

**West Allis-West Milwaukee Education Association
Representative Assembly Meeting
March 10, 2004**

Schools Represented: Central H.S., Hale. H.S., F.L.Wright M.S., West Milwaukee M.S., Franklin, Hoover, Irving, Jefferson, Lincoln, Longfellow, Madison, Mann, Mitchell, Pershing, Walker, Wilson, Adm. Bldg.

Executive Board: Herbst, Probst, Stewart, Ludeman, Key, Knaflic, Mistele, Ziefle, Popa, Topper, Stringer.

The meeting was called to order at 4:10 p.m. at West Milwaukee Middle School.

The minutes of the January RA were approved as printed.

President's Report: Lynn Herbst

.Drew winning raffle tickets for Kisses from Heaven Raffle. Remaining prizes will be drawn at the end of the meeting.

.Indicate on sign-up sheet if your school is not getting BLT minutes or if your school has not received a seniority list.

.Read names of this year's retiring teachers. Names of retiring teachers appear in the School Board minutes.

.Teachers will receive a letter and contract for next year on March 15. Pending the result of the negotiations, contracts will be adjusted. Contracts are due back to building principals by April 15. Turn in before Spring Break.

.ICON message was sent last Sunday. AOL emails bounced back. Distribute message to members without email or who indicated they wanted telephone or direct contact. Do not use school mailboxes or computers. ICON is used to deal with political/union issues. Future ICON messages will communicate negotiations information.

.Distributed copies of Local Association Leadership Commitment form related to New Business Item #9. It describes the activities at each of the 3 levels of commitment.

.Distributed copies of a letter to parents regarding class size, which was sent by the Central H.S. staff. Included copies of Kathy Popa's letter to Secretary Paige and Linda Ziefle's letter to the editor of the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel regarding TABOR.

.Thanked participants for successful blood drive at Frank Lloyd Wright.

.Door guards are needed for the WEAC RA at the Midwest Express Center on April 24-25.

.See Cyndi Caylor for questions about seniority list.

Next year a staff development day will be devoted to scoring the writing samples.

Vice President and Secondary P R & R: Cathi Probst

.Presented Lobbying your Legislators to one person on March 2.

.Issues regarding teachers traveling between high school and middle school, a teacher disciplinary case, a DPI complaint and prep time guideline questions.

.Teachers with nonrenewing contracts do not receive further notice of their nonrenewal. It is implied in the contract.

.A school board member indicated an interest in teacher input regarding issues. Several teachers voiced concern. A suggestion was made that perhaps the school board could hold listening sessions with teachers as a group. Herbst asked who would attend a meeting if it could be set up. There was a good response.

Elementary P R & R : Gary Stewart

.Suggested that buildings discuss what a teachers' professional responsibility is if a fellow teacher overreacts or becomes engaged in a situation that gets out of hand.
.Herbst explained that it is not appropriate to handle a child unless there is a safety issue for other children or the teacher, or if the teacher has participated in the Non-Violent Intervention training course offered periodically by the District.

Negotiations: Beth Ludeman

.Herbst, Ludeman and Stringer attended the WEAC Winter Conference.
.Fred Evert will be invited to give his WEA Trust insurance information at a future RA.
.The Bierbauer awards were given to the Kenosha Education Association and to Ron Schultz, Cuba City negotiator, for excellence in bargaining. Success in bargaining includes educating the community about issues and having an active, engaged membership.
.Will try to share data in an upcoming newsletter about how other districts are settling.
.Will use ICON to share negotiations information.
.Email Ludeman at home with questions.

Treasurer: Dale Mrotek (Interim)

.The Kisses from Heaven raffle raised approximately \$4700.
.Thanked Nass for two cash prizes.
.Thanked Key for arranging for the Door County prizes.
.Printing was donated by Paul Nowak, a TSA representative.

Political Action: Laurel Key

.The Interview team met to discuss the School Board interviews and possible endorsements. There is a good field of candidates. The Association will endorse Susan Stalewski, Jerry Kucharski and Joanie Luedke.
Contact Key via voice mail or email for yard signs ASAP. Collect money and arrange pickup/ delivery to Key by March 24. Don't use district email.
.The lit drop is set for April 3. Likely start-up time will be at 8am. Will get further information out soon.
.List of candidates and schools which will target their campaigns: Stalewski: Central, West Milwaukee, Franklin, Wilson, Pershing, Ad. Bldg, Alt. School.; Luedke: Hale, Mitchell, Lincoln, Mann, Madison, Hoover; and Kucharski: Wright, Jefferson, Walker, Irving, Longfellow.

Legislative: Michelle Knaflic

.Will have an article in the newsletter.
.Recommends that teachers commit one day every week to go to WEAC online (weac.org) and check the cyber lobby for current issues. Noted that the cyber lobby

makes it very easy to research and write informed letters regarding important issues that affect education.

Membership and West Suburban Council President: Linda Ziefle

.Building rosters were included with elections information. Let her know if the rosters are not accurate.

.On Monday attended a Fundraiser for some Democratic representatives.

Assemblyman David Cullen, who represents an area including West Allis, was there.

He has been supportive of education and teacher issues and needs our support for re election.

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Public Relations: Monique Mistele

.Arranged press coverage of the blood drive at Frank Lloyd Wright.

.Lisa Colla and Sarah Allen received Kohl Educational Foundation Teacher Fellowship Awards.

.Described art project to prepare a quilt for the School Board meeting room.

Executive Director: Sandra Nass

.The state has granted a raffle license to the Association.

.West Suburban Council website is up at www.wscuniserv.org.

Director: Chad Lehman (absent; Herbst reporting)

.Herbst read the list of Friends of Education awards.

.The person who nominated each recipient will be asked to say a few words at the award program.

Director: Kathy Popa

.Thanked participants and everyone who helped with the raffle. Will present Lyons-Martens with a check at the next Executive Board meeting and will have an article in the newsletter.

Director: Sandy Topper

.This spring there will be one more Spirit Wear sale of denim shirts, t-shirts, and travel coffee mugs. All proceeds will be going to the Scholarship Fund.

New Business

Linda Ziefle moved to cancel the April RA. The motion was seconded by Diane Ulezelski. The motion was voted on and passed unanimously. The next RA will be held on May 12.

New Business Item #9: Sandy Topper moved that the Association commit to Level One participation regarding WEAC New Business Item #9. Holly Cartier seconded the motion. The motion was voted on and passed unanimously.

.Herbst thanked the West Milwaukee Middle School teachers for hosting the RA.

.Contact Jean Ritchie regarding the Wishing Children Well event.

.Question from the floor about staff development days and how teachers' time is being used. Herbst said that concerns need first be presented to building BLTs. Must start at building level to resolve issues before they can be taken to Labor Management.

.Drew raffle ticket for the Grand Prize in the Kisses from Heaven raffle. The winner was Jennifer Kuhlenbeck.

The meeting adjourned at 6:05 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Barbara Rosenthal, Secretary