

2015-2016 VAFEPA BOARD RETREAT Notes

April 15, 2016 – Board Retreat – Amherst, Virginia

New contact for Hilton Short Pump:

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Those in Attendance: Gail Jones, Ernestine Scott, Linda Rector, Carl McDaniel, Valdivia Hall, Pat Popp, Gabie Frazier, Wilbert Ware, Val Gooss, Raye Rector, Carolyn Taylor, Deborah Siekirski, Megan Moore, Marymargaret Cardwell, Sandra McKenzie, Pamela Eakes and Chip Jones.

Welcome and Introductions: The meeting was opened by Gail Jones. Welcome and introductions were made to all. Retreat folders were available to those in attendance. The following documents were provided:

- VAFEPA Board *Retreat* Agenda and April *Board Meeting* Agenda
- Treasurer Report (February and April) - copies provided by Carl McDaniel
- February Board Minutes
- Proposed 2016-2017 VAFEPA Board Meeting Dates/Times
- States Represented within NAFEPA
- NAFEPA Membership by group
- New Membership Increase +

Icebreaker: An icebreaker was conducted (Skittles – Getting to Know You).

Overview of NAFEPA/VAFEPA Organization: An overview of the VAFEPA and NAFEPA organization were discussed. A PowerPoint describing how VAFEPA falls under NAFEPA as our parent organization. Overview on NAFEPA went into discussing nationwide membership by state and the growth made since 2014. Each state with five (5) current members has a representative on the Board, but states with more than 100 members have two representatives like Virginia. VAFEPA group's focus was discussed along with strategic committees that make up VAFEPA. (Nominating/Elections, Bylaws, Conference, Finance/Audit and Awards/Scholarships). Points that VAFEPA should be focused on are:

- “*Growth*” focuses on Membership Increase - Each state representative to the NAFEPA Board of Directors has a primary responsibility for membership support and outreach, and to increase membership in NAFEPA
- “*Outreach*” focuses on the VAFEPA Website and Award/Scholarship Committee
- “*Organization Operations*” focuses on Budget Committee and Bylaw Committee
- “*Conference*” focuses where planning and discussion for the annual conference

State of Organization: VAFEPA

Advancements since last year:

- New Logo
- Switched conference location to Richmond from Roanoke
- VAFEPA website has been redesigned
- Increase of conference attendance – Doubled since last year

- Scholarship winners - In 2015, Virginia had 1 out of 3 winners. In 2016 Virginia had 2 out of 3 winners, nationally.
- Established Board Retreat in April
- All board seats are filled. In October 2014, there were 8 vacancies on the Board.

NAFEPA Report: It was reported that Dr. John King is the new Secretary of Education. Gail Jones had just gotten back from the Spring NAFEPA Conference where ESSA (Every Student Succeeds Act) was discussed. Currently high school graduation rates (82% Graduation Rate – Highest in 7 years) are at all-time highs. More students are going to college than ever before. Two big provisions were in regards to Preschool and College. Preschool is for ALL students. Health and dental clinics on site. ESSA is in the planning stages for 2016-2017. 2017-2018 implementation of program will be put into place. Interventions and Professional Development for teachers with influx wrap around services.

21th Annual VAFEPA Conference Layout: The theme of the conference for 2016-2017 was agreed by all to be “**Advancing Equity and Excellence to Create Possibilities**”. The following items were discussed in detail:

- **Location of Vendors** – in or out of ballroom. Suggested that vendors be given a choice. Bingo Card seems to be a success and will be continued.
- **SAVE THE DATE** – Imperative that information gets out to the regions. Needs to be posted on the website. Prices will remain the same as last year. Discussion regarding if presenters pay to attend conference. No decision was reached.

2015 REGISTRATION FEES:

EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION – (PRIOR TO SEPTEMBER 18, 2015)

FULL REGISTRATION **\$275.00**

1 DAY REGISTRATION **\$195.00**

FULL REGISTRATION – (AFTER SEPTEMBER 18, 2015)

FULL REGISTRATION **\$325.00**

1 DAY REGISTRATION **\$225.00**

Last day for registration is: OCTOBER 2, 2015

- **Hotel** – Request was made to hotel to change dates to avoid Columbus Day. If done VAFEPA would incur a cost of \$6,700.00 per day. It was agreed by all to hold fast to the dates that were previously set. The number of rooms need to be reduced from 200 to 100.
- **VDOE (Virginia Department of Education)**
 - ✓ Request 3-3.5 hours. They will offer Administrative and Instructional Strands. They could perhaps be in one big room. Not with vendors.
 - ✓ Funds request from VDOE. Ernestine asked who to request funding source from.
 - ✓ Gabie Frazier said to address letter to her for request for funds. Last year VAFEPA requested \$15,000 and received it.
- **Conference Survey (Survey Monkey)** – Carl was asked to continue providing this service.
- **Vendors** – Wilbert Ware agreed to continue working with the Vendors.
- **Bags for Conference** – Cost last year was for 150 bags - \$1,281.00.
- **Speakers:**
 - ✓ More focus will be on acquiring local, regional and state level talent
 - ✓ It was stressed that we positively **do not** want to overspend this year
 - ✓ No cost speakers are to be solicited. Several recommendations were given
 - ✓ Gabie Frazier recommended: Radford City – Ellen Denity (Read & Roll) K-2

- ✓ Chip Jones recommended: Harrisonburg Specialist
- ✓ Beth Estill was recommended. Ernestine will contact immediately to verify her ability to speak
- **Lunch** would continue to be served in the hallway
- **Acknowledgement of (2) National Scholarship winners**
 - Elizabeth Woods** of Radford, Virginia – Stanley J. McFarland Scholarship
Currently attending Radford High School. Plans to go into Education.
 - Courtney Bishop** of Blackstone, Virginia – John A. Pfaff Scholarship
Currently attending Nottaway High School.
- **National Distinguished Schools (2)** should be invited to participate.
- **Conference Meeting:** Ernestine Scott will set a conference call to discuss other items.

Committees: Gail Jones outlined the committees as described by VAFEPA Bylaws. She encouraged everyone to sign up for a committee.

- **Nominating and Elections:** Linda Rector
- **Conference:** Ernestine Scott
- **Budget and Audit:** Carl McDaniel
 - Treasurer Reports
 - Conference Evaluation
 - Audit Report
 - Membership
- **Awards:** Jennifer Hurt
 - Scholarship Committee
 - NAFEPA State Leadership Awards Committee
 - George Irby Awards Committee
- **Bylaws:**
- **Legislative/Archives:** Marymargaret Cardwell and Wilbert Ware

Networking Lunch: Gail thanked Marymargaret for arranging for the facility, lunch, providing snacks and drinks.

Wrap Up and Quesitons: Gail Jones thanked everyone for their attendance and input.

Adjourn: The Annual Retreat Meeting was adjourned and the April VAFEPA Board Meeting was called to order.

Upcoming Meeting Dates: **May 13, 2016 & June 10, 2016**