
Warren Education Association, MEA/NEA

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Congress Minutes

Carter Middle School
Monday

December 8, 2008
4:15 p.m.

For your information the following is a summary of actions taken by the WEA Congress at its December 8, 2008 meeting. These minutes are unofficial until approved by Congress at its next regular scheduled meeting.

Zone Caucus

Zone Reports:

1. Zone I: Discussions on sub shortages, dirty classrooms, the safety of teachers being alone in their classrooms with parents during conferences, and adult education students entering the building with no identification badges.
2. Zone II: Discussion of sub shortages and dirty classrooms.
3. Zone III: Discussion of scheduling problems for P.E., ELL and Special Ed students. Also, there is a lack of text books.
4. Zone IV: Discussion of teachers missing prep time for MEAP.

Adoption of Agenda: Under Reports add #8. Building Visits.

MOTION: To adopt agenda as amended.

Weston/Callender

MOTION CARRIED

Approval of Minutes:

MOTION: To adopt the minutes of October 6, 2008 as written.

Weston/Carpenter

MOTION CARRIED

Treasurer's Report: As written.

Trustees Report: No report.

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 cancelled due to a settlement in the two cases. Two new grievances were filed this year. 08-01 deals with a letter of written reprimand, and 08-02 deals with teacher's pay for lunch duty.
2. IMPACT:
 - a. Recent Legislation: Currently in lame duck session.
 - b. MEA-PAC Voluntary Contribution Drive: Members who did not contribute last year will continue to be encouraged to contribute to MEAPAC.
3. Public Relations:
 - a. American Education Week Poster Contest: WEA PR Chairpersons Josh Weston, Karen Abella, and WEA President Bob Naski thanked all members who participated in this very successful event.
4. Delegations:
 - a. MEA Board of Directors: Meeting held November 7, 2008. Next meeting will be held in January, 2009.
 - b. Region Six: Meeting to be held December 15, 2008. All WEA MEA RA delegates are requested to attend, as Region Six will be voting for their representative to the NEA RA. WEA member Pam Keller was the Region Six representative in 2008, and is running for representative for 2009.
 - c. MEA Representative Assembly: Voted to put the question of a \$10 dues increase before the Spring RA for 2008-09 for the purpose of funding a Crisis Fund. WEA Vice President Jon Fielbrandt was elected chairperson of the Local Option Coalition.

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5. Curriculum Steering Committee (CSC): Funds are beginning to run low. If you have a conference you are interested in, you need to apply immediately. 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 beginning to run low. If you have a conference you are interested in, you need to apply immediately. Request for funds need to be made at least 30 days prior to workshop.
7. Itinerant Concerns: Report from Josh Weston.
8. Building Visits: Our new contract gives the WEA Vice President two hours of release time each day. The WEA's current Vice-President, Jon Fielbrandt, will be visiting all buildings beginning December 11, 2008 to introduce himself and meet with all WEA members regarding their issues and concerns.

President's Report

1. Annuities: The WEA will hold informational meetings on Thursday, December 11th at Carter Middle School at 3:30 and 4:30 p.m. to discuss the changes to 403(b) accounts effective January 1, 2009. All members are strongly encouraged to attend.
2. Co-Teaching Committee: Maureen Dierwa, Marie Huggins, Christie Warchol, Dave Mangune, and David Murphy will hold their first meeting on Tuesday, December 9, 2008.
3. KALPA: We are working with Brian Walmsley on the concerns you have brought forward regarding the KALPA timeframes for the 2008-2009 school year. As of now, you must register on KALPA for the activity prior to the date of the event, including PLCs. 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. We have passed your concerns along to administration regarding the current timeframes associated with KALPA and continue to work on this matter. Please note that your PLCs for the year should now be available on KALPA.
4. Lunch Room Duty: The WEA takes the position that members working lunch room duty must receive 1/5th for Schedule A salary. A grievance has been filed regarding this issue.
5. Elementary Bus Schedule: The WEA is looking into a possible contract violation with regards to Elementary bus duty. If you feel you are working longer than the contractual day, please contact the WEA office.

New Business

Attendance:

Trustees: Jessica Kuhn, Bob Callender, John Cafagna, Josh Weston, Jon Fielbrandt

RA Delegates:

Zone I

Susan Packla
Michelle Przybylo
Pam Kellar
Deb Loop
Audri McEnaney
Kristin Chudo
Julie Tanner
Renee Barnwell
Cheryl Busquaert
Kelly Juronoc
Sandra Brioc

Zone II

Debra Lariviere
Lisa Koziara
Joanna Landry
Christy Stone
Helen Silverstein
Jennifer Kochanski

Zone III

Jason Swords
Don Bietler
Christine Lewis
Nancy Wayne
Bob Callender
Kevin Bullis
Jason Carpenter
Michelle Herndon
Eric Walivaara
Eric Wachterhauser
Ron Texter
Ron Stratton
Chris Malone

Zone IV

Amber Williamson
Marcia Adamek
Dale Knowlton
Susan Flis
Karen Abella
Mary Jo Kerr
Frank Marberg
Bob Delicato
Danielle McLean

Adjournment: 5:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Pat Eisenberger,
6A Warren and Fitzgerald Coordinating Council
Field Assistant