

West Allis-West Milwaukee Education Association
Representative Assembly Meeting:

February 13, 2008

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

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

President Beth Ludeman called the meeting to order at 4:14 PM at the UEP Building

The minutes from the January 9, 2008 RA Meeting were approved as printed.

President: Beth Ludeman

- Beth will be participating in a statewide conference call to plan and organize the NEA Fund drive that will be conducted at the WEAC RA in May. Local members elected to represent WA-WMEA to the WEAC RA will be asked to participate in this drive by making contributions to the NEA Fund for Children and Public Education to assist in political action work in this significant election cycle.
- The call for entries has been issued by the WEA Trust for their 2008 Art Showcase. Any WEAC member is eligible to submit art; all mediums are acceptable. Each artist may submit up to two works; the deadline for pre-registration is April 11, 2008. Please contact Beth if you are interested in more information on the process or timelines.
- Concurrent to our local elections in March, the election of Wisconsin 2008-09 State Delegates to the NEA RA will take place. Julie Stringer and Beth elaborated on that process at the RA Meeting since building representatives will need to distribute and collect those ballots as well.
- Beth shared information on delegate selection for both of the major parties' national conventions, in the event that we have any local leaders who would like to run as delegates in this momentous election year.
- Beth will have available a copy of the Fourteenth Annual Study of the "Effects of Revenue Controls on the Programs and Services Offered by Wisconsin's Public Schools" for the 2006-07 school year. This study is a cooperative effort between WEAC and WASDA (WI Assoc. of School District Administrators).
- Beth also has a few copies of a document explaining "Assessment and Testing Terms" developed by WEAC's Russ Allen from the Teaching and Learning campus. Let her know if you have any interest in obtaining a copy.
- The next WA-WMEA president will want to "save the date" for the upcoming WEAC Local Presidents' Meeting, scheduled for April 12 in Madison. It is designed to be a "drive-in" event, but overnight accommodations are possible (WEAC has reserved a small block of rooms). Beth has found the meetings valuable in networking with other local presidents, among other benefits.

- **West Suburban Council President: Linda Weaver**
 - No Report

Vice President: Jeff Sikich

- No Report

P R & R Secondary: Peg Oberbeck

P R & R Elementary: Nancy Nienhuis

- Issues at WMMS - The building staff and the Association have requested that we reconvene the committee from last year.
- Realignment - Joan Delaney is meeting with staff and will continue to get answers to their questions. We are aware of the anxiety that exists for our members.
- Traveling teachers - Deb Rouse has indicated, "You can just attach a memo to the mileage reimbursement form that shows the number of total days in the year, less days absent, multiplied by the daily mileage, multiplied by the mileage rate. Remember to separate mileage between 2007 (48.5 cents) and 2008 (50.2 cents) because the IRS reimbursement has changed."
- Dress Code - A notice has been sent to the Central HS Administration that a dress code for teachers is a mandatory subject of bargaining.
- Changes in the Unit Approval Process for MA District Units - If the course was already described in the catalog for the MA, it does not need to be submitted for approval again. Unless they are electives that are not included in the approved MA program, then it is assumed that the person will submit them for units. A transcript or final grade report will be verification of the course for the Final Record of Units For Advancement on Salary Schedule.
- Sally Ride Courses - You do not need course approval for Sally Ride courses that are offered in West Allis (not Waukesha or West Bend). For other districts offering Sally Ride, course approval still WILL need to be submitted. A transcript or final grade report will be verification of the course for the Final Record of Units For Advancement on Salary Schedule
- Did you forget to have a course approved in the past? Contact the Human Resource office with a course description and verification of the grade. There is a possibility that courses may be granted retroactive approval.
- Head Building Reps will be asked to review the Communication Model with staff if they haven't already done so this year. If you have concerns it is important to share these with your colleagues. We all appreciate finding out about concerns or questions from our colleagues rather than through an administrator.

Negotiations: Chad Lehman

- 2008-2009 Calendar was discussed under new business.

Treasurer: Greg Wall

- Discussed budget report that was sent electronically.

Director/Political Action/Legislative Chair: Linda Wamboldt

- School Board Interviews: Discussed process for school board interviews. Linda welcomes and encourages members to assist with the school board interview process.

Public Relations/Community Outreach Chair: Lynn Herbst

- At Monday, February 11's School Board meeting, Lynn will be presenting the Relay for Life plaque in memory of Mark Jones.
- A vinyl banner which may be used indoors or outdoors with the WA-WMEA logo will soon be ordered. This can be displayed at all Association functions.
- Read Across America Day is coming up on March 3. For more information, read the PR article in the newsletter or visit www.nea.org/readacross.

Director/Membership: Angela Bina

- Reminded members of social gathering to take place after the RA Meeting tonight. Angela told members to look for Friends of Education Award applications via email. Please consider nominating people from your buildings.

Executive Director: Sandy Nass

- Lead discussions with Peggy regarding Professional Responsibilities and Role of Association in Disciplinary Actions (See below – Unfinished Business)

Director/Events & Activities: Chris Morrissey

- No Report

Director/Professional Development: Maureen Marek

- No Report

Communications/Parliamentarian and Elections Chair: Julie Stringer

- Elections Report/Nominations: Julie chaired discussions for nominations for our local ballot. A motion to nominate Jeff Sikich for President was made by Chad Lehman. Jeff Sikich accepted the nomination. Motions were made to nominate Chad Lehman, Greg Wall, Maureen Marek, Jim Kurovsky and Nancy Neinhuis for Vice-President. Chad Lehman, Greg Wall, Maureen Marek, and Jim Kurovsky declined the nomination for Vice-President. Nancy Neinhuis accepted the nomination for Vice-President. Julie reviewed the procedure for the elections in March. Ballot counting will take place at West Milwaukee Middle School. Julie will send out reminders regarding voting in March.

Unfinished Business

- Professional Responsibilities of Members: Sandy and Peggy lead a discussion regarding professional responsibilities. Building representatives should have a discussion at the building level regarding professional responsibilities.
- Role of Association in Disciplinary Actions: Discussion ensued regarding the role of the Association in disciplinary actions. (see below - under Unfinished Business)

- Head Building Representative and Communication Model: Nancy reminded head building representatives to use the communication model in your buildings. Discussion ensued regarding building questions related to the communication model.
- Restructuring/Lincoln: Nancy discussed boundary options that have been proposed by the District. Joan Delaney is the District contact person regarding restructuring. Please direct your questions to Joan Delaney.

New Business

- 2008-2009 Calendar: Chad discussed the proposed calendar for the upcoming year. A motion was made by Greg Wall and seconded by Linda Weaver to accept the proposed 2008-2009 Calendar. A motion to close discussion was made by Linda Weaver and seconded by Lynn Herbst. Motion to close discussion passed. The motion to accept the proposed calendar passed with one vote in opposition.
- Coffee talk: The first coffee talk ever will take place on Thursday March 6 at Wilson School from 4:00 to 5:00 PM to go over the current contract and answer questions. This is designated as an information session. Angela will send out reminder e-mails regarding the coffee talk.
- Social Events: Concerns were expressed regarding Association social events and using Association money to finance these events. Discussion ensued.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Greg Wall and seconded by Tricia Nelson. Motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:14 PM

Minutes respectfully submitted by Lynn Malloy, Secretary