

## Wake County PTA Council Board Meeting

November 12, 2002

NC State PTA Boardroom

**Present:** Beth Slate, Richard Bostic, Jan Ammons, Leslie Maxwell, Paula Lipford, Liza Weidle, Jill Touchberry, Toni Cooper, Becky Brady, Julia Lee, Vermelle Wilson, Susan Fonville, and Susan Parry.

Paula Lipford called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

A guest of the Board, Penny Wilson from the Core Team for Voices & Choices led those present through the Voices & Choices survey process. There were introductions and a review of successes in Wake County Public Schools. After completion of the survey, we discussed our views on the schools' priorities, changes to recommend and goals. The Board thanked Penny for collecting our input for the project.

**Review of the Consent Agenda:** No items to approve. (Please review it for a full update on Character Education.)

**Review of Minutes:** Minutes from the October 16th meeting were distributed. Two minor changes were requested: Paragraph 4 should read "bylaws," and under Character Education, it should read "Liza," not Liz. Richard Bostic and Beth Slate moved and seconded to approve the minutes. Minutes were approved.

**President's Report:** Paula Lipford shared the following news and information

- Handbooks. The CD handbooks have been sent out to Presidents. Thanks to Jill and her sons for helping with their distribution. 500 copies were made; we will only have to pay for 300. Extras may be used for a spring officers' training. Copies were distributed to the Board.
- Presidents' Reception. December 10th at the President's house at Meredith College, time TBA. Meredith is helping with the event and the School Board is co-hosting. It is a reception to thank PTA unit Presidents for their efforts. Julia Lee agreed to help get the invitations out.
- Reflections information has been sent to units. Awards information will be out shortly.
- Newsletter deadline is tomorrow (11/13)
- TV Series. The first segment of the cable TV series on diversity has been filmed and will air in early December. The Council is co-hosting the next segment on academic issues related to diversity, to be filmed early in December and broadcast in January. The format has parents, teachers, and experts discussing the impact of the diversity policy on academics. Paula asked that we forward her names of teachers who may have worked in both diverse and non-diverse schools as possible participants.

- **Convention.** Paula has approached Harris Teeter with a request to help sponsor the convention and should have a response soon. The Convention Committee will meet next week to begin planning.

- **Parent Education.** The committee has met and set three dates: January 16 at Ligon (Central/Southern area), February 13 (Eastern Wake), and April 29 (Western/Northern). The format will include Q&A and a roundtable discussion with Superintendent McNeal, other administrators, and parents.

- **Candidate's Forum.** The forum went well though attendance was light. Paula noted that the N&O coverage had been good.

**Treasurer's Report:** Jill Touchberry distributed copies of her report and noted that a correction should be made to the Newsletter line - total expenditures are \$174.97. Jill reviewed what she had learned about the sales tax issue (the information has been posted to the Forum). She recommended that we encourage units to always pay directly for large ticket items. Jill also recommended that the Council explore the possibility of purchasing a copier due to the amount of expenses for that item. There were no further questions. The report will be filed for audit.

#### **Committee Reports:**

**Character Education.** Liza Weidle shared that she will have Character Education information available on the Council website.

**Reflections:** Beth Slate says she has been getting lots of questions from schools; hopefully this indicates a high level of interest. The Theme entry deadline is this Friday and January 17 is the deadline for this year's entries. Area VPs need to select a school in their area to serve as a site for dropping off and picking up entries. Contact Beth for more information.

#### **Liaisons:**

Board of Education. Susan Parry shared the following news:

- They are almost ready to announce the members of the new task force on strategic planning. Many people expressed interest in participating and the group is a good cross-section of the community.

- Advisory Councils are up and running. They have been asked to consider two issues: 1) Tri-level bus routes, and 2) The proposed use of drug tests in schools. (These are the tests that indicate the presence of substances on a surface. After several concerns were raised, the Board has asked for input from the Advisory Councils.)

- The Board voted to support the recommendation to update and revise the health curriculum (sex education). The revision includes still a strong abstinence message, but updates factual information, clarifies objectives, and includes two new lessons on tolerance and refusal skills.

**Wake Education Partnership.** Leslie Maxwell reported that the annual meeting went well. Howard Gardner spoke on multiple intelligences and awards were presented. PTA liaisons met

last week, participated in Voices & Choices, and listened to a presentation from Walt Sherlin on the diversity issue.

**New Business:** None.

**Old Business:** Council resolution on Diversity. Because Paula has been asked to participate in the TV show to be filmed in just a few weeks and the Board agreed it would be good to adopt such a resolution before then. Paula suggested that we take a high-level approach - stating how we feel about the issue, but avoiding specifics or recommendations to the school administration. We reviewed the Wake Ed resolution. There was much discussion on what the Board felt such a resolution should contain. In the end, it was decided that we should continue to send Paul our thoughts and ideas, but that she will create and distribute a draft for review. \*\*A meeting has been called in order to vote on the resolution for next Wednesday, December 4 at Noon (location TBA). It is imperative that we have a quorum at this meeting. Paula will email further details.\*\*

*Meeting adjourned at 9:25 p.m .*

*Respectfully submitted,  
Julia Lee  
Acting Secretary*