

## ARLINGTON EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

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**Members present:** Kim Kerby, Abingdon; Marlena Dasbach, Ashlawn; Margaret Frick, Barrett; Regina Richardson, Campbell; Kati Costar, Claremont; Aldonia Cooper, Carlin Springs; Marjory Franklin, Ed Center; Nicole Holley-Shero, Glebe; Kris White, Gunston; Laura Hansen and Cara Lamont, Jamestown; Theresa Cavanaugh, Jefferson, Leslie Stockton and Solange John-Jules, Kenmore; Linda Jenkins, Key; Kate Lawrence, Langston; Anne Malleck, Long Branch, Aimee Bough, McKinley, Kauser Shahid and Helene Conge, Oakridge; Margaret Lindquist, Stratford; Ricky Hamilton and Michelle Breedy, Taylor; Mikhail Balachov and Miriam Ramierz, Wakefield; Gerry Collins and Joyce Santoro, Williamsburg; Erin McCoy-Smith, Washington-Lee.

**Executive Board Members Present:** Shelley, Jennings, Lee Dorman, Lara Heubusch, Vicky Robertson, Shawn Waddell, Anya Gan, Gerry Collins and Wanda Perkins.

The meeting was called to order at 4:20 p.m. by President Shelley Jennings.

President Jennings thanked the representatives of AXA and ING for providing sandwiches for the meeting.

Motion by Lee Dorman, second by Leslie Stockton to adopt the agenda as written. Motion carried.

Motion by Cara Lamont, second by Joyce Santoro to adopt the minutes of October 14, 2008 as written. Motion carried.

President Jennings informed delegates representatives of the four TSA providers will be available to meet with members one-on-one at the AEA office between 3:00 and 9:00 p.m. by appointment only. Appointments will be schedule in 45 minute increments. Sign up sheets were provided.

President Jennings introduced the representatives from AXA and ING and allowed each to provide a brief explanation of their programs.

President Jennings reported the TOO Campaign was under way and has been a huge success thus far. The current membership total is 1530

President Jennings presented her report outlining her previous month's activities and gave a report on behalf of Ken Reinshuttle, the acting UniServ Director, in his absence.

President Jennings reported APS will pay the \$40 fee for assistants taking the ParaPro exam for the first time. Contact Erin Wales-Smith on extension 2419.0

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President Jennings reminded delegates of the NEA Dues-Tab program which provides life insurance for all members up to a maximum of \$1,000 and members should register their beneficiaries with NEA which can be done online at NEA.org.

VEA will be holding its first SPARKS meeting of this membership year. SPARKS is a program for members within their first five years of membership. The cost of the program is provided by VEA and those who have attended in the past have had a lot of fun which learning the advantages of VEA membership.

President Jennings reported on the VEA Legislative Agenda. Two pieces of legislation to oppose are changes to the VRS program, from a defined benefit to a defined contribution plan and tuition tax credit vouchers.

Lee Dorman stated it is important for members to exercise their privilege to vote out of office, members of the General Assembly who oppose education funding and issues.

VEA Lobby Day is Monday, February 2, 2009. AEA will provide association leave, overnight accommodations and roundtrip transportation. Sign up early to participate so arrangements can be confirmed.

President Jennings stated APS sent an email to employees asking for their input as to what they would like in a new Superintendent.

Delegates discussed the process used by APS to select the 403b providers. Members are very disheartened with the appearance of not having any employee input into the process or selection.

Motion by Laura Hanson, second by Helene Conge that AEA will support the “grandfathering” of all current and recently selected 403b providers. Motion failed.

Motion by Lee Dorman, second by Ricky Hamilton to direct president to express members’ dissatisfaction in the 403b process and mount a campaign to contact School Board members and Senior Staff expressing their dismay in the lack of employee participation in issues that directly affects them. Motion passed.

President Jennings announced there will be a FLES Committee meeting at the AEA office, on December 4 at 4:30 p.m. Anyone interested is invited to be on the committee.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m.