

DCFT General Membership meeting  
November 8, 2005

The meeting was called to order at 5:25 by Pat McGraw

Introductions:

Jim Christensen, Bill Hodges, and Sean McGraw

Jim spoke about Paperwork reduction focus groups:

He would like to form focus groups to help with deregulation of paperwork for classroom teachers. If you are interested in joining these focus groups, please let Pat McGraw know.

Jim's vision for the next three years is to look towards career and technological education for all students. He talked about a study looking at ninth graders who are now in college, showing only 20% of these students that entered college actually graduated. With higher expectations from our state requiring four years of math for anybody entering a college in Colorado, we need to support those students that aren't going to go to college. In order for us to do this, we need to encourage voters to pass the bond next Nov. He would also like to help teachers earn a decent salary. The passing of referendum C will help our district by delaying cuts.

General Business:

Acceptance of minutes:

A motion was made to accept the minutes, it was seconded, and accepted.

Treasurer's report:

-Cyndie moved some CD's for higher percentages

-We moved to a new office. It is at 801 S Perry St. #140. It is across from Safeway.

-Scholarships are being written and checks are being sent out to support the "After Prom Parties" to the various High Schools.

-The budget was expanded for Student Awards, Professional Scholarships, and ER&D

-Financial audit looks great.

-AFT raised its dues. Our dues is now \$35.65 for full time, \$17.83 for part time.

-We are creating a new networking system in our office.

A motion was made to accept the report, it was seconded, and accepted.

Membership report:

We looked at the increase in members since 2000. We had 1,200 members in 2000, we currently have 2,005 members.

A motion was made to accept the report, it was seconded, and accepted.

Items for Action:

Amend name:

The DCFT has expanded to also include the classified staff. Because of this, we need to amend our name to incorporate all members. We would like to call the union the Douglas County Federation with two subgroups. The Douglas County Federation of Teachers and the Douglas County Federation of Classified Employees are the two subgroups. We had a lengthy discussion about the reasons and if the DCF name included all employees.

A motion was made to accept the amended name, it was seconded, and passed.

Updates/reports:

#### Apple Awards

Pat and Sean McGraw talked about the Apple Awards being a **fundraiser** for the DCEF. This replaces the Thank a Teacher Awards that were held in the past. Last year, they raised \$30,000. The goal this year is to raise \$100,000 through corporate sponsors buying tables for schools to occupy. All of this money will go back into the classroom to help students. Besides raising money, the intent is also to share with the community the positive things that are happening in the classrooms of Douglas County.

#### Evaluation Pilot

Jody Papini spoke about the new pilot. There are about 100 people participating in the pilot. The new plan is a process, not an event like evaluations in the past. We are moving slowly with the pilot to make sure that it promotes growth in teachers and classified staff. We will be deciding when the new evaluation plan will be rolled out to everybody after we analyze the data from the pilot program.

#### Student Awards Update – May 10<sup>th</sup>

We watched a quick video on the awards program from last year.

#### Paperwork reduction focus groups

Jim Christensen spoke about these groups (read above). If you are interested to join, please contact Pat McGraw at the DCFT office.

#### Classified organizing

We introduced Tiffany Osland, the Vice-President of the Douglas County Federation of Classified Employees. She thanked everybody for their support in helping the classified join the union. There are over 300 classified employees who have joined so far.

#### Negotiations

We are meeting monthly.

If you have any issues that you would like looked at, please let us know at the office.

#### Items from the floor:

None

#### State of the Union:

The passing of referendum C will help delay cuts.

Professional development is becoming more of an emphasis at the DCF.

#### Good and welfare:

Next general membership is March, 2006

Adjournment at 7:20