



**Professional Student  
Services Personnel**



434 Rogers Rd, Suite 200 Toronto, ON M6M 1A5 Tel: 647/348-3351 Fax: 647/348-3352

## **PSSP D12 EXECUTIVE MEETING**

### **MINUTES**

**December 14, 2011**

**Present:** Olga De Melo, Nancy Vogel, Sharon De Four, Rowena Maclure, Vladimir Vallecilla, Carmel Turner, Sarah Fairweather, Peter Mallouh, Lucy Somers, Heather Johnson, Cathy Renfrew **Regrets:** Harvey Bischoff

1. **Adopt Agenda:** Moved: Vlad, Seconded: Peter CARRIED
2. **Approval of November Minutes as Amended:** Moved: Peter, Seconded: Lucy, CARRIED
3. **Business Arising from Minutes:** To be covered in the President's report.
- **PE Report:** Cathy Renfrew reported that the primary focus of Provincial office is the upcoming round of bargaining. All districts have been voting on whether they are in agreement with participating in bargaining at the Provincial table. It is hoped that the Government will bind the parties at the table. Bargaining briefs have to be in shortly. There is concern that the current Minister of Education has expressed a desire to break down the silos between Ministries in the way services are delivered. This is a concern as this could raise a number of issues for our members.
4. **Presidents Report:**
  - **Pay Equity:** One group has presented a letter of complaint and this has been forwarded to the OSSTF Lawyer for response. Executive was directed to inform members that all issues with Pay Equity should flow through the Bargaining Unit Office as the proper forum for any disputes. Ultimately, disputes are forwarded to the Pay Equity Commission for resolution, but do not go directly there from individual members or groups of members.
  - **PSS Review:** Olga attended a Steering Committee meeting to review the first draft of the review. Further meetings are scheduled in January with the final report being presented to the Trustees at the Feb 8<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting. Vlad suggested that all Exec members approach 3 Trustees each to educate them about our roles. It was decided that Executive members will be allocated Trustees to contact. A script will be developed to assist Executive members with important points to raise during these contacts.
  - **Budget Committee:** Olga and Nancy have been attending the monthly Trustee meetings but these have gone into Executive Session prior to discussion of monetary

issues regarding next year's budget occurs. Olga and Nancy will continue to monitor the situation closely, as does Provincial Office.

- AMPA: We will have 8 delegates to AMPA as Olga attends as the Chair of SCOPS, so we have one additional delegate. We are in the process of finalizing the list of delegates.
- PDT Ad Hoc Committee: Olga has been appointed to this and they are meeting on January 12, 2012.
- Olga is planning on meeting with Chris Spence early in the New Year.

#### 5. Vice President's Report:

- AMPA Dinner Meetings: All delegates are to attend two training meetings for AMPA at the District 12 Office on February 14 and 22 at 4:30pm. There will be a meeting of the PSSP delegates in mid-January to prepare motions as they are due at the D12 Executive Meeting on January 24 for endorsement by the District.
- CBC Survey: This was completed by 371 members. 236 of those members indicated salary and financial concerns as the first priority, 153 members considered Benefits the highest priority, with working conditions and job security considered the first priority by 118.
- There will be a meeting of the Collective Bargaining Committee on December 19, 2011 to analyse the data collected and list issues to be included in the Brief, which is due at Provincial Office in the New Year.
- Department Staff Meetings: Olga and Nancy are hoping to attend as many Department Meetings as possible in the upcoming months to reach out to members. They attended a Social Work meeting in the West on December 7, 2011. Social Work in the East has requested meetings and the next possible date appears to be January 25, 2012. Executive members from other disciplines are requested to speak with their Chief and request 30 minutes for Olga and Nancy to speak to members.
- Website: Executive members were asked to speak at their next Staff meeting to address the need for everyone to fill out the Member Data Input form and fill out the information requested. If members have privacy concerns they do not need to input their home address or phone number. Members should also be informed that the website is separate from the TDSB as it is on a separate server.

6. **Treasurer's Report:** This is next due in January 2012.

#### 7. Committee Reports:

- **Inner City:** Heather reported that this is a very active Committee. It looks at issues of equity, poverty, special education. Meetings are very well attended with up to 40 people attending.
- **External Partnerships:** Vlad and Heather reported that they sit on this committee with Dave Johnson and Gail Fraser. Upgrades are being made to the ASPIRE data base so it will be easier to monitor whether outside agencies have partnership agreements with the Board. It was suggested that Executive members be trained in Aspire so they can support members when they have questions about the roles

of outside agencies in their schools. Heather & Vlad will pursue the request for training.

- **Political Action Committee:** Sarah reported that the last meeting on November 29, 2011 took the form of a Reception at Queen's Park to meet with the successful candidates who were endorsed by OSSTF. There was an opportunity to speak with MPP's and both Dalton McGuinty and Laurel Broten, the Minister of Education, attended. Peter Tabuns has been appointed the NDP Education Critic and he is new to the portfolio. Sarah, who worked on his campaign, suggested that it would be beneficial to meet with him further to make him aware of the issues and concerns within PSSP. She and Nancy will arrange a meeting.
- **Social Committee:** Carmel reported that there is a plan in place for a Pub night Feb 16, the night before this year's PD day, and a Picnic and Bike ride to support CAMH in early June.
- **PD Committee:** Sharon reported that the Committee members are submitting briefs outlining their various services to be printed for promotional events which highlight the many PSSP job classes. The next meeting is on Dec 21/11 when the committee will continue to work on preparing for the Trustee Meet and Greet on February 8, 2012, prior to the Board Meeting that evening where the budget will be discussed.

8. **AODA Training for Executive members:** Nancy and Cathy Renfrew discussed the OSSTF Handbook for AODA, (Accessibility for Ontarians with a Disability Act). All members got a copy and are directed to read it. When arranging meetings it is important to be aware of the needs of individual members, and make every effort to accommodate them.

#### Other Business:

**Sister2Sister:** Heather described this program where Grade 8 students from five Inner City Schools are participating in a year-long program which focuses on girls' issues. The goals are to build community and create engagement opportunities to inspire young women to speak up, listen to others and think critically about the world around them. Approximately 250 young women will attend a day-long forum on February 29, 2012.

BIRT PSSP donate \$500 to the Sister 2 Sister project for the school year 2011-2012
---

Moved: Heather, Seconded: Carmel CARRIED
--

- **SSLI money:** Heather informed Executive that funds of up to \$12,000 per project are available for initiatives in partnership with community agencies designed to address mental health issues. Schools will have to fund the project up front. Applications will be accepted from January 16, 2012 until March 15, 2011. This issue will be put on the agenda at the next Labour/Management meeting.

9. **Adjournment:** Motion to Adjourn: Moved Carmel, Seconded Vlad. CARRIED

Meeting Adjourned at 8:00pm.