

NCAE Cluster 2 Caucus

March 12, 2007

Winston-Salem, NC

- 1) The following candidates for statewide office spoke:
 - Dawn Shepherd Pope, NEA Director Candidate
 - Hiawatha Foster, NEA Alternate Director
 - Mark Jewell, NEA Alternate Director
- 2) After the statewide candidates spoke, Anita Bame open the floor for the endorsement of candidates.
- 3) Mildred Griffin moved to endorse Dawn Shepherd Pope with a second from Stephanie Wallace. Tammy Kasserman asked if there was anyone else running. She was informed of the other candidates and she requested any additional information for the other candidates. No information was received from the other two candidates. Tammy shared that she felt that it was too early to decide on a candidate. Other members informed her that it was an endorsement. The caucus moved to endorse Dawn Shepherd Pope with a lot of affirmatives and three nays. Thus, Dawn Shepherd Pope received the endorsement from Cluster 2. No other candidates were moved to be endorsed.
- 4) First time delegates were recognized and applauded. President Bame reminded these new delegates to bring identification and be prepared to sit for a long time. Cluster 2 has over 200 delegates registered currently. Cluster 2 will provide goody bags to delegates. The convention agenda is posted on the NCAE website. She addressed the various procedures that would occur. Veteran delegates encouraged new delegates to participate with vigor.
- 5) Tripp Jeffers informed us that we have collected \$1458 so far with 29 members contributing at 7:02 PM. Debit and credit cards can be accepted. Contributions are not tax deductible. Those who have not contributed so far were encouraged to do so. Monda Griggs requested that the Government Relations representatives speak about what the Fund for Children of Public Education.
- 6) President Bame asked individuals interested in being a telephone monitor to sign up.
- 7) Also, delegates can volunteer to be an usher. Names should be given to Ron McKinney or Mark Jewell.
- 8) Mark Jewell reminded us to donate to the Boys/ Girls Club of Guilford County. Information regarding this was distributed to delegates.
- 9) Dawn Shepherd Pope spoke in regards to the golf tournament on Monday, June 25. This money goes to the NC Foundation for Public School Children. Lina Drinkard also spoke of the need for the golf tournament to be supported.
- 10) Monda Griggs, candidate for cluster 2 director, spoke. Her term will be three years. She has been an active member of NCAE for over 25 years and touted her many services to our organization. She will be happy to visit locals in the future.
- 11) Rodney Ellis, Cluster 2 Director, shared that the Board of Directors is seeking volunteers to man the Board of Directors booth. A list was circulated for

- interested volunteers. The money will be donated to NEA. Monda suggested that if delegates are bringing visitors with them, these visitors may wish to volunteer at the booth.
- 12) Monda Griggs spoke again to the need to have telephone volunteers.
 - 13) Charlotte Waddell spoke as our candidate for cluster vice president.
 - 14) Brian Whitson spoke as our candidate for cluster secretary.
 - 15) Anita Bame spoke as our candidate for cluster president. She was thanked for her service.
 - 16) Delegates are encouraged to be on the floor during the convention. In an effort to encourage candidates to be present on the floor, names will be drawn and a prize of \$10 will be provided.
 - 17) Anyone with special dietary needs to see Charlotte Waddell with their specific needs.
 - 18) Cluster directors Griggs and Ellis spoke to amendments. Amendments will be held for a year once proposed.
 - 19) The NCAE board voted to support Article 3, Membership and Dues. Rodney Ellis moved to support this amendment and Tripp Jeffers seconded. A question was asked about the difference in membership dues that would result. Monda was unsure but it seemed to be minimal impact. Another question was asked about the rationale of this amendment. It was shared that that this increase seems to be commensurate with the cost of living increases and inflation. The cluster directors answered questions that arose. It was shared that membership costs about \$1.06 per day. We were also encouraged to seek increasing membership to hold the membership costs constant. Sherry Strickland shared that the membership dues is currently at the ceiling of 0.70%. The potential maximum payroll increase would be \$16.00. The cluster voted to support amendment #3.
 - 20) Article #5, Section #3 was presented. This article amendment would allow for vacancies of elected offices in NCAE. This amendment would allow for vacancies to be filled until the next NCAE election cycle. Rodney Ellis moved to support the motion and Willie Stevens seconded the motion. A question was raised to request further explanation. The cluster voted to support this amendment.
 - 21) Article #5, Section 4 would clarify the grammar of this section. This would allow the board of directors to certify the election results based on what the canvassing committee reports. Rodney Ellis motioned to support this amendment and Charlotte Waddell seconded. The cluster voted to support this amendment.
 - 22) Article #6, Section 4 would go hand-in-hand with the Article #5, Section #4. Rodney Ellis motioned to support with a second from Stephanie Wallace. The cluster voted to support this amendment with no discussion.
 - 23) President Bame discussed Resolutions. Kelly Campbell, Cluster 2 Resolution representative, spoke to resolutions and explained the process. Sherry Strickland shared that many resolutions are often written as new business items. They seem to be more directive rather than statements of beliefs. The committee tried to keep the intent of the resolution while re-wording the resolution into a belief statement. She stressed that we consider adopting the new language first and then review the resolution as requested by members. This would speed up the process

- of adopting resolutions. Future resolutions to be submitted would be phrased in the new language. There was a request that resolutions be printed in a larger font. A new resolution was submitted but the committee felt that it was a new business item. Therefore, there are NO new resolutions this year. Resolutions can be amended at the convention.
- 24) Nominations were open for next year's resolution committee:
Kelly Campbell of Forsyth was nominated for resolutions with multiple seconds. Kathy (Ann) Griswald of Forsyth was also nominated. Priscilla Lowe of Surry was also nominated. David Beaver of Davidson was nominated.
 - 25) Candidates for resolutions spoke as to why they want to be on the resolution committee.
 - 26) Nominations were closed for resolutions with many seconds from the delegation.
 - 27) The election of Resolution committee members was conducted via secret ballot.
 - 28) Anita reminded us about the ushers, phones, and board of directors booth.
 - 29) Sherry Strickland provided some NCAE updates. Even though we are continuing with our same slogan "Proud To Be NCAE," we will adopt a convention slogan titled "RESPECT." Many speeches will center around the theme of respect. Around 10 AM on Saturday mornings, we will do a "Stand for Respect." We are hoping to do a silent stand for respect if we can work out the logistics. We hope to have media coverage. Members are encouraged to wear red, white, and blue on Saturday to show support.
 - 30) One of our keynote speakers will be Kim Oliver, the national Teacher of the Year. Treasurer Moore is scheduled to speak as is our Lt. Governor Beverly Purdie. The new speaker of the house, Joe Hackney, will also be present. June Atkinson will also be present. The governor will most likely not be able to attend.
 - 31) Bills are still being filed and our GR department is carefully monitoring these bills. The governor is recommending a 5% salary increase for teachers with a 2.5% increase for other state employees. NCAE feels that this is not acceptable and has worked to get bills filed that would condense the salary schedule and improve the salaries of public school employees. There is a bill to add more steps to the salary schedule.
 - 32) There are five calendar bills that have been filed. Some would add workdays while others would adjust the starting date of school. The final calendar bill would provide additional opportunities for LEAs to gain waivers regarding the starting date of school.
 - 33) NCAE continues to watch the Health Care Insurance issues and enrollment dates. Any changes to healthcare must be made by March 31.
 - 34) Kelly Campbell and David Beaver were selected to serve on the Resolutions. Priscilla Lowe was selected as first alternate with Kathy Ann Griswald as second alternate.
 - 35) We collected \$1658 for political action. The winner of the \$50 gift certificate to Target was Danette Dorsett of Rowan-Salisbury.
 - 36) Stephanie Wallace shared about the vendors section at the convention and encouraged first time delegates to check this out.
 - 37) Rodney Ellis encouraged us to arrive by 9 AM each day if possible.
 - 38) Jenny Lucas passed away and her funeral will be Saturday at noon.

- 39) If your local signed up for the breakfast, it is important that ARs attend.
- 40) Meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM.