

West Allis-West Milwaukee Education Association

Representative Assembly Meeting:

September 12, 2007

Schools Represented: Central H.S., Hale H.S., FLW Middle School, Franklin, Hoover, Horace Mann, Irving, Jefferson, Lincoln, Madison, Mitchell, Walker, Wilson

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

President Beth Ludeman called the meeting to order at 4:10 PM at the UEP Building.

The minutes of the May 9, 2007 RA Meeting were approved as printed.

President: Beth Ludeman

- The "I Can Do It!" training that Lynn Herbst and Beth conducted on August 24th with our newest members was successful. The feedback we received was compiled into a document that will be shared with the District at the Labor Management meeting on September 11th. Thanks to Angela Bina, who coordinated the luncheon and organized the membership registration portion; and to Linda Weaver, Julie Stringer, Chad Lehman, Chris Morrissey, and Greg Wall for assisting with the luncheon activities. We will be sending postcards to these new members to remind them about tips for a successful start to the year from the training. We also had an opportunity to introduce USEFULL (United Southeast Educators For Understanding Licensure and Learning) and collected contact information from, them in order to apprise them of future local and UniServ events. Beth organized a list by building of our new members so that Building Representatives can make personal contact with them and answer any questions they may have, if they have not done so already.
- Beth distributed a School Board meeting sign-up sheet at Wednesday's meeting. It is partially completed, based on suggestions to organize building attendance around the principals' presentations that have been scheduled by the superintendent's office. Any needed changes and/or deletions were taken care of at the September RA Meeting.
- Beth was in contact with BOE Director Stalewski regarding the PTSA Council's competition to see if the Association can play a role in the program, and if so, what support the Council would be anticipating. A report was provided at the RA Meeting.
- Beth inquired to see if any Building Representatives would like to represent the Association at the PTSA; otherwise, due to scheduling changes, the Executive Board will manage attendance.

- **West Suburban Council President: Linda Weaver (Absent)**
- **Report sent electronically**
 - **USEFULL ROLLS OUT**
 - **USEFULL** (United Southeast Educators For Understanding Licensure and Learning) is a program that will establish the United Education Profession building as a UniServ **Licensing Center** that will help new and veteran members with their development and verification of Professional Development Plans (PDPs) and other aspects of PI 34.
 - **USEFULL** was founded over the summer by UniServ Presidents of Council #10, Lakewood, North Shore, TriWauk and West Suburban Council (West Allis & Wauwatosa School Districts). We join UniServ presidents across the state who have expressed a willingness to have their offices become UniServ Licensing Centers. In fact, WEAC Teaching & Learning will support us as we work to assist members through various workshops at our Brookfield office.
 - **USEFULL** targets include initial educators, mentors, veteran master educators, and educational support professionals. Watch for a survey about the project that will help us develop a program that will be most beneficial to members.
 - We will present the first of five (5) workshops, ***PI 34 Goal Writing and Approval***, from 5:30 – 8:00 p.m. on **Thursday, October 4**, at the United Education Profession Brookfield, which will be repeated on **Monday, October 8**. This workshop will be limited to the first 20 people for each date, and requests participants to bring their laptops because we will have wireless capacity.
 - **If you are a DPI-trained PDP verifier and would like to assist your colleagues with their PDPs, please contact us at weaverl@wi.rr.com.**
 - Other 2007-08 **USEFULL** workshops this year will include: (Dates and times to be determined.)
 - PI 34 Review Team Training
 - Writing a PDP
 - Working with Medically Fragile Students in the Classroom
 - Classroom Discipline
 - For more information about **USEFULL**, please contact Linda Weaver at weaverl@wi.rr.com
 - **PDP Goal Writing & Approval Nights For Initial Educators & Mentors**
 - **Limited space so register early for this PDP workshop!**
 - Initial educators and their mentors are invited to a working session of PDP goal writing on **Thursday, October 4th or Monday October 8th at 5:30** both nights.
 - Educators can bring their wireless laptops and learn how to write PDP-acceptable goals, how to access resources for

meeting their objectives, how to store their PDPs online, and will have an opportunity to get their goals approved by DPI certified reviewers.

- **Space is limited so register early!**
- Register with Sharon Hering at herings@weac.org or call 262-789-6000 today!
- The next WSC RA Meeting will be on October 17th at 4:30 PM. The new WEAC officers will speak at the WSC RA Meeting in October. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Vice President: Jeff Sikich

- No Report

P R & R Secondary: Peg Oberbeck

P R & R Elementary: Nancy Nienhuis

- Important dates to remember:
 - Sept 25 - Official transcripts due for salary classification and advancement
 - Sept. 14 - Unit Verification forms due for those eligible
- Don't forget to fill out course approval forms for any classes you are taking this fall.
- School Computer Use: Be careful when using your computers at school. The district can monitor everything you do on your school computer.
- Building Representative Training will take place in October at our next meeting.

Negotiations: Chad Lehman

- Up to 3 units can be carried over each year.
- Longevity pay will be taken out from each paycheck this year. Next year you will receive your longevity pay in one lump sum on your 22nd paycheck.
- Two dates have been set up for negotiations so far this year. The first full day of negotiations will be in October. No meetings have taken place to date but the meetings are getting started soon.

Treasurer: Greg Wall

- Greg reported on the break down of our dues structure. We pay \$77.00 for our local dues, which remains the same as last year, \$209.00 for WSC which is an increase of \$4.00, \$153 for NEA which is an increase of \$8.00 and \$305.00 for WEAC which is an increase of \$8.00. The total is \$744.00 for the 2007-08 School Year.
- Remember to check your last check in December for your dues deduction for your taxes. The amount you will be able to take off your taxes will also be put in the newsletter.

Director/Political Action/Legislative Chair: Kathy Ceel (Absent)
Report sent electronically

- Lobby Day in Madison had a very low turn out from WA/WM teachers. Part of the reason may have been the *Think Math* overlap or summer vacations. Whatever the reason, the Legislative/Political Action committee will be working on making sure that we have a better turn out for the next one. We will also be working on how we can get a lot of active support for the critical presidential election in 2008.
- Congress is back in session after Labor Day and a main issue is the reauthorization of ESEA. There are currently 68 bills that have been introduced to the Congress that are in support of NEA's Reauthorization Agenda. Since they start the process this fall, it is critical that we cyberlobby the Congress and let them know we are behind NEA.
- The House of Representatives has approved a bill (H.R. 3043) and the Senate Appropriations Committee has also approved a similar bill (S1710) that would increase the funding for Title I, special education, Pell grants, and other programs under ESEA. President Bush promises to veto both bills if they ask for more money than he has set aside for education in his budget. Since, he has included \$10.8 billion **less** in funding than the bills, he is expected to veto them. At this time the Congress doesn't have enough votes to override that veto.

Public Relations/Community Outreach Chair: Lynn Herbst

- No Report

Director/Membership: Angela Bina

- Angela passed out folders to head building representatives. The folders included membership lists, enrollment forms, and a green and yellow sheet with information on them. The green sheet can be posted in each building.
- If you have questions – please contact Angela Bina at Jefferson.

Executive Director: Sandy Nass

- Talked about flyers that were sent out to all members regarding WEA Trust Benefits Workshop and Financial Planning Workshop on September 27th and October 9th. Please RSVP to Anita. December 10th will be the date for the West Allis Retirement Forum starting at 6:30 PM.

Events and Activities/Director: Chris Morrissey

- Chris will be in charge of raffles/ prizes for our meetings. A prize was given out to Dana Azzolina at the September RA Meeting.

Director/Professional Development: Maureen Marek

- Maureen will be working with Linda weaver on USEFUL this year as well as other professional development workshops.

Communications/Parliamentarian and Elections Chair: Julie Stringer (Absent)

- Beth reported for Julie that the newsletter will be sent electronically this year. The head building representative will print off one copy and post for the staff. Deadlines for the Newsletter will be the first Wednesday of the month except for January. The deadline will be January 8th due to our vacation.

Unfinished Business

- Newsletter will be distributed electronically this year. (See Julie's Report)

New Business

- PTSA: Beth discussed the liaison representative position for the PTSA Council. She asked for a volunteer to represent us at this meeting. You would be expected to go for 1 hour and report on what the Association is working on. The meetings are held on the first Wednesday of each month.
- PTSA Reflections: The PTSA Council would like the Association to help them with this project for the 2007-2008 School Year. A question was asked if the District would be willing to give units for members working on this project. Beth is willing to write up a unit proposal for this. A building representative from each school would work with the PTA volunteer in their building. Entries would be due December 5th to the PTSA Council. The RA will continue to think about our involvement with the Reflections program. Head Building Representatives will get feedback from their buildings for our next meeting. Please have interested people contact Beth by the end of September if they are willing to work with the PTSA Reflections program.
- Beth circulated the School Board Sign-up List for Building Representatives to sign. Beth requested that the high school and middle school head representatives sign up for two meetings.
- Member Contact Sheets were distributed for building representatives to look at to find out their executive board member contact name.
- There will be a Unit Workshop for our members this year. It will be targeted at new teachers. More information will be forthcoming.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Carmie Milkie and seconded by Ben Anderson. Motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:35 PM.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Lynn Malloy, Secretary