

United Educators of San Francisco Assembly Meeting

Wednesday, November 20, 2002, 4:00 p.m.

Draft Minutes

President Mitchell called the meeting to order at 4:20.

Minutes

Approval of MinutesDennis Kelly

MSC to adopt the minutes without objection.

Reports

1. Political Campaigns.....Steve Shapiro

Two of the endorsed candidates were elected and the other candidate finished fourth. Counts are still trickling in but have not changed the result. The results were mixed city-wide. There will be another school board election in two years (unless the federal government suspends local elections).

UESF focused on a mail campaign. With a small budget, there was a targeting of likely voters. CTA support helped generate over 57,000 pieces mailed to frequent voters. There was a dearth of volunteers in campaigns citywide and there were few volunteers for the Board of Education campaign.

Judith Christensen, in her first election campaign, came within 2.4% of winning for Daly City Board of Supervisors.

2. Treasurer's Report.....Lily Gee Hickman

The treasurer called attention to items 9 (which reflects a surplus that has been artificially created by withholding per capitas) and 21 which has a similar surplus. Both of these will be paid up and it will be reflected in the next reports. Item 28 has been almost doubled, but awaits payment from the district for their part of the printing expenses for the contracts. A request from the floor for the percentage of per capitas to each affiliate will be addressed in the next report. Pie charts will be forthcoming.

COPE report: the Treasurer explained the flow of political money, the funds used for local as opposed to the restricted funds used for federal candidates and issues. Next month's report will show the Board of Education campaign expenses.

Building Update: UESF and NALC now own 2310 Mason Street and the process of moving has begun. The 655 14th Street office will be closed during Thanksgiving week. A skeleton crew will be on hand at both sites.

The mortgage is less than \$2000 more than is currently being paid for the rental space. The new office has a variety of parking lots for relatively low costs.

The contractor chosen for the refurbishing work is Bevelacqua and Sons, a union contractor. UESF is moving into the second floor now and will move to the permanent office after six or more months. Executive Board meetings will be held at Francisco Middle School until UESF can occupy the third floor.

3. Vice President's Report.....Rudi Faltus

- Binders were distributed which contain the teacher and paraprofessional contracts and appropriate divider tabs.
- A newsletter will be distributed tomorrow.
- Another "Labor 88" class will begin again in the Spring Semester. It is California Labor History, and is taught by Fred Glass and Rudi Faltus. The class will be held on Thursday nights at the Evans campus of City College.
- A series of UBC trainings are also planned for the spring.
- Most schools have reported the election of their UBCs and Building Representatives.

4. President's Report.....Kent Mitchell

- The union won an election to represent the private-funded day-care center teachers at two centers last week. Twenty-nine people work at the sites. The potential unit is about 2,500 workers. The city of San Francisco is the primary employer of the workers.

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The eventual shape of the unit will depend on the success of the organizing effort and the wishes of the members.

- There was a lay-off in the Child Development Center unit last week. In the K-12 unit, adjustments have been made by predicting the need and not hiring where there are fewer students. The CDC unit has suffered with a lack of accurate counting and direction. The teachers who are slated for lay-off are people who were hired during a period of an announced hiring freeze. Child Development Centers are open for more days than the teachers work. There are no paid vacation days.
- Sacramento discussions about the need to suspend Prop 98 and get to unspent funds are in the air.
- The district is doing an audit of Weighted Student Formula funds. Washington High School has lost 3.8 teachers and is awaiting re-calculation. As of Monday (two days ago) principals did not have hard information. They may have information now.
- The Marshall High School teacher arrested on the day of the police incursion onto the campus has not been charged with crimes by the district attorney. The SFUSD is also investigating. The school has calmed down somewhat.

Action

New Business

A. Preference for Enrollment of Children of Teachers and Paraprofessionals at the Schools & Child Development Centers Where Parents Work..... Lawton UBC

Whereas, many teachers and paraprofessionals who work in San Francisco Unified School District have school-age children who attend public schools in San Francisco,

Whereas, teachers and paraprofessionals have busy lives and are committing many hours to their work at their work sites,

Whereas, teachers and paraprofessionals lives would be easier if their children were able to learn in the same school or child development center in which their parent(s) work as childcare, after-school programs and other activities would be easier to manage,

Whereas, teachers and paraprofessionals would be secure in the knowledge that their children would be safe during their workday,

Whereas, teachers and paraprofessionals would be able to participate actively in the school or child development center in which they work as parents as well as employees, ensuring parent participation in many school and classroom activities,

Whereas, a most powerful indicator of school quality is the desire on the part of teachers and paraprofessionals to have their children attend the school in which they work,

Therefore, be it resolved that UESF have a policy position that would give teachers and paraprofessionals preference to have their children attend the school or child development center at which they work similar to preference for siblings, and

Be it finally resolved that UESF negotiate language into the teacher and paraprofessional contracts that would give teachers and paraprofessionals such preference to have their children attend the school or child development center at which they work.

Submitted on behalf of teachers and paraprofessionals at Lawton K-8 by David Ellingson, Building Representative and the Lawton UBC to the UESF Executive Board, November 6, 2002.

Brother Dan Sobel represented the Lawton UBC and presented the resolution. He presented a letter from Sister Marlies Lewis who had successfully worked to get her daughter into the school where she works.

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B. Day of Public Education on War Against Iraq

Kent Mitchell

RESOLUTION CALLING FOR A DAY OF PUBLIC EDUCATION ON WAR AGAINST IRAQ

Proposed by Kent Mitchell

WHEREAS, the United States government states that it is preparing to initiate a war against the nation of Iraq; and

WHEREAS, an attack on Iraq by the United States would have enormous human, financial and political consequences in the United States and the world community; and

WHEREAS, it is essential that the people of the United States be well-informed on the causes and consequences of military action by their government,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the United Educators of San Francisco urge the Board of Education of the San Francisco Unified School District to decree that there shall be citywide public education at the school level concerning the background of the current crisis concerning Iraq, the options available to the United States government for attempting to resolve that crisis, and the likely consequences of a United States military attack on Iraq;

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that UESF urge the District's Academic Office to work with the United Educators of San Francisco to develop a list of available resources and lessons that are appropriate for the classroom;

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that UESF urge schools to invite parents and other members of the public to participate in the educational programs.

Passed by the UESF Assembly, November 20, 2002

Editorial changes—change the final three “Resolveds” by inserting “to urge” after the word FURTHER.

In the final “Resolved” eliminate “do so” and insert “take part”.

Discussion focused on the ethical and historical reasons UESF should take such a position, and the role of a union in foreign policy.

Delete the last “Resolved”

MSC

MSC to adopt the amended motion.

C. Responsible Management of District Property

Linda Plack

RESOLUTION FOR RESPONSIBLE MANAGEMENT OF DISTRICT PROPERTY

Proposed by Linda Plack

WHEREAS, the San Francisco Unified School District (SFUSD) has real property that, at the present time, could possibly be sold for use by other governmental agencies or private concerns; and

WHEREAS, property relinquished by the SFUSD in this way would be lost for use by future generations of students for small school buildings, teacher housing and uses directly related to the mission of the SFUSD; and

WHEREAS, the SFUSD is in the process of developing a comprehensive facilities management plan that will assess, based on long-range demographic projections, the present and future use of each property owned by the SFUSD,

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~~THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED~~, that the position of the United Educators of San Francisco be that no real property of the SFUSD will be sold until there is a comprehensive review of the possible uses of the property by the SFUSD, including open hearings, and there is an indication that the property is identified as surplus.

Adopted by the UESF Assembly, November 20, 2002

editorial changes: Insert "real" prior to property where it occurs.

Insert "will " for "should" in line two of the "resolved".

Eliminate the final two lines of the Resolved.

MSC

D. Student Privacy

Linda Plack

RESOLUTION URGING RESPECT OF STUDENT PRIVACY

Proposed by Jay Kozak, Susan Kitchell, and Linda Plack,

WHEREAS, students and parents have the right to privacy guaranteed them by Board Policy of the San Francisco Unified School District, the Constitution of the state of California and the Constitution of the United States of America; and

WHEREAS, policy of the Board of Education has barred recruiters of the United States military from schools of the San Francisco Unified School District; and

WHEREAS, Federal Law 107-110, known as "No Child Left Behind" provides that recruiters from the United States military must be provided students' names, addresses and telephone listings,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the United Educators of San Francisco urge the SFUSD to notify parents and students of their right under Federal Law 107-110 to request that the individual student's name, address and telephone listing not be released without prior written parental consent and that the district comply with each parental request for non-release of student information.

Adopted by the UESF Assembly November 20, 2002

MSC

This motion shall be forwarded to the California Federation of Teachers

E. OER Priority for Teachers and Paraprofessionals.....Moscone UBC

Sister Lita Blanc presented the resolution unanimously passed at her worksite.

Whereas, many teachers and paraprofessionals who work in SFUSD have school-age children who attend public schools in San Francisco,

Whereas, many teachers and paraprofessionals have filed OER applications only to have them rejected,

Whereas, teachers and paraprofessionals work very diligently for modest salaries and many rely on quality public school education for their children,

Whereas, teachers may leave the district in order to provide quality education for their children if they are not assigned to schools of their choice;

Whereas, having their children assigned to schools of their choice would provide a strong incentive for teachers to remain in the SFUSD,

Whereas, a powerful indicator of school quality in SFUSD is the desire of teachers and paraprofessionals to have their own children attend public schools in SFUSD,

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Be it resolved that UESF have a policy position that would give teachers and paraprofessionals preference to have their children attend the school of their choice, and

Be it finally resolved that UESF negotiate language into the teacher and paraprofessional contracts that would give such preference to have their children attend the school of their choice.

Editorial change: amend to strike “school-age” and replace it with EC-K-12.

MS to amend “school of their choice” be replaced by “schools where they teach” and in the first resolved replace “school of their choice” with “schools where they teach when the children are in that age range or in schools of their choice when they are not in that age range”. Ruled out of order.

MSC to table the motion

Old Business

Good of the Order

- Brother Steve Schmidt explained the job of the student activities coordinator and the lack of pay for them. Brother Schmidt urged that in the next contract recognize the work of the student activities coordinator with compensation akin to athletic coaching compensation.
- Sergeant –at-Arms Roberto Michel reported that 27 sites were represented at the meeting: 12 elementary; 5 middle school; 9 high schools; one other site; and 2 substitutes.
- Today is Lily Gee Hickman’s birthday.
- Brother Larry Orloff has been ill and is not at the meeting today. Well wishes were expressed for the Brother.
- Brother Vince Quackenbush urged that the members express the position of the union in the press. He also asked if there were plans for a holiday party at the new building. (Generally we do have such celebrations, but there are no plans yet.)

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:45.

Respectfully submitted,

Dennis Kelly, Secretary