
Warren Education Association, MEA/NEA

Congress Minutes

Carter Middle School
Monday

February 4, 2008
4:15 p.m.

Zone Reports: Two people from each building to count votes after school on March 6, 2008.

Adoption of Agenda: Add under President's Report # 8. Taxes and #9. Job Share, and under New Business #7. Endorsement for Region 6 Board of Directors.

MOTION: To adopt agenda as amended.

Abella/Flis

MOTION CARRIED

Approval of Minutes of January 14, 2008.

Weston/Abella

MOTION CARRIED

Treasurer's Report: As written.

Trustees Report: Josh Weston

1. IMPACT Appointment: Trustees support the appointment of Karen Abella to the vacant seat on IMPACT.

Committee Reports

1. Grievance & Arbitration: Arbitration moving forward, setting date for hearing with selected arbitrator.

2. IMPACT:

a. Recent Legislation: Legislation brought forward to raise the drop-out age to 18.

b. MEAPAC Drive Update: We are currently at 88 percent participation. 24 more contributions are needed to reach our goal of 90percent participation. Contribution by payroll deduction is no longer available for this school year.

3. Public Relations: A meeting of the PR Core Committee will be held on February 13, 2008 to discuss plans for the remainder of the school year.

4. Delegations

a. MEA Board of Directors: J. Fielbrandt. Last meeting was held on January 24 & 25, 2008. Discussions included privatization and Right to Work. A meeting may be scheduled in March to discuss allocation towards fighting privatization.

b. Region Six: Met on December 10, 2007. Region 6 endorsed the ticket of Iris Slaters/Steve Cook for MEA President/Vice President, unanimously endorsed Peggy McLellan for MEA Secretary/Treasurer, endorsed Frank Burger for the open NEA Board of Directors seat and issued a continuing endorsement to Katherine Murphy for the NEA Board of Directors. Region 6 will conduct an MEA Board of Directors election this March. There are three candidates running for two MEA Board seats.

5. Curriculum Steering Committee (CSC): Funds are depleted.

6. Professional Staff Development (PSD): Few funds remain. Members may receive \$300 for conferences. Six or seven slots remain.

7. Student Proficiency Advisory Board (SPAB): The committee has been meeting with teachers to discuss PLC.

8. Nominations Committee Report: The Committee met on January 30, 2008. The following nominations were made:

a. Elementary CSC: Lisa Lancia, Michelle Przybylo, Christy Stone

b. Middle School CSC: Sue Gurney, Rod Karromi, Holly Roper

c. High School CSC: Jill Alred, Mike McLane, Marie Huggins

d. MEA RA Delegate: Don Bietler, John Cafagna, Kristy DePolo, Heather Grimm, Rod Karromi, Lisa Koziara, Mike Savage, Tom Thomas, Josh Weston

e. NEA RA Delegate: Dawn Brodi, Dave Cutlip, Pam Kellar, Rod Karromi, Karen Kuciel, Rick Repicky, Justin Smith, Jean Wenner, Josh Weston.

8. Building Issues: No discussion.

President's Report

1. MEA Bargaining/Political Action/PR Conference: To be held February 7-9 at the Cobo Center in Detroit. Bargaining Team and PR Committee members are attending.

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2. Board Paid Annuity: President Naski advised that **all** members must inform the district of their choice of carrier before June 30, 2008. The forms to do so were sent by email to every member. If they have not completed the form by June 30, 2008, they will forfeit the 1.0% contribution for this year.
3. WCS Outstanding Teachers of the Year
 - a. Jonathan Gillespie — Sterling Heights High School
 - b. Jennifer Pisha-Rude — Grissom Middle School
 - c. Mary Przybyl — Hatherly
 - d. Kimberly Walsh — Fillmore-Preschool
4. Harbinger: To be distributed to the membership in February.
5. Constitution Revision: Members who have questions regarding the constitution revision may attend one of the two remaining open meetings. They are being held on Tuesday, February 5 at Warren Mott from 2:30-5 p.m., and Monday, February 11 at Flynn from 3:20-5 p.m.
6. Elementary Report Cards: President Naski requested that problems with the report card system be reported to him by email. Details of the problems should be send to office@warrenea.org.
7. Common Calendar: Local MEA leaders continue to discuss this issue with the MISD superintendent.
8. Taxes: You can deduct up to \$250 of your unreimbursed expenses you paid or incurred for books, supplies, computer equipment (including related software and services), other equipment, and supplementary materials that you use in the classroom. The deduction is claimed on line 23 of Form 1040. You do not need to itemize to take this deduction.
9. Job Share: Applications for job share are due by March 15, 2008.

New Business

1. MOTION: To approve appointment of Karen Abella to IMPACT.
Flis/Mercier MOTION CARRIED
2. Nominations for NEA Representative Assembly Delegate: Dawn Ross. Nominations closed.
3. Nominations for MEA Representative Assembly Delegate: Dawn Ross Nominations closed.
4. Nominations for High School Curriculum Steering Committee: Lori Rice. Nominations closed.
5. Nominations for Middle School Curriculum Steering Committee: None. Nominations closed.
6. Nominations for Elementary Curriculum Steering Committee: None. Nominations closed.
7. MOTION: To endorse Jon Fielbrandt and Joyce LaLonde for MEA Region Six Board of Directors.
Kellar/Weston

Attendance:

Trustees: John Cafagna, Josh Weston, Jon Fielbrandt

RA Delegates:

Zone I

Brent Grawburg
Robin Mercier
Michelle Przybylo
Pam Kellar
Mary O'Neil
Nancy Kozlowski
Cheryl Busquaert
Sandra Brioc

Zone II

Lisa Koziara
Joanna Landry
Christy Stone
Sandy Newell
Helen Silvertein
Delphine Gallagher

Zone III

Josh Weston
Eric Walivaara
Eric Wachterhauser
Dan Barterian
Christine Dewey

Zone IV

Kelly Juronoc
Suzette Taylor
Bill Baginski
Susan Flis
Karen Abella
Heather Grimm

Adjournment: 5:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Pat Eisenberger,
WEA Office Secretary