

Minutes of Teachers' Forum meeting
April 15, 2010
District Office

- I. The meeting was called to order at 1:30 pm. Members were welcomed and thanked for their presence. A list of the new TOYs was presented.
- II. The 2010 TOY Banquet details were finalized. The banquet will be held on Thursday, May 20 at 6 PM at The Shiloh United Methodist Church in Chesterfield. All members are submitting photos and quotes about their school's TOY for a slide presentation. Each Forum member is asking his or her school for a \$50.00 donation for the banquet expenses. Any expenditures must be presented through a special account at DO. J. Powers is the contact person.
- III. Voter Registration: Members are encouraging voter registration at each school. Information to post for this campaign is available at scvotes.org. Members were encouraged to be sensitive to faculty and staff about this issue and reminded to encourage registration only, not to make any indication about specific voting preference.
- IV. R. Cato reported on her participation at the Enough is Enough Rally in Columbia on Wed. the 14th. A major focus at this rally was voter registration also. Another focus was the current economic crisis and how the current tax system has affected funding in education. With the current exemptions in place and revenue generation depending on sales tax, education funding is seeing cuts of approximately \$585 million (and counting) since 2006.
- V. Budget discussion: Questions and concerns were compiled by members and discussed among the Forum and then again with Dr. Williams. Teacher Forum members' major concern during this discussion was teacher quality. Various budget issues were discussed, including short and long range financial and instructional planning, working retiree policy, support systems to address the changes we may see as a result of the cuts in positions, scheduling (4 day work week), and bond money usage. A copy of sample concerns and questions was given to Dr. Williams.
- VI. The next meeting of the Teacher Forum will be a called meeting to be held before the Board of Education meeting scheduled for May 10th. Members will be notified.