

Millard Education Association
Board of Directors Meeting
MEA Office
Omaha, NE
August 29, 2011

Attending: Molly Erickson- President, Paul Schulte- Vice-President, Tom Whisinnand- Treasurer, Erin Shirmang-Ward- Recording Secretary, Melissa Brendel- Elementary Director, Marsha Edquist- Elementary Director, Becky Scherbring- Elementary Director, Jason Weber- Middle School Director, Paul Gabel- High School Director, Tim Royers- High School Director, Kim Secora- At-Large Director, Reynee Shanahan- At-Large Director, Jackee Wise- UniServ Director

Excused: Jason Boatwright- Middle School Director

President Molly Erickson called the meeting to order at 4:38 p.m.

I. Agenda Revisions/Adoption of Agenda

II. Information Items

A. Membership Update

- a. We are currently down 50 members.
- b. New members need to send paperwork in to the MEA office by Friday, September 30th.

B. Meeting Agenda

- a. "The Agenda Revisions/Adoption of Agenda" section will be removed due to the fact we do this via email.

C. Committee Meetings/Ad-Hoc Committee Meetings

- a. BRs are going to be asked to sign up for a committee.
- b. Molly shared proposed committee meeting dates.
- c. Paul Schulte will chair the Building Ad-Hoc Committee.

D. Budget Discussion

- a. If we are close to 50 members short, we will need to look at our budget and potentially make cuts.

E. BR Expectation Sheet

- a. We need BRs to be leaders in their buildings. MEA is a member-driven organization and the board needs to know what is going on in buildings via the Building Reps.
- b. How can we empower our BRs?
- c. Highlight minutes so BRs know what they must share with members.

III. Action Items/Unfinished Business

A. Drop Requests (Executive Session):

- a. Moved (Royers/Weber) to go into Executive Session at 5:25 p.m. Motion carried.

- b. Moved (Royers/Weber) to come out of Executive Session at 5:53 p.m. Motion carried
 - c. Drop Request #1: Motion to deny (Shirmang-Ward/Royers). Motion carried.
 - d. Drop Request #2: Motion to deny (Royers/Edquist). Motion carried.
 - e. Drop Request #3: Motion to accept (Royers/Brendel). Motion carried.
 - f. Drop Request #4: Motion to deny (Shirmang-Ward/Royers). Motion carried.
 - g. Drop Request #5: Motion to deny (Scherbring/Gabel). Motion carried.
 - h. Drop Request #6: Motion to deny (Shanahan/Secora). Motion carried.
 - i. Drop Request #7: Motion to deny (Gabel/Royers). Motion carried.
 - j. Drop Request #8: Motion to deny (Brendel/Gabel). Motion carried.
 - k. Drop Request #9: Motion to accept (Shirmang-Ward/Gabel). Motion carried.
 - l. Drop Request #10: Motion to deny (Shanahan/Gabel). Motion carried.
- B. Scholarship Policy Language
- a. We discussed changing the number of scholarship winners last year. Policy language needs to be modified to reflect that change.
 - b. We will have four scholarship winners for fall 2011 and three for spring 2012.
 - c. Scholarship applications for summer classes are due by the April Board meeting. Applications for fall classes are due by the August Board meeting and applications for spring classes are due by the December Board meeting.
- C. Fall Teacher Scholarships
- a. 1-5 years: Jessica Jenkins and Nicole Burton
 - b. 6 + years: Kelly Pugh and Paul Grant
- D. MPS Bond Issue
- a. The district has asked MEA to support the bond issue.
 - b. Teacher support is closely related to the passage of bond issues.
 - c. Major points: Building additions (Rowher and Upchurch), security, and technology
 - d. The district has a general fund and the money they want from the bond issue is there. If that money is taken out of the general fund there will be little money for salary increases. The bond issue would allow money to be available for changes and updates.
 - e. The Board feels we need to get feedback from members before fully supporting the bond issue.
 - f. Motion (Whisinnand/Schulte) to have a position of support for the bond issue, however Molly needs to gather information on what supporting a bond issue entails and what exactly the district is planning on using the money for. She will email BRs with information so they can get feedback from members before the September 12th BR meeting. Motion carried.

IV. Reports

A. President's Report

- a. Extra Duty Committee: The Extra Duty Committee is now a standing committee. This year they will be reviewing middle and high school athletics. The first meeting has been set for Tuesday, September 13th at 2:00 p.m.
- b. Wellness: The MEA has meetings scheduled with both MPS and Simply Well next week (August 30th and 31st) and will also be meeting with NSEA to

discuss contractual issues on September 6th. An update will follow those meetings.

- c. Membership: We are still down quite a few members. If you have not had a chance to make a personal contact with the new teachers and non-members in your buildings, please do so by September 30th. If you need help with recruiting please do not hesitate to ask.
- d. Elementary Day: There is a school board committee meeting on September 12th where the board will be discussing the elementary day and potential for what that could look like.
- e. ProCom: The first ProCom will be on September 20th. There has been talk of making this committee more of a sub-set of negotiations to begin having those discussions about our contract.
- f. Metro Board Vacancy: There is a vacancy in a Millard seat for Metro Board. Paul Schulte was elected to the NSEA Board to fill a vacancy, which left Millard with an open seat. One person has expressed an interest since I sent out the August Update. If anyone else is interested please let me know.

B. Vice-President's Report

- a. Millard Days Parade: Good turnout but we really needed more people (15-20 total) to help hand out materials. We need to do more promotion early on to get members involved.
- b. Legislative Focus: The Metro District will be hosting a Nebraska State Senator dinner this fall. We are looking for Board of Directors as well as BRs and interested members to attend this dinner. More details will be given as the planning takes place. At the September Metro Board meeting Jerry Hoffman will be leading training for the Metro Board, Local Presidents, and Local GR Chairs.

C. Treasurer's Report (Financial Statement)

D. UniServ Report

- a. Jackee Wise officially became the MEA UniServ Director on August 1, 2011 but began working with MEA members in June.
- b. In June she attended the BOD/Negotiators' dinner, visited with members who had contract concerns, visited with members who had Association concerns, and connected several members with NSEA experts in bargaining and rights.
- c. During July she continued to work with member issues, worked with Molly to organize August membership/new teacher meetings, and attended the Board retreat. She also met with Mark McGuire, NSEA Bargaining Attorney, to discuss MEA contract concerns.
- d. During August Jackee worked with Molly on the BR Membership Training/New Teacher Lunch and met with members who had possible rights issues, and discussed continuing contract concerns such as wellness, extra duty longevity, salary take-over, etc. with members and Association leaders. She attended the MEA Membership Celebration at Millard South and a MEA building meeting at Millard West. She also attended MEA Celebrations with Molly at Andersen Middle School, Hitchcock, Russell Middle School, and Upchurch. She attended a meeting in Lincoln with the NSEA bargaining team to discuss MEA contract issues. Jackee and Molly visited with Brian

Mikkelsen, NSEA GR, concerning the roll NSEA/MEA might play concerning the MPS bond issue and had an introductory meeting with MPS HR folks. Molly, Matt Heys, and Jackee also met with Chad Meisgeier to discuss the current contract.

E. NSEA/Metro District

- a. PERB (Retirement Board) met and this year we could be in a hard fight to keep our defined benefit. Jan Elliott, Bellevue, serves on the board as an NSEA Board member. She will let us know if we need to contact Senators.
- b. There was discussion about the budget. It was amended to give Board members \$0.45 a mile instead of the IRS rate to reduce costs. The budget could be looked at again this fall if membership numbers remain low.

F. LCCC/Legislative Report

- a.

V. Future Agenda Items

A. Focus Group/Strategic Plan

The meeting was adjourned at 7:02 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Erin Shirmang-Ward, Secretary