

Proviso Teachers Union Council Executive Board - Regular Monthly Meeting

10.12.22 @ 4:00PM

Proviso West (Room B223)

	5.18.22	5.31.22	08.16.22	09.16.22	10.12.22
Colwell, Steven	P	P	P	P	P
Deady, Lauren	-	-	-	-	P
LaBash, Jennifer	-	-	-	-	P
Lanzillotti, Angela	P	A	P	P	P
Marter, Jim	P	P	P	P	P
Medina, Diana	P	P	P	P	P
Moss, David	P	A	A	P	P
O'Connor, Nicole	P	P	P	P	P
Pijut, Dale	P	P	A	P	P
Skoupas, Anastasia	P	P	P	P	P
Soto, Micaela	P	P	P	P	P
Stompor, Jen	P	A	P	P	P
Wardisiani, John	P	P	P	P	P

- I. Call to Order (4:09)
- II. Reading and Approval of Minutes
- III. Welcome New Members
 - A. Lauren Deady (East)
 - B. Jennifer LaBash (West)
- IV. Member Request for Closed Session
 - N/A for current meeting.*
- V. PTU Member Comments
- VI. Executive Board Tasks
 - A. Confidentiality Agreements
 - B. Clarification of Procedure
 - 1. Meeting Attendance
 - Successful motion to mandate in-person meeting attendance for Executive Board members (applicable to monthly meetings and special session) with remote attendance

permitted in cases of conflicting contractual obligation (e.g., coaching) or emergency. When possible, in anticipation of absence or remote meeting attendance, members should provide advance notification to notify the PTU President.

Voting YES: 12

Colwell Deady LaBash Lanzillotti Marter Medina Moss O'Connor Pijut Skoupas Soto Stompor

Voting NO: 0

Abstaining: 0

2. PTU President's Vote

Members debated whether PTU President is eligible to vote on all items or participate only when a tie-breaking vote is necessary. Needing time to consider our PTU By-Laws and seek IFT counsel, members agreed to table the item.

3. Frequency of General Membership Meetings

Successful motion to increase frequency of general membership meetings, with monthly meetings to be held approximately two weeks prior to the regularly-scheduled Executive Board meetings and attended by at least one PTU representative from each building. The monthly general membership meetings will rotate regularly between campuses and continue across the current school year.

Voting YES: 12

Colwell Deady LaBash Lanzillotti Marter Medina Moss O'Connor Pijut Skoupas Soto Stompor

Voting NO: 0

Abstaining: 0

VII. Committee Updates

A. New Teacher Committee

1. Meetings targeted to new teachers, though all are welcome to attend.
2. Opportunity earn CPU credits.
3. Next meeting to review required applications (e.g., Schoology, Power School, etc.)

B. Election Committee

1. Recent Building Rep Elections
 - a. Certified by committee member Janet Konstant.
 - b. Teacher confusion over paper v. electronic balloting.
- B. Need to Schedule Future Elections
 - a. Building representatives.
 - b. Negotiation team.

VIII. Closed Session (5:47-6:23)

IX. Reports

A. Treasurer

On file.

B. President

Different items addressed throughout the meeting.

C. Building Representatives

1. Proviso East

- a. Impact of excess class sizes (e.g., crowded classrooms and lack of desks)
- b. Changes to administration.
- c. PSAT testing irregularities.
- d. Non-compliance with SPED protocols.
 - i. Skewed ratio of regular and special education students.
 - ii. Missing and uncommunicated accommodations.
 - iii. ISBE to investigate conditions at D209.

2. Proviso West

- a. Teacher suspensions and termination.
- b. Working Conditions
 - i. Supervision of students during duty period.
 - ii. Teachers compelled to substitute.
 - iii. Lacking contracts for sixth assignments and sponsorships.
- c. Learning Conditions
 - i. Chaotic hallways.
 - ii. Overcrowded classrooms.
 - iii. Lack of teachers in co-taught course.
 - iv. Mismanagement of all-school testing.

3. PMSA

- a. Members feel compelled to participate in New Teachers Committee training.

X. Adjourn (6:43)

Meeting Notes:

Facing repeated contract violations as well as suspension and termination of tenured staff, rank-and-file PTU members are nervous. Recommendation for press conferences to address and state investigate of our Superintendent and Board of Education.

(Neal Rutstein - PTU Member Comments)

PTU not doing enough to defend members especially those recently suspended and terminated. Note the dishonesty with which Superintendent handled disciplinary procedure and other negotiations. Recommends communicating directly with the community and press.

(Laura Gray - PTU Member Comments)

Noting that many staff were unaware of recent suspension and termination of teachers, PTU needs to better communicate problems to members.

(Danielle English - PTU Member Comments)

To protect confidentiality of teachers involved, details of ongoing disciplinary hearing are not communicated with general membership.

(John Wardisiani - PTU Member Comments)

Need for better communication and more assertive PTU response(s) to district mismanagement, including access to local media and (with permission of affected members) sharing experiences with and updates on disciplinary procedures. Need for PTU support as teachers "walking on eggshells" and afraid to speak out. Praise for Soto.

(Charlotte Grady - PTU Member Comments)

Need keep membership updated with new and ongoing disciplinary steps against teachers. Current responses by PTU to teacher discipline need to change.

(Adenike Natzchke - PTU Member Comments)

Need keep ahead of Henderson by improving PTU communication, timing and aggressiveness. Involve the collective body of members. Seek alternative representation if IFT is unable to meet needs of Proviso teachers.

(Quiana Patton - PTU Member Comments)

Discussed the exceptionally problematic situation at Proviso West, noting that all teachers should be concerned as tenured staff are being disciplined. Asks what legal steps can be taken against the Superintendent.

(Angda Goel - PTU Member Comments)

Asks that PTU present a monthly report in response to problems faced by members. Suggests the need for a Communications Committee and revised Proviso Teachers Care page. Worries about the lack of open support shown for Soto and the overwhelming number of female members targeted by the district for discipline. Need for outside legal counsel. Requests vote of confidence taken and shared with community.

(Carissa Gillespie - PTU Member Comments)

Notes that Counseling Department is understaffed and members tasked with work otherwise divided among various roles (e.g., post-secondary coach, testing facilitator, etc.)

(Connie Paprocki - PTU Member Comments)

Need to seek outside legal counsel to better protect dues-paying PTU members.

(Earnest Horton - PTU Member Comments)

Support for new and non-tenured staff not coming from district. Need for PTU to offer supports, including contacts for specific questions/issues.

(Amanda Willner - PTU Member Comments)

O'Connor notes that Executive Board meetings must be held in-person as this is established practice. Colwell notes that dual platform meetings (in-person and on-line) are simply impractical. Soto motions for vote on in person meetings.

(Executive Board Tasks - Clarification of Procedure / Executive Board Attendance)

O'Connor notes that Executive Board meetings must be held in-person as this is established practice. Colwell notes that dual platform meetings (in-person and on-line) are simply impractical. Soto motions for vote on in person meetings.

(Executive Board Tasks - Clarification of Procedure / Executive Board Attendance)

Wardisiani suggests that past practice includes the PTU President voting while Pijut notes that the PTU President should vote so that the board knows where he/she stands on issues. Partly for various editions of PTU By-Laws circulating among members, causes confusion in discussion, item tabled.

(Executive Board Tasks - Clarification of Procedure / President's Vote)

Fearing erasure, members may save/forward district email communication to personal accounts for purpose of documentation.

(Reports – Building Representatives / West)