newburgh Teachers' Association

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A Union of Professionals

NYSUT  
AFT  
NEA  
AFL-CIO  
Local #2867



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MINUTES

April 9, 2008

[www.newburghta.org](http://www.newburghta.org)

**Present:** Vicky Pittman, Angela Sartori, Karen Roberts, David Brown, Patricia Hunter, William Lastowski, Donna Liebman, and Sharon Minard

**Meeting was called to order:** 4:15 PM

Approval of Minutes of March 12, 2008

**Moved:** A. Sartori

**Seconded:** D. Brown

**Passed Unanimously**

### President's Report

1. The Board Forum was well attended, around 125 people attended. Showed signs of interest, overall the evening was a success.
2. Walk-throughs- David Brown, William Lastowski, and Karen Roberts will meet with Russ Agostaro to discuss walk-throughs.
3. NYSUT RA in NYC April 10-12th
4. Compact training is coming up – all schools are encouraged to send teams.

### Vice -President's Report

### Treasurer's Report

Report given at meeting

### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

### NEW BUSINESS

#### MOTION #1:

Whereas, the NTA supports District's effort to provide the best quality education to all children;  
and

Whereas, the proposed 2008-2009 school district budget includes an increased tax levy which is reasonable and prudent, as well as, fiscally sound, and

Whereas, the following highlights warrant support:

- Project Labor Agreements in place for all constructions projects - negotiated with trade council to provide prevailing wage and union workers.

- No layoffs - provides for job security for entire professional staff.

- Phase in of Teaching Assistants in every 1st grade classroom. This goal is realized by using the split model of sharing one TA between two teachers. As soon as additional funds become available, there will be one for each class.

- Creation of a one-call alert system. This allows for immediate communication with staff and District families in case of emergencies.

- Pre-K testing site operations now funded by the District. This program was a BOCES funded and serves over 500 children each year.

- Addition of 12 teaching positions to the school budget 6 had come on line last year and were not part of the budget, and 6 are new additional after reconfiguration is taken into consideration.

- A net gain of 19 additional Teaching Assistant positions.

- An additional security guard at Temple and Meadow Hill schools. Therefore, be it

Resolved, that the NTA support the proposed budget and actively work for its adoption.

**(Submitted by NTA President Phil Cordella)**

**Moved: W. Lastowski**

**Seconded: D. Brown**

**Passed Unanimously**

**MOTION #2:**

Whereas, the NTA provides for new teacher initiatives, and

Whereas, the New Teacher Initiative committee has approved the proposal, and

Whereas, New Windsor School has submitted a proposal which has been reviewed by the NTA President; be it therefore

*Resolved*, that the NTA's Board of Directors approve the New Teacher Initiative Grant for New Windsor School.

**Under stipulation that no Board of Education Members are invited, and local restaurant with a private room be named.**

**Moved: A. Sartori**

**Seconded: D. Liebman**

**Passed Unanimously**

**MOTION # 3:**

*Whereas*, the NTA awards its annual Friend of Education honor to those individuals, groups, or institutions which have made a noticeable and positive contribution to education in our community, and

*Whereas*, the U.S. Congress affects public education by passing legislation such as No Child Left Behind and the reauthorizing of Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), and

*Whereas*, first term Congressman John Hall is an advocate for students with special needs and English language learners, and

*Whereas*, the U.S. Congressman from the 20<sup>th</sup>. Congressional District has supported a plethora of pro-labor and pro-education bills, and

*Whereas*, Congressman Hall has a 100% voting record on 16 key pieces labor and education in the 110<sup>th</sup> Congress as identified by the American federation of teachers, be it therefore

*Resolved*, that the NTA bestow its highest honor to the U.S. Congressman from the 19<sup>th</sup>. District, Representative John Hall, and award him the 2008 NTA Friend of Education Award.

**(Submitted by Vicky Pittman, NTA Vice-President)**

**Moved: P. Hunter**

**Seconded: K. Roberts**

**Passed (5-2-0)**

**MOTION # 4:**

*Whereas* Mr. Ralph Pizzo has served the Newburgh Enlarged City School District in different capacities for many years as well as being an active member of our community and

*Whereas* Mr, Pizzo works with integrity for the best interest of the students and educational staff of the Newburgh Enlarged City School District,

Be it therefore resolved that the Newburgh Teachers' Association's Teaching Assistants' Chapter nominate Mr. Ralph Pizzo for the 2008 "Friend of Education" Award.

**(Submitted by the NTATAC Executive Committee)**

**Ruled out of order by the chair**

**MOTION #5**

*Whereas*, the NTA has historically been active in local school board elections, and

*Whereas*, it is the responsibility of the NTA to advocate for quality public education and the rights of all teachers, teaching assistants, retirees and substitutes, be it therefore

*Resolved*, that the NTA support the candidacies of incumbent Board members Dawn Fuchek and Edward Popetti and, retired teachers and NTA member Steve DeMarco, for seats on the Newburgh Board of Education.

**(Submitted by NTA President Phil Cordella)**

**Moved: P. Hunter**

**Seconded: D. Brown**

**Motion to amend to strike: and, retired teacher and NTA member Steve DeMarco,**

**Moved: W. Lastowski**

**Passed Unanimously**

**Seconded: D. Brown**

**Amended Motion:**

**Moved: W. Lastowski**

**Passed Unanimously**

**Seconded: D. Brown**

**MOTION #6**

Whereas, M&M Professional Cleaning has been our office cleaners for over 2 ½ years, and

Whereas, we have developed a more than satisfactory working relationship with them, and

Whereas, they have not increased their fee during that period, and

Whereas, the NTA has developed an extensive cleaning list (see attached) which they have agreed to abide by contingent on a multi year contract, be it therefore

*Resolved*, that the NTA Board of Directors' approve a two year contract effective April 1, 2008 with a fee of \$850 plus tax per month and make the necessary budget changes.

**(Submitted by NTA President Phil Cordella)**

**Moved: S. Minard**

**Seconded: P. Hunter**

**Passed (5-1\*-1)**

\*The negative vote was due to the belief that additional quotes should have been obtained.

**MOTION #7**

Whereas, there has been established a Memorial Golf Outing for the late local labor leader Phil Moresco to benefit Ironworkers Local 417 Scholarship Fund, be it

*Resolved*, that the NTA support the event by ½ sponsoring a foursome for the cost of \$240 which would be comprised of NTA members.

**(Submitted by Central Labor Council and NTA members Goncalo Pinheiro and Joe Lotito)**

**Moved: K. Roberts**

**Seconded: S. Minard**

**Passed Unanimously**

**MOTION #8**

Whereas, the NTA provides for new teacher initiatives, and

Whereas, the New Teacher Initiative Committee has approved the proposal, and

Whereas, Horizons-on-the-Hudson has submitted a proposal which has been reviewed by the New Teacher Initiative Committee; be it therefore

*Resolved*, that the NTA's Board of Directors approve the New Teacher Initiative Grant for Horizons-on-the-Hudson.

**Moved: W. Lastowski**

**Seconded: S. Minard**

**Passed (6-0-1)**

**GOOD AND WELFARE:**

Discussion took place about NWS meeting.

Carol Franklin has submitted her resignation as Vote Cope Chair.

MOA for reconfiguration has been signed. Informational meetings to take place next week.

**Motion to adjourn: 6:45 PM**

**Moved: D. Liebman**

**Seconded: P. Hunter**

Respectfully submitted,



Karen Roberts  
NTA Secretary