

Wake County PTA Council Board Meeting

February 27, 2003

Wake Ed Partnership Boardroom

Present: Lynn Womble, Virginia Parker, Derrick Byrd, Ann Rollins, Lisa Yelmini, Sharon Gupton, Denise Webster, Classy Preston, Judy Hoffman, Jan Ammons, Leslie Maxwell, Paula Lipford, Jill Touchberry, Toni Cooper, Becky Brady, Julia Lee, and Liz Parry.

Paula Lipford called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. It was determined that in spite of so many being willing to venture out into the cold and the rain, a quorum was not established.

Review of Minutes: The minutes from the January 28th meeting were discussed. Virginia Parker clarified that although the Treasurer's report at that meeting indicated lower than expected revenue from vendors at the Leadership Conference, profit for the event was good. It was noted that the vendors prefer to participate in a fall vendor fall; the event will be paired with the Leadership Conference again next year. The minutes were approved by consensus.

Treasurer's Report: Jill Touchberry provided a report to the Board for discussion. She noted that the cost incurred for handbooks, approximately \$200, had been posted to the wrong line and she will amend the report to correct that. (Note: We had budgeted \$1000 towards handbooks – a huge thanks to Wake County for producing the CDs at such a reasonable price.) Jill reported that 12 units still have not paid Council dues; she is emailing and/or calling their Presidents to follow up. The report was approved by consensus.

President's Report: Paula Lipford gave an overview of the many upcoming Council events and activities:

- **Reflections Reception** – the date has been changed to March 27 due to a conflict with Pieces of Gold rehearsals. It will be held at Sanderson High School.
- **Awards/President's Reception** – April 22nd at Meredith. There was a question about tickets for the event. Council sells tickets (\$5) to cover the cost of the event – our dues aren't sufficient to cover the cost of special events. After some discussion, it was agreed that rather than have two simultaneous activities (Awards and President's Reception) we will just consider the event the Awards Reception but will offer a free ticket to unit Presidents in appreciation of their service. **Note: The deadline for Awards nominations is March 13 (postmark date).**
- **State Awards Nominations** – Paula is submitting nominations for both newsletter and council. She asked if anyone would be willing to submit any other nominations (the deadline is Saturday, March 1st). Ann Rollins agreed to try to put together a nomination for Bill McNeal for Outstanding Educator, however may be limited by the time constraint.
- **Making Choices** – this is a townhall type meeting on diversity, assignment and achievement on April 3. There will be panel discussions and facilitated group discussion. The goal is to recommend issues to take to the school system.
- **State Convention** – The committee is still looking for sponsors (\$\$), however we have secured a donation of the tote bags. Units have been asked to help in several

ways. **Please be sure your unit has committed to supporting our convention hosting efforts.**

- **Parent Ed Conference** – Paula reported that the conference was a great success. 70+ participants, a very diverse group of parents, and very positive feedback from both the parents who attended and the system administrators who participated.
- **Other items** – teacher of the year planning is underway; members should note that they can sign up for free non-voting registration for the National Convention (Charlotte, 6/22-24).

Committee Reports:

Nominating Committee – Julia Lee distributed the proposed slate of officers and reviewed the process the committee had gone through to establish the slate. The committee feels very positive about the commitment of each of these officers to lead Council next year and to stay focused on the mission of the PTA. The slate is being couriered to all unit Presidents (thanks to the Board members who labeled and stuffed the envelopes while we met) and distributed through the forum. Elections will be held at the full meeting on March 27th. Though a quorum was not present to allow us to vote on the nomination of Liza Weidle as President Elect, she received strong praise and a verbal vote of confidence from the Board. She will be elected to fill that vacancy at the March meeting. **There are still vacancies, the Board is encouraged to contact the Committee with names of possible nominees.**

Reflections – Denise Webster reported that letters to the schools and certificates are at the printers and will be sent out next week. She also shared designs for the invitations and tickets (they look great!) and Ann Rollins offered to help connect her with a graphic designer. Denise is also working on soliciting donations for the reception. Paula thanked her for her efforts.

Special Needs Schools – Derrick Byrd reported that the committee had met to identify needs and establish timelines for activities. Two members plan to attend the “Closing the Gap” Conference. Judy Hoffman mentioned that there is a special needs advisory council to the school board (representatives from organizations that serve special needs groups) and the committee will coordinate efforts with these groups.

Science Education Reform – Liz Parry reported that they had resubmitted for a \$12 million grant from the federal government. The new proposal is much stronger and will impact science education for ALL students K-8. A determination on the awarding of the grant will be made in June (keep your fingers crossed).

Newsletter – Julia Lee reported that the next newsletter deadline is March 12. After discussion, it was decided the theme for this issue would be “celebrations.”

Liaison Reports:

Phonefriend – Derrick Byrd reported that their Board had met and due to their loss of United Way funding and the low call volume, they are considering doing away with their programs. He indicated that their efforts to work through counselors and do presentations for students had been unsuccessful.

Wake Ed Partnership – Leslie Maxwell shared upcoming events and activities:

- PTA Liaison meeting, 3/13, 11:30-1:30

- *Pieces of Gold*, 3/26, 3:00 and 7:30. Because this is the 20th anniversary, there will be several alumni events.
- Summit, 5/1. Wake Ed will share the results of *Voices & Choices*
- Other news: note the earlier mention of the *Making Choices* forum in April; Wake Ed is in the middle of their annual fund drive and liaisons are helping; the new parent website is up and they welcome feedback on it.

Paula reminded the Board that the next Executive Board meeting is May 22 (this is the old/new Board meeting) since there are full Council meetings in March and April. However, it may be necessary for the Board to convene before then in preparation for the state convention.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Julia Lee
Acting Secretary