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# Warren Education Association, MEA/NEA

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## Congress Minutes

Ukrainian Cultural Center  
Monday

October 6, 2008  
4:00 p.m.

*For your information the following is a summary of actions taken by the WEA Congress at its October 6, 2008 meeting. These minutes are unofficial until approved by Congress at its next regular scheduled meeting.*

4:00-4:30: Meet & Greet  
4:30-5:15: Building Rep Training  
5:15-6:00 p.m.: Cory Woffard (NEA) Election 2008 Presentation and Dinner  
6:00-6:15: Zone Caucuses  
6:15: Congress Meeting

### **Zone Reports:**

1. Zone I
  - a) Warner: Class size issues as a result of grant limits.
  - b) Harwood: Teachers would like Report Card Maker open and to be able to input grades in Intergrade. Also discussed printing of report cards for the year.
  - c) Holden: Discussed the selection of teachers for writer's workshop and KALPA issues. Also, Holden has no Spanish teacher.
2. Zone II: Discussion of cleaning issues, sub shortages, special ed push-in program, and teachers pulled from PLCs to do IEPs and child studies.
3. Zone III: Discussion of making up PLC time, Cousino almost out of staff meetings for the year, no resources for the new 12<sup>th</sup> grade English curriculum, and allocations and state requirements at the CPC.
4. Zone IV: Discussion of the new MEAP schedule, temperatures in the gyms, AESOP problems with not getting preferred substitutes, and ELL not being in compliance.

### **Adoption of Agenda:**

MOTION: To adopt agenda.

Weston/Alred

MOTION CARRIED

### **Approval of Minutes:**

MOTION: To adopt the minutes of September 8, 2008 as written.

Alred/Carpenter

MOTION CARRIED

### **Treasurer's Report:** Proposed 2008-09 Budget and Planned Program discussed.

MOTION: To adopt the Treasurer's Report as written.

Alred/Abella

MOTION CARRIED

### **Trustees Report:**

1. Approved 2008-09 Budget and Planned Program.
2. Accepted Audit Report for 2007-08.
3. Set dates for the October Elections for Tuesday, October 21 & Wednesday, October 22, 2008.

### **Committee Reports**

1. Grievance & Arbitration: Step II for grievance regarding WCS's 403(b) was denied. Waiting for a date from Administration for the Step III hearing. Arbitration hearings on Grievances 03-03 & 03-04 have been postponed until the Administration's witness is available.
2. IMPACT:
  - a. Recent Legislation: No new legislation.
  - b. Election 2008:
    - 1) Thank you's were sent to members who helped grill hotdogs at the Annual Funfest.
    - 2) Members have been asked to work at the phone bank at the WEA office for GOTV. Sign-up sheets will be sent to each building representative.
    - 3) Volunteers are needed to canvass neighborhoods in support of MEA endorsed candidates every Saturday. E-mails with more details have been sent.
    - 4) Lawn Signs: Members will receive an email when signs are available. A \$5 donation to IMPACT is requested. Members who work at the phone bank will receive a free lawn sign.
    - 5) Debate Watching Party: Wednesday, October 15, 2007 at the Millwrights and Carpenter's Local 1102.
3. Public Relations:
  - a. PR Activities
    - 1) The PR Committee will participate in the City of Warren's Trunk or Treat on October 25, 2008. Will be asking both PR Buildings Reps and all Building Reps to assist the WEA in this activity.
    - 2) American Education Week: The WEA and WCS will once again hold a joint poster contest for American Education Week. PR Building Reps will receive flyers to distribute to all students in their buildings.
  - b. Harbinger: To be distributed the week of October 13<sup>th</sup>.
4. Delegations: Update on Wayne-Westland strike.
  - a. MEA Board of Directors: Next meeting to be held November 7, 2008.
  - b. Region Six: Next meeting to be held October 27, 2008.
  - c. MEA Representative Assembly: To be held November 8, 2008.
5. Curriculum Steering Committee (CSC): Funds are available. Request for funds need to be made at least 30 days prior to workshop. Do not use CSC funds for principal directed workshops.
6. Professional Staff Development (PSD): Funds are available. Request for funds need to be made at least 30 days prior to workshop.
7. Student Proficiency Advisory Board (SPAB): Currently not meeting. Status of SPAB is unknown.
8. Crisis Committee: A tentative agreement (TA) has been reached. Crisis Chairperson Bob Callender thanks the membership for their support, which was instrumental in assisting the bargaining team in reaching the TA.
9. Itinerant Concerns: The union has been meeting with a group of Special Education itinerants to address some of their concerns. Concerns include IEPs that are not being met.

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## **President's Report**

1. Bargaining Update: A Mass Meeting will be held on October 13, 2008 at 4:15 p.m. to discuss and vote on the tentative agreement. Each building was requested to send the names of 2 vote counters to the WEA office. Vote counters will need to be able to stay at the meeting until 7:30 p.m. They cannot be building reps, alternates, or be elected to any position in the WEA. The building reps were also reminded to return their corrected WEA voting rosters.
2. Seniority, Involuntary Transfer, Lay-off, Recall: All involuntary transfers, recalls and lay-offs have been completed.
3. District Central Bank (DCB): As of the start of this school year, there are 3,063 days in the DCB. As a result of the new contract language that requires the district to match days with the membership, this number will be increasing.
4. Flexible Spending Accounts (FSA): Open enrollment ends October 9, 2008 to add additional funds to your flexible spending account. Upon ratification and approval of the contract information regarding the \$200 district contribution to your FSA will be disseminated.
5. KALPA: We are working with Brian Walmsley on the concerns you have brought forward regarding KALPA for the 2008-2009 school year. As of now, you must register on KALPA for the activity prior to the date of the event. Any time however, after the date of the event, you will be able to confirm your attendance and log the hours of the activity in your Professional Development Plan which is reported to the State. In addition we have heard your concerns regarding receiving only two (2) school days, to log your absence in AESOP after approval to attend a conference. We have passed your concerns along to administration and continue to work on this matter.
6. 2008-2009 Budget and Planned Program: Discussion of the Budget and Planned Program.
7. October Elections:
  - a. To be held Tuesday, October 21 and Wednesday, October 22, 2008
  - b. Discussed WEA voting roster and vote counting procedures.

## **New Business**

1. MOTION: To approve the 2008-2009 Budget & Planned Program.  
Sikoski/Bullis MOTION CARRIED
2. NOMINATIONS  
Nominations for Zone II Elementary Trustee for a two year term.  
(Elementary buildings east of Van Dyke)  
MOTION: To nominate Lisa Sikoski for Zone I Elementary Trustee.  
Stone Lisa Sikoski accepted nomination.  
MOTION: To elect Lisa Sikoski as Zone II Trustee by acclamation.  
Weston/Carpenter MOTION CARRIED
3. Nominations for Zone IV Middle School Trustee for a two year term.  
MOTION: To nominate Mary Bullis for Zone IV Middle School Trustee.  
Carpenter Mary Bullis declined nomination.  
MOTION: To nominate Sue Flis for Zone IV Middle School Trustee.  
Bullis Sue Flis declined nomination.  
MOTION: To nominate John Cafagna for IV Middle School Trustee.  
McLean John Cafagna accepted nomination.  
MOTION: To elect John Cafagna as Zone IV Middle School Trustee by acclamation.  
Kellar/Abella MOTION CARRIED
4. Nominations for IMPACT Trustees:  
To nominate Christine Lewis for IMPACT Trustee.  
Bietler Christine Lewis accepted nomination.  
To nominate Karen Abella for IMPACT Trustee.  
Stone Karen Abella accepted nomination.  
To nominate Kevin Bullis for IMPACT Trustee.  
Carpenter Kevin Bullis accepted nomination.  
To nominate Sue Flis for IMPACT Trustee  
Weston Sue Flis accepted nomination.

## **Attendance:**

*Trustees:* Lisa Sikoski, Bob Callender, John Cafagna, Josh Weston, Jon Fielbrandt

*RA Delegates:*

### **Zone I**

Shauna Coleman  
Robin Mercier  
Dennis Surgalski  
Janet Langevin  
Pam Kellar  
Kristen Posthumus  
Kim Opsasnick  
Audri McEnaney  
Delphine Gallagher  
Kristin Chudo  
Tanya Cutrell  
Kim McGuire  
Rosemarie Petty  
Julie Tanner  
Renee Barnwell  
Nancy Kozlowski  
Yvonne Razook  
Jamie Fletcher  
Cheryl Busquaret  
Kristin Dundas  
Tih Penfil  
Kelly Juronoc  
Sandra Brioc

### **Zone II**

Debra Lariviere  
Ellen Olshove  
Lisa Koziara  
Norman David  
Derek LeFevre  
Kate Battersby  
Joanna Landry  
Emily Murphree  
Christy Stone  
Sandy Newell  
Helen Silverstein  
Karyn Kechechian  
Jennifer Kochanski

### **Zone III**

Jason Swords  
Scott Acre  
Don Bietler  
Christine Lewis  
Nancy Wayne  
Bob Callender  
Kevin Bullis  
Josh Weston  
Michelle Herndon  
Jill Alred  
Eric Wachterhauser  
Ron Texter  
Kathy Szerszen  
Paulette Brockington  
Tom Thomas  
Linda Opipari  
Dan Barterian  
Stewart Scott  
Julie Stegman  
Ron Stratton  
Chris Malone

### **Zone IV**

Amber Williamson  
Ryan Kay  
Jackie Rybinski  
Dale Knowlton  
Mary Bullis  
Jeff Carron  
Karen Abella  
Dob Delicato  
Lisa Stabile  
Danielle McLean  
Patti Mulholland  
Sue Fragnoli  
Paul Roodbeen

Adjournment: 7:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer K. N. Miller,  
Executive Director