Soon the waiting game of who’s going to be in the management office of CPS will come to an end. If you’ve had the opportunity, and most of us haven’t, to keep up with the growing list of names being floated to fill the top, your head should be spinning. Right now no one really knows, maybe not even Mayor-elect Emanuel, who should or could take on the third-largest school district in the nation. After our recent series of leaders, most being surprises to everyone, I hope a serious and thoughtful process is taking place to select someone of real educational talent and vision. Someone who operates beyond catch-phrase accountability measures to structure an organization that helps and supports the hard work we all do.

Those of us at the last CPAA General Membership dinner were fortunate enough to have a small window of opportunity to listen and ask questions of the interim Chief Education Officer Charles Payne. It was truly refreshing to hear someone who knows so much about education and the social/emotional dynamics that interact and sometimes derail educational achievement. By some wizardry or blind good luck, we have an interim CEO team in place that most school districts can only dream of. Mr. Mazany is that rare combination of educator and business collaborator, and Mr. Payne is a sociologist who has studied, written about and worked broadly in urban education. They are both aware of what it takes to survive and thrive in today’s urban educational minefields. It’s long past time to have education take center stage again in the upper echelons of CPS. Perhaps our collective wish will come true. Keep hoping!

Speaking of explosive territory, the surprise list of school consolidations and phase-outs caught all of us off guard. My remarks to the media who called for a reaction from CPAA was to label the CPS announcement an “end-run” around expected legislation addressing CPS’ current “non-existent” facilities plan. From time-to-time there were articles in *The Lamp* about the year-long Chicago Educational Facilities Task Force meetings to study and make legislative recommendations on CPS facility decisions. The Task Force has completed its work and has recommendations for possible State Legislation to set standards for how CPS will conduct all future facility decisions. It has been evident for years that transparency and collaboration have not been the benchmarks used by CPS to inform its current or previous actions related to school facility decisions. A special public hearing of the CEFTF is slated to hear directly from the schools unexpectedly caught in this latest round of consolidations. CPAA has a seat on the CEFTF as specified in SB363, along with CTU, State Representatives, State Senators and several community groups. Clearly, we were not premature in seeking solutions to these continuing school and community upheavals. We will provide information as this important legislative initiative goes forth in our state capitol.
March Governing Board Meeting Report

March 14, 2011

The CPAA Governing Board met on Monday, March 14, 2011.

Executive Board Members Present – Clarice Berry, Everett Edwards II, Gloria Espinosa, Brenetta Glass, Elba Plúas

Governing Board Members Present – Virginia Rivera, Guadalupe Gonzalez, Serena Peterson, Efren Toledo, Senalda Grady, Ana Espinosa, David Peterson, Sandra Givens, Jacqueline Robinson

CPAA Staff Present – William Quinlan

Call To Order – President Clarice Berry called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Minutes Of Previous Meeting – Clarice Berry asked for a motion to accept January 3, 2011 minutes as written. Motion was seconded.

Treasurer’s Report – Treasurer’s Report was read by Gloria Espinosa. Virginia Rivera moved to accept the Treasurer’s Report and the Report was seconded by Sandra Givens.

Membership Report – Membership Report read by Gloria Espinosa. Serena Peterson moved to accept the Membership Report. Motion was seconded by David Peterson.

President’s Report – March 18, 2011: Last day to sign up for the PEP.

In 1973 our Pension was 104% funded; it is now 67% funded. We had the best funded Pension Plan until the Pension fund changed with no alert and no fight.

The State owes the Chicago Teachers’ Pension fund $350 million. There are going to be significant cuts in the Budget.

If you plan to retire within the next four years, your furlough days have to be taken together within the same pay period. If you are retiring in 2011 or 2012, you do not have to take furlough days.

Motions from Auxiliaries

Auxiliary VII – A motion was made by Ana Espinosa that CPAA, as representative of principals and administrators, take a more proactive role and recommend candidates to take leadership roles at the Board. The motion was seconded by Gloria Espinosa. Discussion followed. It was agreed that the resumes' of prospective candidates be gathered by auxiliary presidents. These resumes' would be collected by John Butterfield who would...
give them to President Berry. The president would then bring them to the CPAA Board for approval. This motion was approved.

**Auxiliary XVI** — A motion was made by David Peterson to request the Governing Board to support a change of the CPAA Constitution and by-laws to provide for the inclusion of a Retired Vice President on the Executive Board. The motion was seconded by Efren Toledo. Discussion followed. In the midst of the discussion, a board member left the meeting and the quorum was lost. The discussion was ended.

**Committee Reports and Meetings**
There were no reports.

**Old Business**
None.

**New Business**
None.

Submitted by Brenetta V. Glass, Secretary

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**CPS Student Science Fair**

The winners for the Chicago Public Schools Student Science Fair were announced on March 27, 2011, and held at the Museum of Science and Industry as listed below:

Five $100 gift cards were awarded for the winning elementary school students as follows:

**Behavioral Science**
- **Stevie Rodriguez**, Pasteur Elementary
  “The Accuracy of Horoscopes”

**Environmental Science**
- **Diego Gonzalez**, Talcott Elementary
  “More Power to Ya!”

**Biochemistry**
- **Ariel Jordan-Zamora**, Waters Elementary
  “DNA Extraction and Chlorine CSI Cover Up”

**Chemistry**
- **Evan Kalaw**, Beaubien Elementary
  “Can or Can’t—Ola II”

Five $100 gift cards were awarded for the winning high school students as follows:

**Behavioral Science**
- **Humu Issifu**, King Magnet High
  “Color Bias”

**Biochemistry**
- **Omar Roberts**, Williams High
  “Functional Consequences Mutating ASK-1”

**Zoology**
- **Paige Pohlad**, Whitney Young High
  “Effect of Acetaminophen on Planarian Worms”

**Environmental Science**
- **Marcellis Davis**, Hyde Park High
  “A Straight Flush”

**Mathematics**
- **Raul Alamo** and **Raymond Solano**, Yates Elementary
  “Battle of the Parabolas”

These science exhibits are of the highest quality and they represent effective motivation of principals and teachers in schools for students to achieve their best. We also thank the parents for their important role in motivating our students. Congratulations to all the winners from the Chicago Principals & Administrators Association. We wish each of you the best of success in your future educational pursuits.

Submitted by Walter Pilditch

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**Member News**

**Condolences** — Catherine Wells, Principal of Farnsworth Elementary School, passed away on March 21, 2011.

**Board Action** — At the February 2011 Chicago Board of Education Meeting, the following Principal Contracts were approved: **Olimpia Bahena**, Talcott Elementary School; **Rufina Brown**, Parker Elementary School; **Jacqueline Medina**, Talman Elementary; **Lisa Moreno**, Shoop Elementary School; **Evelyn Roman**, Logandale Middle School; **Gilberto Sanchez**, North River Elementary School.

**54th Annual Education Conference Evaluation Survey** — We’d like to thank everyone who completed an evaluation survey for this year’s Annual Education Conference. Your responses will help us to improve the planning program for years to come. We would also like to congratulate **Lillie P. Alfred**, Assistant Principal of Langford Community Academy, and **Marian Strok**, Principal of Evergreen Academy, whose names were each drawn as winners of a $50 American Express Gift Card.
The furlough days are the number-one topic of conversation presently so let me tell you what I know. I’ll preface what I write by informing you that a joint CPS/CPAA letter is coming out to all of you. It will spell out in detail all of the particulars surrounding furlough days. It should be in the mail as I write this.

President Clarice Berry has had a number of impassioned discussions with CEO Mazany concerning the furlough days. She pointed out numerous reasons why they should have not been given—symbolic impact only on the budget and morale killer to name but two. While the CEO agreed with us in spirit, he would not reverse what had been done. He didn’t feel that he could reopen the 2010/2011 budget. CEO Mazany did agree, however, to other suggestions that were offered. He promised that there would be no furlough days in the 2012 school year. He also agreed that anyone signed up for the Pension Enhancement Plan (PEP) for June 2011 or June 2012 would not have to take furlough days.

The CPAA President also worked out an arrangement with the Chicago Teachers’ Pension Fund for those anticipating retirement in June of 2013 or June of 2014. If they took the furlough days in succession, the effect on their pensions when they retire would be minimal. The official deadline for taking furlough days is extended to June 30th. We’ll keep you posted.

Our final request was to give each school the option of having Breakfast In The Classroom. CPS said all would do it—first elementary and eventually secondary. I relate this to you as an example—although unsuccessful—of your organization asking the pertinent questions on your behalf. We have done this and will continue to do so on issues as they arise. I have a strong feeling that the Board has not heard the last on this policy, especially since allegations have been made that it was put in place to make money for CPS. Stay tuned.

An educational aside: I have been exclusively a secondary education person during my career in CPS, so I was shocked to find out during this Whittier School library issue that approximately 160 of the 500 elementary schools in the city do not have libraries. Isn’t a library an accreditation issue? How can we be teaching reading if the children in the city do not have libraries? Isn’t a library accreditation issue?

The CPAA had its bi-monthly General Membership Meeting on Monday evening, March 21, 2011, at the Galleria Marchetti. We were favored with remarks by our new Chief Education Officer Dr. Charles Payne. He outlined his general educational ideas for Chicago with a special emphasis on the need for full-day, quality preschool education for all of the children in the city. Dr. Payne spoke for almost an hour and then entertained questions from the audience. It was an enjoyable and informative evening for the fifty-plus in attendance. We’d like to double that number at our next outing on May 24th. Please mark your calendars.

Spring Vacation will soon be here; it’s my hope that warm spring weather will ride in with it – or sooner. Please give yourself the opportunity during that time of doing nothing. See a silly action movie that you would be ashamed to tell others about; read a trashy novel of no redeeming social value. Have a cool one – or more. Enjoy yourself as you recharge your batteries for the final push. The end is near! (No, not THAT one.)
Photos from the March 21, 2011 General Membership Meeting with special speaker Chief Education Officer Charles M. Payne.
The latest Auxiliary XVI meeting was held on March 16 in the 6th floor conference room of the 20 N. Wacker Drive building, new location of the CPAA offices. Twenty-one retired members were present. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be in a new location at 9:30 AM on April 12 in the RTAC conference room at 20 East Jackson Blvd., 15th floor.

The guest speaker at the meeting was Clarice Berry, President of the Association. She made an informative presentation about many issues facing the CPAA members, active and retired. She began with an update on the findings of the Illinois General Assembly’s Chicago Educational Facilities Task Force co-chaired by State Representative Cynthia Soto and Senator Heather Steans. Ms. Berry is a member of the task force. There will be a presentation of the findings to the legislature in the near future. You can read them on the CPAA website, www.myCPAA.org. It is anticipated that the task force will move to see its recommendations become a bill, which may result in a fight led by the CPS and the city. The task force seeks the bill to force the CPS to develop a transparent master facilities plan and budget to address the awarding of building repairs and construction as well as the reaching of decisions to close schools.

There is a feeling that HB3427, sponsored by two Republican representatives, won’t come out of committee. The bill seeks to curtail what is pensionable. As has been reported, Senate President Cullerton has circulated a 90-page report indicating that it is unconstitutional to curtail the benefits of those now in service.

Dueling bills on education are surfacing from business and education forces. Performance Counts legislation seeks to curtail CTU bargaining. Race to the Top includes the requirement that student achievement be used for 50% of an evaluation. “Incompetence” is declared when one has two or more unsatisfactory evaluations within a seven-year period. Incompetence leads to the permanent revocation of one’s educational certificate(s).

To be kept up-to-date on pension-related legislation, you should register your current e-mail address at www.ctpf.org. Registered users receive e-mail updates and CTPF E-Lerts with timely information about pending pension legislation.

There is no current change in the Principal Eligibility process. The State is developing a new system. Through Clarice’s work, all current Principals and Assistant Principals will be grandfathered into the new certificates.

Furlough days are still under negotiations. It seems that the resolution will be a compromise: Those who will retire in June 2011 or 2012 will be exempt from having to take any days this year. Those who will retire in June 2013 or 2014 will take 6 days this year in a block time period, and it will result in their pensions being reduced by about $50 a year. Those who will retire after 2014 will take their days as they desire, not necessarily in a 6-day block. The CEO has indicated that next year’s budget will not include furlough provisions. It all seems to be symbolic (political) as they do not really result in a savings for the CPS.

There seems to be a greater effort than ever for the CPAA to work with RTAC and the Pension Board to address pension issues. Clarice asks all pensioners to visit, write, e-mail, and/or call their legislators about the moves to tax or reduce pension and health benefits. The 10,000 RTAC members and the 700 retired CPA members is a formidable group that can be effective in getting the word to those deciding on our future. It is important that the messages get to the legislators BEFORE they take any action on bills addressing our concerns. We have been informed that a personal visit by a constituent carries as much weight as 50+ e-mails or phone messages (if you can get through); a personal letter carries as much weight as 20+ form letters. But, do express your opinion to your legislators and the legislative leaders. To be kept up-to-date with information about legislative actions, you should be an RTAC member and belong to RTAC-Alert. If you have not yet signed on to receive RTAC-Alert messages, you can do so by calling RTAC at 312-939-3327 and giving them your e-mail address and they’ll add you to the system.

Mayor-elect Emanuel’s education plan includes the doing away with AP positions and replacing them with community service personnel.

The CPAA has settled with the 221 N. Wacker building. It cost the CPAA $175,000 to vacate its lease there.

Contributing to the drop in CPAA membership is the fact that many administrators and principals are fearful of repercussions for speaking out on issues. In addition, many of the newer principals are hired by charter schools or come from programs such as New Leaders or the University of Illinois program, which are not supportive of the CPAA.

As stated above, Clarice’s presentation and response to questions was very informative.

HB4582 came out of committee but failed in the House. It proposed that the state give to the Chicago Teachers Pension Fund an annual amount equal to 20% of that which it grants to the (suburban and downstate) Teachers Retirement System. For your information and
for your consideration when next voting for state legislators, you may want to check to see how your representative voted on this bill. Go to the RTAC website, www.rtac.org, click on Illinois in the Legislation and lobby box, and then scroll down to HB4582 and click on the See House vote link.

Clarice will be discussing with the CEO the concern of a previous Auxiliary XVI motion: that the President question the CPS as to whether all for whom they are making contributions to the Pension Board are appropriate, as it seems that some that are included may not meet the requirements for being included in (and later drawing benefits from) the CTPF system.

The Retired Principals and Superintendents group has scheduled its Spring Luncheon Meeting for May 12. Due to the closing of the previous location restaurant, this lunch meeting will be held at The Firehouse Restaurant, 1401 S. Michigan Ave., at 12:00 noon. Dues and reservations should be sent to MaryAnn at 10549 Thornham Ln., Mokena, IL 60448. For more information contact her at 708-478-3019.

We are sorry to report of the passing of our colleagues: Retired Principals: James D. Burke, 92 years old, died Feb. 19, Sexton; Nora Malloy, 70 years old, died Feb. 11, Frazier; Mary Perrin, 94 years old, died Feb. 16, Richards Voc. H.S.; Louis Sigalos, 90 years old, died Feb. 9, Peabody; and June Zeitler, 81 years old, died Feb. 2, Stewart. Retired Assistant Principal John C. O’Gorman, 84 years old, died Feb. 11, Clissold. Louise Daugherty, 94 years old, died March 7, Burke Elem., Principal then assistant superintendent for special education. (I remember Louise for her work at Bowen Country Club, the Hull House summer camp at which we both worked in the 1950s, and was surprised to see that she was one of the panel members on my orals board when I took the principal’s exam in 1967.)

Though she never retired, Catherine Wells, active principal of Farnsworth School for 38 years, passed on March 21. During her long service as a teacher and principal, Catherine was a friend to many who served in District/Area 1.

May the approaching spring bring a life that’s as refreshing as the newly blooming flowers.

Send your news about retired members or the activities of retired members’ groups to Art Fumarolo; aafumarolo@class.cps.k12.il.us or 847-289-7847.

Auxiliary Meetings

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<td>Jacqueline Robinson</td>
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<td>Mi Tierra</td>
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<td>773-535-0457</td>
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<td>Chris Jones</td>
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Upcoming Meeting

Chicago Board of Education Monthly Meeting
Wednesday, April 27, 2011
Board Chambers 125 S. Clark St.
Registration 8:00–9:00 AM
Public Participation 10:30 AM–12:30 PM
Who wouldn’t love their retirement plan to have a little kick to it?

It’s time you learned Your Number.

Your Number. It’s the amount of money you’ll need to save to retire the way you want. Visit INGyournumber.com today to calculate yours.

Fern E. Shackelford
Registered Representative
2525 Cabot Drive, Suite 100
Lisle, IL 60532
630-245-4031
fern.shackelford@us.ing.com

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Proposed State Appropriation Cuts CTPF Funding 68%

The State of Illinois is on the verge of passing an appropriation bill which woefully underfunds the Chicago Teachers' Pension Fund.

Illinois House Speaker Michael J. Madigan filed an amendment to [Illinois House Bill 3639](#) which further cuts CTPF funding to $10.4 million while providing more than $2.5 billion in funding for the downstate Teachers' Retirement System. Read the full text of the amendment [here](#).

An Unsustainable Pattern

In 2010, the State cut CTPF funding by 50% to $32.5 million. Today, the State is proposing an additional 68% cut in CTPF funding, an 85% reduction in funding from 2009 levels.

"The state cannot continue to ignore its obligations to Chicago's teachers. Legislators should uphold their stated goal of funding CTPF at a rate of between 20 and 30% of the monies allocated to the downstate (TRS) system instead

**Important Contact Information**

**Governor**
Pat Quinn  
*Springfield Office*
207 State House  
Springfield, IL 62706  
217-782-0244 phone  
888.261.3336 TTY

**Chicago Office**
Thompson Center  
100 W. Randolph, 16-100  
Chicago, IL 60601  
312-814-2121 phone

**Senate President**
John J. Cullerton  
*Springfield Office*
327 Capitol Building  
Springfield, IL 62706  
(217) 782-2728 phone  
(217) 782-3242 fax

**District Office**
4237 N. Lincoln Avenue
of further cutting our revenue," remarked Kevin B. Huber, executive director, CTPF. "This bill funds CTPF at less than .05% of what TRS will receive. This simply isn't fair to Chicago's teachers or taxpayers. It has to be fixed."

**Act Quickly**

CTPF encourages all members to act quickly. Write, call, or e-mail Governor Quinn, Senate President Cullerton, Speaker Madigan, bill sponsor Representative William Davis, and Kevin McCarthy, chair, Personnel and Pensions Committee, to demand that funding for CTPF be restored. The bill will be heard on Wednesday, March 30, at 8:30 a.m.

**ACTION ITEMS**

1. [Write, call, or e-mail](#) Governor Quinn, Speaker Madigan, Senate President Cullerton, bill sponsor Representative William Davis, and Kevin McCarthy, chair, House Personnel and Pensions Committee to demand that funding for CTPF be restored.

2. Encourage your legislators to uphold their promise to Chicago's teachers by supporting [House Bill 1544](#) which requires the state to fund CTPF at a rate equal to 20% of the funding allocated to the downstate system, TRS. This bill recently moved out of committee but faces an uphill battle. Lend your support to this critical legislation.

3. Forward this e-mail to fellow CTPF members and encourage them to register for e-mail updates and alerts at [www.ctpf.org](http://www.ctpf.org).
The Network of Hispanic Administrators in Education is an organization consisting of school administrators committed to quality and equity in education for Hispanic students.

We cordially invite you to attend our Fourteenth Annual Banquet to honor our distinguished NHAЕ Retirees and our NHAЕ student award scholarships.

**Fourteenth Annual Banquet**

**Honoring retirees, and**

**NHAЕ Scholarship Awards**

**Friday, May 20, 2011**

- 5:30 p.m. Cocktail Hour-Cash Bar
- 6:15 p.m. Dinner
- 7:00 p.m. Program
- 8:00 p.m. Live Entertainment and Dancing

**Chicago Marriott Downtown Hotel**

**540 N. Michigan Avenue**

**Chicago, IL 60611**

Tickets: $70 each. $65.00 if purchase before April 30, 2011

payable to N.H.A.E. c/o Antonio Acevedo

1613 South Michigan

Chicago, IL. 60603

For more information contact:

The NHAЕ Executive Board

President Gloria Espinosa Rec. Secretary Luz Maria Solis

Vice President Ana Espinoza Cor. Secretary Maria Freese

Treasurer Antonio Acevedo Telephone 312-360-1100 Ext. 34

A portion of the proceeds will go to NHAЕ Scholarships