

MEA BR Meeting Highlights
November 14th, 2011

- Anne Giebler from AFLAC presented options for the MPS staff. We will be looking at these options in conjunction with collective bargaining.
- Questions were asked about the current wellness program and results of the survey. There have been several concerns brought forward about the health screening and nurse calls. Molly has been working with SimplyWell in regards to these concerns.
- We discussed that the survey results and a bargaining update will be sent out the Wednesday before Thanksgiving. The MEA Bargaining team is meeting on Tuesday, November 15th and then the first meeting with the district is on November 22nd. More information will be sent to all members soon.
- The Extra Duty Committee continues to meet. We continue to revise the HS coaching job descriptions and we are beginning to revise the job descriptions for coaches at the middle level.
- MEA policy changes were made for the bargaining team in regards to the size of the team and what type of training we would like them to have.
- The MEA Student Scholarship will remain the same for this school year but the board will be considering revisions that will be in place for next school year. If you are an MEA member with a senior at a high school in MPS, please contact your child's school counselor for the application.
- The MEA Teacher Scholarship will stay in place for this year as well. The budget committee made a recommendation to reduce the number of scholarships but we did not change the policy language. Therefore we will go over budget in this category and look at what to budget for this item this spring.
- Remember that NSEA has a Children's Fund if you have students that need winter coats, glasses, medications, or any other needs. MEA will be doing a fundraiser for the Children's Fund this spring. Stay tuned for more details.
- NSEA has a Leadership Institute that takes place in Lincoln from June 19-21. If you are interested please email Jackee Wise, NSEA UniServ Director at jackee.wise@nsea.org.

MEA Representative Council Meeting: November 14, 2011

President Molly Erickson called the meeting to order at 4:28 p.m.

I. Information/Introduction

A. Anne Giebler- AFLAC

1. Volunteer supplemental insurance
2. These policies do not conflict with other insurance; they help pay for what insurance does not cover.
3. Kids are covered to the age of 26.
4. The Negotiations Team will send out a survey to see if MEA members are interested in including AFLAC in collective bargaining.

II. Agenda Revisions

A. None

III. Routine Matters

- A. Approval of October 17, 2011 Rep. Council Minutes
- B. Approval of Financial Report- Treasurer's Report

IV. Leadership Training

A. Constituency Groups

V. Leadership/Staff Reports

A. President's Report

1. 1500 people from Nebraska who were members last year are not members this year. If you are interested in helping Brian Mikkelsen and joining NSEA in contacting these members and reporting back to NSEA the results of your phone calls, contact Molly for additional information.
2. The Negotiations Committee attended the Bargaining Conference in Grand Island. Most of the discussion focused on implications of LB397. Two members of the team were able to sit and have a discussion with the legal team.
3. The Wellness Champions will be meeting on Thursday, October 28th. The agenda will contain some information about how to enroll and plenty of time to ask questions that people have from the building.
4. Paul Schulte and Melissa Brendel will be representing MEA at the National Council of Urban Educators Conference in Orlando, FL, November 30 – December 4.
5. The Extra Duty Committee met again as a full committee to review the job description of the head coaches at the high school level. This will be reviewed again by the head coaches with the changes that were made by the committee and then we will finalize the description and move forward with review of the assistant coaches at the high school and coaching positions at the middle level.

6. There are a few members interested in starting up a committee in regards to GLBT and Safe Schools for All Students. As more information becomes available I will keep you posted.
 7. The Metro Area President's Council will be having a few training sessions in January and April.
 8. A Wellness Survey went out the week of November 7th.
- A. Vice-President's Report: Pull from October Board meeting
1. Negotiations Conference
 - a. There was a focus on LB397 and how it will change the negotiations process across the state. There are new dates/timelines which must be strictly adhered to by both of the negotiating teams. There were also changes to the mediation process as well as the addition of a Resolutions Officer that will make decisions on final best offers before going to the CIR. There was a presentation by NEA as well as the Iowa State Education Association on some of the issues that we could face since Iowa has similar laws on collective bargaining.
- B. LCCC
1. LCCC District 4 met on Tuesday, October 25th. They reviewed and approved the LEP and Poverty Plans from both MPS and EPS. They also reviewed the options for re-districting to get the number of students more equitable amongst the districts. The committee took action and approved support of scenario #1 for the new boundaries.
- C. NSEA Board Report
1. Princess Moss, NEA Executive Committee Member, was visiting the Lincoln Education Association and stopped in for the meeting. She was then honored at a picnic hosted by LEA.
 2. Karen Kilgarin shared that there is a grant with Building Bright Futures that will be funding public service announcements regarding truancy. These should begin airing on local stations soon.
 3. Jerry Hoffman shared that the Government Relations team has been meeting with senators around the state in their home districts. Conversations with the senators revolved around maintaining retirement benefits and looking at corporate tax breaks.

VI. Information Items

- A. Western Region Leadership Conference – Oklahoma City, OK on January 20-22
 1. Paul Schulte, Becky Scherbring, Casey Hoffman will be representing MEA. Cama Sayles will be representing MEA as an NEA participant and will be attending the Woman's Conference prior to the start of WRLC.
- B. Bond Issue Update
 1. Ballots are due on Tuesday, November 15th by 5:00 p.m.
- C. Membership Update
 1. 20+ people joined after the membership extension.
 2. Membership is down approximately 20 people.
- D. NSEA Leadership Institute
 1. Lincoln, NE June 19-21, 2012

2. Any member who is interested can attend.
3. BRs are encouraged to invite members who want to get more involved.
- E. NSEA Children's Fund
 1. The Fund is a way for teachers who are members to get glasses, hearing aids, clothing, winter coats, medication, etc. for their students.
 2. We need to promote this so members can take advantage of it.
 3. Members have to call in (1-800-742-0047) to get assistance.
 4. We would like to do a fundraiser in the spring to raise money for the Children's Fund.
- F. Member Benefits
 1. NEA offers many programs to members.
 - a. Insurance
 - b. Credit
 - c. Loan and mortgage
 - d. Investment
 - e. Discount

VII. Action Items

- A. Second Reading of Proposed Policy 4100
 1. Motion to accept the policy as written. Motion carried.
- B. First Reading of Proposed Policy 3440
- C. Proposed Revision of MPSF Student Scholarship
 1. Motion to amend the policy to three scholarships. Motion carried.
 2. The remainder of the language was tabled and will go back to the Board.
- D. Proposed Revision of the MEA Teacher Scholarship
 1. No change to the language but the budget was amended to award (4) \$500 scholarships in the spring, summer, and fall.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:53 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Erin Shirmang-Ward, Secretary