

WA-WMEA Executive Board Meeting

Minutes from January 8, 2008

Executive Board Present: Beth Ludeman, Greg Wall, Maureen Marek, Nancy Nienhuis, Peg Oberbeck, Angela Bina, Lynn Herbst, Sandy Nass, Chris Morrissey, Julie Stringer, Lynn Malloy, Chad Lehman, Jeff Sikich, Linda Wamboldt

Guest: Linda Weaver, WSC President

Meeting called to order by President Ludeman at 4:51 PM

Minutes from the December 5, 2007 Executive Board Meeting were accepted as printed.

President Ludeman

- Beth asked all members of the Executive Board to establish some goals for the remainder of the academic year. She asked those who did not submit written reports to address the Exec Board with those goals.
- There are three candidates for the three seats open on the WA-WM Board of Education, which indicates there will not be a primary in February; this type of scenario also often results in the candidates declining to run elaborated campaigns. Historically, this has typically meant that the candidates have not asked for the endorsement or financial backing of our Association. We had a discussion at the Executive Board meeting to discuss the protocol for this election cycle as our new PA/Legislative Director transitions into her role.
- Linda Wamboldt, Greg Wall, Lynn Herbst, Nancy Nienhuis and Beth will be representing the WA-WMEA to the NEA Midwest Regional Leadership Conference in Minneapolis January 18-20. West Suburban Council was instrumental in providing three scholarships for registration for our delegation.
- Beth will be co-facilitating an abbreviated "I Can Do It!" training for Initial Educators in South Milwaukee on Monday, January 14th.
- Joan Delaney attended the Exec Board Meeting and plans to attend the RA meeting this week to discuss the District's restructuring plans with the Association. In the interest of honoring Joan's time, Beth asked that the agenda be adopted with flexibility so she can leave once our discussion with her is concluded.
- The Labor Management meeting for January is scheduled during a negotiations session on Thursday, January 17 at 4 pm at the Parkway Recreation Center because it was the most convenient date we could find for the month for committee members; it was also agreed that if there are no issues which arise prior to that date, it would be appropriate to cancel and give the negotiations team additional time.
- Beth briefly reported on her first-hand experience at the invigorating Iowa caucuses in Dubuque as a result of chaperoning with Waukesha AP government students as observers to the process.

WSC President Linda Weaver

- **CALLING ALL WSC DELEGATES!**

Elected WSC delegates will be meeting for their second of three Representative Assemblies on **Wednesday, January 16th, at 4:30** at the Brookfield Office. They'll be treated to an overview of the **2008 Political Landscape** by **Bob Burke**, Government Relations Director at WEAC. Bob will cover upcoming elections including local school board races and their direct impact on our members, the statewide impact on our schools and careers, and the national outlook for NCLB after the presidential election.

All WSC delegates are encouraged to attend this Representative Assembly and are invited to **bring a colleague along** for the presentation. A brief business meeting will follow.

- **RE-CERTIFICATION FOR VETERAN & PROFESSIONAL EDUCATORS**

There are many good reasons for veteran teachers to re-certify under PI34.

Some teachers can no longer afford to pay for graduate credits.

Some teachers have no additional salary lanes to move into.

Some teachers do not have the time to take classes.

Some teachers want to save the expense of traveling to and parking at university campuses.

These are teachers who should be re-certifying through a PDP. And sure enough, USEFULL now brings those members another great workshop!

PDP Licensure for Veteran and Professional Educators will take place on **Tuesday, January 22nd at 5:00** at the Brookfield Office. Flyers are being distributed this week. Register early, seats fill fast!

- **PDP REVIEWER TRAINING**

We all know that re-certification through PI 34 requires that DPI-trained and approved reviewers verify teacher PDP's. Now all WSC teachers have an opportunity to become a DPI-trained/approved reviewer.

**SAVE THE SATURDAY!!!
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9TH**

This one day training is open to all professional educators and Pupil Services professionals and is free to WSC members.

Advanced registration will be necessary.

Watch for upcoming details.

Vice President Jeff Sikich

- No Report

PR&R Chair-Secondary Peggy Oberbeck

PR&R Chair-Elementary Nancy Nienhuis

- "I Know" - units Survey of members in newsletter and/or district email- what they know about: their position on salary schedule, need for units, deadline for submitting unit documentation, course approval forms, and who to contact with questions. Results of survey may indicate a need for a units workshop or time provided for discussions during inservice or faculty meeting at each building.
- Members need to be informed about the impact their professional, personal and social lives could have on their employment. Discuss during an RA or invite the police liaison to discuss laws. District indicated at Labor Management that an updated teacher handbook will have guidelines.

Negotiations Chair Chad Lehman

- The Bargaining Team will continue to meet with the district to work on the 2007-2009 contract. The following are upcoming dates for bargaining: January 17, 25, 26, 29, and 31.
- This year, most of the sessions are being held outside of the school day to reduce the amount of time teachers are out of the classroom during negotiations. We are making steady progress and hope to continue making strides towards an agreement.
- Chad reported that the Southeast bargaining conference was cancelled due to low enrollment

Treasurer Greg Wall

- Greg updated our current financial status. Please read the Word for further details and current information regarding your 2007 dues tax deduction amount.

Director/Political Action/Legislative Chair Linda Wamboldt

- School Board Election Discussion: Carol Garrison, Robert Kitchen and Barbara Suleiman will be running for the school board this year. The race will be uncontested this year.

Director/Membership Chair Angela Bina

- No Report

Community Outreach/Public Relations Chair Lynn Herbst

- To all fourth grade teachers: The **deadline for entering the WEAC Human Relations Committee's 4th Grade Poster Contest is February 1**. The purpose of the contest is to promote the celebration of Native American culture and to address the issue of racism directed at Native Americans. The theme for this year's contest is Mankind and Nature as One. For more information, go to <http://www.weacm.org/Content/2007-08/postercontest2008.pdf>
- At the **February 11 school board meeting, Lynn will be presenting a plaque from the American Cancer Society Relay for Life** which was earned by the

WAWM Education Association team for money raised in the memory of Central Science Teacher Mark Jones.

- The **2008 Relay for Life will be held on July 18-19 at Nathan Hale**. We hope that you will plan to join the team or to walk a few laps with us in honor of those who have triumphed over cancer and in memorial of those who have not.
- The time is now to start preparing for **Read Across America Day, coming up on Monday, March 3**. Visit www.nea.org/readacross for ideas to plan classroom activities. Plan to take digital photos of your RAA events to submit for publication in our Association newsletter, *The Word*.
- If you're an **Association Building Rep** — or if you're simply interested in learning more about this role — a free email newsletter is offered by the NEA to keep you up-to-date on the latest tips, strategies and resources for building a strong network of educators in your school. Visit www.nea.org/neanow to sign up.
- The **2007-2009 state budget** will provide roughly \$525 million more over the next biennium in new general equalization and categorical school aids and tax credits for K-12 education. All categorical aid dollars are delivered to school districts outside of the revenue caps. The categorical aid dollars represent a 12% increase (approximately \$137 million total) from the previous budget. The budget increases from \$2,500 to \$5,000 the annual stipend for nationally certified or master educators who teach in schools in which more than 60% of pupils are eligible for free and reduced-price lunch. 60% of districts throughout the state are facing declining enrollment.
- A **new Great Schools media campaign** is underway. With the updated message, *Great Schools Benefit Everyone*, new ads are being developed under a campaign theme titled "I Believe." The spirit of the campaign reinforces the shared values identified by WEAC members and voters in recent research efforts. The simplicity of the campaign places a renewed emphasis on the message (our values) and the messenger (our members and public school supporters). Watch for it!

Executive Director Sandy Nass

- Sandy will have materials distributed to head building representatives regarding Wellness at the RA meeting.
- Non-renewing letters should come out before February 29th.

Director/Events & Activities Chris Morrissey

- Friends of Education: Chris will be sending out the nomination sheet on Thursday for the Friends of Education Award. Eight people will be honored at the Spring Recognition Dinner. Each building may nominate one person to be considered for the Friends of Education Award. A committee will look at the nominations to help select the eight recipients.

Director/ Professional Development Maureen Marek

- No Report

Communications/Parliamentarian/Elections Chair Julie Stringer

- Election 2008 - WAWMEA
January RA Distribution of Nomination Flyers - Wednesday RA - January 9th
Return all nominations by Wednesday January 23rd - Julie Stringer, Walker School
Nominations will be accepted at the February 13th, 2008 RA if the nominee is present to accept the nomination or has accepted said nomination in writing.
- March
Distribution of Ballots and Directions for Election
Julie will need building rosters from membership chair
Friday, March 7, 2008 Ballots and Ballot Boxes to Building RAs
Friday, March 14, 2008 – All Ballots and Ballot Boxes to Julie Stringer % of (TBD) at **West Milwaukee Middle School** for count by 4:00 PM

Unfinished Business

- Goals for Remainder of Academic Year: Discussion ensued regarding goals for the remainder of our Academic Year. It was felt that the “Did you Know” emails that Angela has been sending out have been helpful for our members. Be prepared to talk to the RA about goals at the meeting tomorrow night. It will be listed under upcoming events on the agenda.

New Business

- District Restructuring/Joan Delaney: Joan Delaney made a presentation to the Executive Board about District Restructuring.
- School Board Election Discussion: See Linda Wamboldt’s Report
- Friends of Education: See Chris Morrissey’s Report

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Chris Morrissey and seconded by Chad Lehman. Motion to adjourn the meeting passed. Meeting adjourned at 5:45 PM.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Lynn Malloy, Secretary