
Warren Education Association, MEA/NEA

Congress Minutes

Carter Middle School
Monday

December 3, 2007
4:15 p.m.

Zone Reports: Zone III-Schedule B Scholastic checks have been late.

Adoption of Agenda: Add under Reports #9. Constitution Revision Committee.

MOTION: To adopt agenda as amended.

Weston/Stone

MOTION CARRIED

Approval of Minutes of November 5, 2007.

Strojek/Weston

MOTION CARRIED

Treasurer's Report: As written.

Trustees Report: Josh Weston

1. WCS Superintendent Search: WEA leadership met with the search company that will be assisting the district in their search for a new superintendent.

Committee Reports

1. **Grievance & Arbitration:** One new grievance has been filed. Grievances 03-03 and 03-04, have been denied by the administration and pursuant to the vote of the Trustees' will be taken to arbitration.
2. **IMPACT:** Michele Strojek
 - a. Recognition of Michele Strojek by President Naski.
 - b. Recent Legislation:
 - 1) State Budget was discussed.
 - 2) SB0842: Under the bill, if a pupil in third grade failed by the end of the school year to meet standards for basic literary skills based on the grade level content expectations in English language arts for third grade established by the Dept. of Education, the school district or Public School Academy (PSA) could not promote the pupil to fourth grade unless the district or PSA determined that his or her literacy deficiency was due to a disability other than a learning disability that was based solely on reading difficulties. This bill has not yet passed both houses.
 - c. MEAPAC Drive: Susick, Willow Woods, Holden, Carleton, Lean and Green Acres have 100% participation to MEAPAC. 80 percent of the WEA membership have contributed. Members who have not yet contributed are to be contacted by their building reps.
3. **Public Relations**
 - a. Poster Contest Awards Ceremony: To be held December 5, 2007 at 6:30 p.m. at the Performing Arts Center at Sterling Heights High School.
 - b. Teacher of the Year: The district is working on the nomination process for Teacher of the Year. Concerns or questions should be directed to Karen Kuciel.
 - c. PR Information Needed: PR Chairperson Karen Kuciel has requested that members send her news of good things happening in their classrooms.
4. **Delegations**
 - a. MEA Board of Directors: All staff and management contracts have been ratified.
 - b. Region Six: Meeting to be held December 10, 2007.
 - c. MEA Fall Representative Assembly: Held November 10, 2007. Two business items were approved. MEA Delegates are reminded that the Spring RA will have many important business items and it is imperative that all delegates attend. If you are unable to attend, please notify the WEA office as soon as possible so that an alternate can be arranged.
5. **Student Proficiency Advisory Board (SPAB):** Last meeting was held Friday, November 30, 2007.
6. **Curriculum Steering Committee (CSC):** Funds are running low. Members are encouraged to apply for funds as soon as possible.
7. **Professional Staff Development (PSD):** Chairperson, Michele Strojek. Members are encouraged to apply for funds. They must apply prior to attending conferences. Guidelines are online at the district website. Sue Flis has been appointed as the new Chairperson to PSD because of Michele Strojek's retirement.

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8. Building Issues:
 - a. Heating and Cooling: Members are encouraged to report their heating and cooling problems first to their principal and custodian. If the problem continues, they should contact President Naski at the WEA office.
 - b. Coaching Pay: Should be on the next paycheck.
 - c. Supply Budget: Teachers are not receiving the number of materials they have ordered in a timely fashion. Teachers should report supply problems to their principal.
9. Constitution Revision Committee: The committee is putting the finishing touches on the revision. It will then be submitted to the membership for their review.

President's Report

1. Building Visits: President Naski and Executive Director Jennifer Miller continue to visit the buildings to speak to members about their issues and concerns.
2. Fingerprinting: **Please note that if you were hired after January 1, 2006 you need not get re-printed.** The law states that all individuals employed *prior* to January 1, 2006, must have their fingerprints taken and processed prior to July 1, 2008. **However, the district will only reimburse you if your fingerprint processing is completed by December 31, 2007.**
3. Board Paid Annuity: Because of changes in the law, restrictions on annuities will change in 2009. The district has contacted the WEA leadership to discuss how these changes will affect members' Board paid annuities. WEA will be bargaining with the district regarding this matter.
4. Common School Calendar, SB549: Recent legislation gave the ISDs the authorization to set the calendar for all school districts in their county. WEA leadership has met with the leaders of the other MEA and MFT locals in Macomb County to discuss their new legislation. Have issued a demand to bargain go the ISD.
5. Coaches Advancement Program (CAP): An agreement has been reached to provide coaches CAP training at no cost within the district. The training will be divided into two sessions to be held after school over two days. Participants will also receive \$50 upon the completion of the program.
6. Sub Problems: The district has lowered the requirements for substitutes in an attempt to ease the shortage problem.
7. Elementary Report Cards: WEA leadership has met with the administration and given them a list of problems that are occurring with the report card system.

New Business

Motion to Adjourn 5:16
Weston/Stone

MOTION CARRIED

Attendance:

Trustees: Lisa Sikoski, John Cafagna, Josh Weston, Jon Fielbrandt.

RA Delegates:

Zone I

Sue Packla
Robin Mercier
Michelle Przybylo
Pam Kellar
Bev Lanni

Zone II

Deborah Lariviere
Lisa Koziara
Joanna Landry
Christy Stone
Sandy Newell
Helen Silverstein
Sue Waters

Zone III

Don Bietler
Jason Carpenter
Eric Walivaara
Dan Barterian
Christine Dewey

Zone IV

Suzette Taylor
Amber Williamson
Michele Strojek
Marilyn Clarke
Sue Flis
Karen Abella
Mary Jo Kerr
Canielle McLean
Heather Grimm

Adjournment: 5:35

Respectfully submitted,

Pat Eisenberger
WEA Office Secretary