

Millard Education Association
Board of Directors Meeting
August 18, 2009
Olive Garden at 168th and Center
Omaha, NE

Attending:

Molly Erickson- President
Mike Foyt- Vice-President
Erin Shirmang-Ward- Recording Secretary
Melissa Brendal, Becky Scherbring, and Reynee Shanahan- Elementary Directors
Kathy Gibbs and Jason Weber- Middle School Directors
Chris Carroll and Matt Heys - High School Directors
Paul Schulte and Sherryl Shannon- At-Large Directors
Mike Wiesen- UniServ Director
Tom Whisinnand- Communications Committee Chair and Metro District Representative

President Erickson called the meeting to order at 4:45 P.M at the Olive Garden.

I. Agenda Revisions / Adoption

Add letter G to Information Items: Fax Machine
Add letter C to Action Items: Budget Amendment
Add letter D to Reports: Metro District

II. Routine Matters

- A. The minutes were approved electronically prior to the May Building Representative meeting.
- B. Treasurer's report was approved as submitted.

III. Information Items

- A. Introductions/Ice Breaker: Introductions were made by all members

At 5:30 P.M. it was determined Olive Garden was becoming too loud to hold our meeting, so we moved to the Upstream.

- B. Board Vacancy: Angela Ralph, Treasurer, took a job in OPS so the position of Treasurer is currently vacant. This will be announced to all BRs when the agenda for the August 31st Building Representative meeting is sent out. Nominations will be accepted until the start of the August 31st BR meeting. If a member would like to nominate themselves or someone else, they need to contact Kathy Gibbs (Election Chair) or Molly. Tom Whisinnand nominated himself.
- C. Phone Numbers/Drink Sign-Up: New Directors gave their phone numbers to Molly. Everyone signed up to bring beverages to one of the Board of Directors meetings.
- D. Life Coach: Former Millard Public Schools administrator Dr. Carol Beatty contacted Molly. She is now a life coach and wanted to pass along her information. MEA is not endorsing Dr. Beatty, but if a new hire or future retiree would like information, Molly can pass it on.
- E. Long-Term Care Insurance: Brad Burwell and Vintage Financial is currently offering long-term care insurance only to MEA members. Molly was asked if MEA would be willing to support the offer of this insurance through Heritage Financial for all MPS staff. The Board agreed if Millard Public Schools wanted to offer the insurance through Heritage Financial that was fine.
- F. Communications Committee- Parade: Chair of the Communications Committee, Tom Whisinnand, shared that his committee will be meeting at 4:30 on August 20th at the Panera on 180th and Center to discuss the Millard Days parade which is taking place on Saturday, August 29th. Those interested in participating in the parade can contact Tom for more information.
- G. Fax Machine: The MEA fax machine is no longer functioning. We currently have \$800 in the Office Expenses section of the budget. A new machine costs \$300 and will be purchased.

IV. Action Items

- A. Member Drop Request: Moved (Heys/Gibbs) that the Board move from regular session into executive session at 6:10 P.M. to discuss a member drop request. Motion carried. Moved (Heys/Foyt) to return to regular session at 6:19 P.M. Motion carried. Moved (Foyt/Shannon) to deny the drop request. Motion carried.
- B. Contract Voting Results: The contract was accepted with 611 "Yes" votes (78.2%). Moved (Scherbring/Shirmang-Ward) to validate the voting results for the 2009-2011 collective bargaining agreement between the Millard Education Association and Millard Public Schools. Motion carried. Erin Shirmang-Ward and Jason Weber expressed concern over the Groupwise issues that prevented some members from voting. The Board of Directors thanked the Negotiations Committee for all of its hard work.
- C. Budget Amendment: The Children's Fund golf tournament cost \$550 in the past; it is increasing to \$600. Moved (Gibbs/Weber) to change line item 900 in the current budget to reflect the change. Motion carried.

V. Reports

- A. President's Report: The New Teacher gathering will be at the Upstream out west on Thursday, September 17th from 4:00-6:00 P.M. The Corporate Cup run will be on Sunday, September 20th; we have a table at the run and the MPS Foundation is sponsoring us. The Metro District is looking for Learning Community leaders from locals (Molly Erickson and Matt Heys currently represent MEA). If members are interested in attending a meeting, they should contact Molly through their personal email account. Volunteers may be asked to take notes and report back to Metro District and/or MEA. The next Learning Community meeting is on Thursday, August 27th at the Metro Community College South Campus at 6:30 P.M.
- B. Vice-President's Report: None
- C. UniServ Report: Mike Wiesen shared that the NSEA is having a bargaining conference in Kearney the evening of Friday, October 2nd and all day Saturday, October 3rd. If members are interested in attending they should contact Mike. No teachers are currently on assistance plans; members (especially new teachers) should contact MEA with **any** issues. Building Reps and members of the Board are encouraged to make personal contact with potential members. Tom Whisinnand, Communications Committee Chair, suggested a formal invitation inviting each nonmember to join MEA. He will discuss this with his committee members at his next meeting. Molly gave each Board member a copy of the flyer she created, and she asked that we post these. More will be handed out to BRs at the meeting on Monday, August 31st.
- D. Metro District: Tom Whisinnand shared that the Metro District would like locals to encourage their members to attend Learning Community meetings as there is currently no teacher voice; we need to come together and be informed. Tom also shared that Metro District is working on getting a website up and running but this is taking some time. There is a vacancy on the Metro Board for Secretary; if you are interested in filling the position, contact Tom. NSEA has shared they are willing to cover the MEA's cost of using Survey Monkey.

Future Agenda Items

- A. Look at the MEA's Strategic Plan.
- B. Constitution and Policy Ad Hoc Committee needs to be formed.
- C. Discuss incorporating leadership training into future Building Rep. meetings.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted
Erin Shirmang-Ward, Secretary