

United Teachers of Dade  
2200 Biscayne Boulevard  
Miami, Florida 33137

UTD Executive Board Meeting  
May 1, 2008

**Approved Minutes**

This regular meeting of the UTD Executive Board was called to order by President Aronowitz at approximately 5:00 p.m.

**Present:** Karen Aronowitz, Artie Leichner, Fedrick C. Ingram, Sony Ambrose, Magda Brooks, Linda Cohen, Joyce Cook, Joan Cortez, Willette Cruse, Beverley Dowell, Pablo Gomez, Peggy Green, Peter Hill, Cassandra Holmes, Paul Moore, Thomas Nunn, Maggie Palmer, Shirley Person, David Prince, Chris Radney, Ingrid Robledo, Wendi Werther, and Sharon Williams.

**Absent:** Carl Robinson (excused)

**Adoption of Agenda:** It was moved by Magda Brooks and seconded by Thomas Nunn to adopt the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

**Adoption of Minutes:** It was moved by Magda Brooks and seconded by Tom Nunn to adopt the minutes of April 10, 2008 as presented. Motion carried. It was moved by Magda Brooks and seconded by Pablo Gomez to adopt the minutes of April 17, 2008 as presented. Motion carried.

**Agenda:**

**Board Members Issues/Concerns:**

Board members discussed various issues, one of them being that EESAC monies are frozen, and it was recommended that UTD get a letter from the district clarifying this issue. Other issues included IPEGS and evaluations, DROP rumors; UTD Committees and Task Forces and the proposed Superintendent's Budget cuts.

**President's Report: Karen Aronowitz**

***UTD's Organizational Chart/Staff Changes***

President Aronowitz reported on the UTD Staff changes; Elsa Lopez position has changed, and she is now the Community Liaison Event Coordinator working with business leaders including Stewards training. Ms. Lopez will now report to Mr. Jeffrey Redmond.

Discussion followed on all of the other changes depicted in the UTD Organizational Chart.

***M-DCPS Announcement of Budget Reductions***

President Aronowitz reported on the Superintendents' Budget reductions recommendations stating that UTD will be involved in all discussions. President Aronowitz also stated that we now have School Board members trying to smear our contract in terms of the language that releases union officers. President Aronowitz reiterated that this is a union busting tactic and that is exactly what she will be saying to the press. President Aronowitz also reported on negative comments made by School Board member Evelyn Greer's comments, which were totally unacceptable.

President Aronowitz reported that teachers and educational support personnel are now under attack – some people are going as far as saying that we are causing the budget deficit, and we are greedy in trying to get the steps funded – the public does not understand all of the issues.

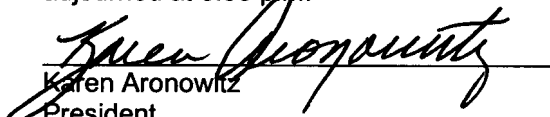
President Aronowitz also stated that we will be discussing the James Madison Institute and its attack on union, and how Unions are being affected. President Aronowitz reminded Board members of the insurance ratification vote, and urged Board members to ask for a Yes vote.

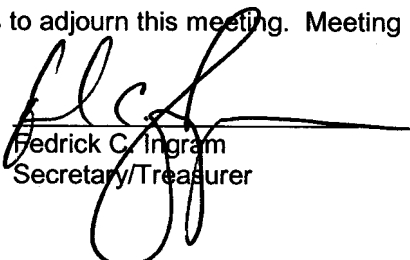
Discussion followed by Board members regarding the shortfall, and possible recommendations and strategies before the next School Board meeting of May 21.

President Aronowitz also stated that we have scheduled a special Board meeting for next week to go over the recommendations expressed by Board members and the strategies to be used including timelines for each of the items recommended. Karen reminded Board members that the legality of declaring a financial emergency has an impact on bargaining.

**Adjournment**

It was moved by Artie Lechner and seconded by Magda Brooks to adjourn this meeting. Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

  
Karen Aronowitz  
President

  
Fredrick C. Ingram  
Secretary/Treasurer