



NORTH AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF EDUCATIONAL NEGOTIATORS

BULLETIN

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In Search of an Oasis

The NAEN Annual Conference—March 7-10, 2010

President's Message, Steven Talsky

I re-wrote this newsletter because of the phenomenon I witnessed today and the message it drove home to me about our need as labour relations practioners to think and network with each other globally. Our Board of Education Building is attached to a City Hall building. Every fall the public health unit runs flu vaccine clinics as health care is covered under government plans in Canada. Vaccination clinics run by public health are a cost effective way to deliver services. I have often picked a lull time with no waiting to get my shot when going to or coming from a meeting. I think the worst I have ever seen is maybe 50 people in line during a busy time. Today, I came back from a meeting to find the line was a thousand people long lined up into the public city hall square with a five hour wait to get the H1N1 vaccine. We are in an ever increasing global reality and our education system and the way that we operate within it must grow to recognize these realities. "My Board had a pandemic plan posted on its website." When I started teaching I would have said "what's a website and what's a pandemic plan?" 2010 is both exciting and challenging.

2010 will see the city of Vancouver and the Province of British Columbia host the Winter Olympics. NAEN will be hosting its annual Olympics so to speak in Scottsdale, Arizona. Our Committee Chair Michael Weinert and Executive Director Ron Wilson have put together an amazing program to support us through these challenging times. You will truly find an oasis of knowledge and strategies to reflect upon under the breeze of the palm trees. These are four days for us to gather the tribes of our negotiators in the oasis to share our beliefs and work in the past year. To talk, explore and look at our future plans. It is a time for us to vision and create.

We have as keynote speakers:
Charles P. Rose, General Counsel for the United States Department of Education
Terry Moe on *Power, Politics, and Teacher Unions*



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The mission of NAEN is to improve the knowledge and performance of school management negotiators by advancing their professional status, providing a forum of effective communication, and encourage information exchanges among educational negotiators.

President's message, continued from page 1

Daniel Weisberg on *Coming to Grips with the Widget Effect in Teacher Evaluation*

Randy Harvey, *Bargaining Body Speak: The Un-Spoken Truth at the Bargaining Table*

In addition, there is the usual excellent selection of pre-conference and conference workshops. I urge you to consult the NAEN website for the conference brochure.

If you have never been to a NAEN conference, I urge you to consult a member in your province or state who has attended or contact me at steven.talsky@tdsb.on.ca. Your colleague can tell you about the benefits and empowerment that comes out of attending our annual conference.

Please consider booking for the conference as soon as possible. You will notice from the upgraded website that the registration can be completed on-line.

NAEN ACTIVITIES

- Ron Wilson has continued to update and improve our website and communications network to serve the membership. You will find many useful articles, reports, and research projects on the website.
- The Board of Directors met on October 2 and 3, 2009. Minutes are provided in the Annual Meeting Report and will be posted.
- I invite you to submit articles for our newsletter or postings that can be shared on our website.



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North American Association of Educational Negotiators
PO Box 1068, Salem, Oregon 97308
503-588-2800; fax 503-588-2813; www.naen.org

Ron Wilson—Executive Director execdir@naen.org

Josie Hummert—Administrative Assistant

Judy Bennett—Graphic Design

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Toronto District School Board—
Ontario
steven.talsky@tdsb.on.ca

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Ontario
michael_weinert@wrdsb.on.ca

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Nebraska
gerry.huber@ops.org

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National School Boards Association—
Alexandria, Virginia
lsoronen@nsba.org

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Portland, Maine
achapman@dwmlaw.com

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Oregon School Boards Association—
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lfreiley@osba.org

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Farmington, Minnesota
lgoers@farmington.k12.mn.us

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Minnetonka Public Schools
Minnetonka, Minnesota
tim.alexander@minnetonka.k12.mn.us

Director—Patty Gallagher

Penfield Central School District—
Penfield, New York
Patricia_Gallagher@openfield.monroe.edu

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Mars Area School District—
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grewdr@hotmail.com

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Scariano Himes & Petrarca—
Chicago, Illinois
jpetrarca@edlawyer.com