

ARLINGTON EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

5691 Columbia Pike # 100

Falls Church, VA 22041

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Executive Board Minutes

August 27, 2008

Members Present: Shelley Jennings, Michael Mandel, Steven Utley, Lara Heubusch, Anya Gan, Lee Dorman, Gerry Collins, Louise Fishbein, Lynn Clark.

President Jennings called the meeting to order at 4:20 p.m.

Motion by Steven Utley, second by Lara Heubusch, to approve Executive Board minutes of meeting May 27, 2008. Motion carried.

President Jennings provided a list of dates and meetings regarding her activities in July and August 2008. Details for a meeting attended the last week of July will be furnished in the next report.

The Vice President's report regarding membership will be provided at the next Executive Board meeting.

The Financial Report is postponed until the September Executive Board meeting, as Treasurer Shawn Waddell was absent. President Jennings noted that of the 191 attendees, 63 joined the AEA at the New Hires Luncheon held August 18th at Kenmore Middle School. Motion by Gerry Collins, second by Steven Utley, to ensure that AEA either has access to attendees for one hour, during the New Hires Luncheon, or selects a different venue for recruitment. President Jennings noted that the printed agenda listed a lunch break from 12:40 -1:00, which was insufficient time for attendees to familiarize themselves with and join the AEA. Motion carried unanimously.

The CPST Sub committee meeting will be held September 10 at the AEA office. President Jennings and Dr. Betty Hobbs have held discussions regarding mandated changes to health insurance, 403(b) tax-sheltered annuity retirement plans, and regulations from the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB). President Jennings reported that Dr. Hobbs took full responsibility for the lack of employee input into these changes. Per Gerry Collins, APS must comply with IRS mandates regarding changes in 403(b) tax-sheltered annuity plans and GASB regulations. Effective 2009, APS has to hire a third party administrator, currently TIAACREF, to manage 403(b) accounts. There is a code of confidentiality regarding GASB discussions.

There was lengthy discussion on the following topics: lack of timeliness in obtaining information about changes in health plans and tax-sheltered annuity plans; GASB; continued apologies from the Personnel Office; lack of adequate AEA participation in meetings on middle school design, grade book software, and the New Hire Luncheon agenda; and opportunities to solicit member response before a Request for Proposal (RFP) is initiated.

A 403(b) tax-sheltered annuity meeting will be held Tuesday, September 9, at 4:30 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. at Swanson Middle School. Meeting will be hosted by Dr. Hobbs and Mary Beth Chambers, Assistant Superintendent, Finance and Management Services.

AEA Executive Board members are participating in a pilot program to access pay stub information online. Questions regarding availability, access, and privacy of pay stub information will be referred to CPST. Paper statements will be issued until October 1.

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Lara Heubusch noted that the issue of parent teacher conferences at the elementary school level needs to be revisited again at CPST.

President Jennings will send a list of School Board dates to the Executive Board so they may sign up. Executive Board members are asked and encouraged to attend and be eligible for the Incentive Program.

The next two Delegate Assembly meetings will be held Monday, September 15th, and Tuesday, October 14th, both at 4:15 p.m., Kenmore Middle School Library.

Due to a religious holiday, the AEA Executive Board meeting has been rescheduled from Monday, September 29, to Monday, October 6th, 4:15 p.m., AEA office.

Ballots for the Run-Off Election for NEA Director between Sarah Patton and Stephen Whitten are due in the AEA office Monday, September 8.

Lee Dorman is the official AEA representative to the Middle School Design Team, a group convened this summer by Dr. Mark Johnston, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction, to examine the middle school model that APS adopted several years ago. The group held three meetings so far. The group is examining the status of electives at the middle school level and the impact of the implementation of FLES at the elementary school level; the consequences of curriculum changes on the "team" approach; and the effect of statewide testing and accreditation requirements on the middle schools.

President Jennings met with Regional Director Ken Reinshuttle regarding the AEA Target of Opportunity (TOO) Campaign membership drive. Details will be announced at the next Delegate Assembly meeting. The following volunteered for subcommittee planning: Shelley Jennings, Michael Mandel, Lara Heubusch, and Steven Utley.

Lynn Clark reported that letters were sent out regarding the Outreach to Teach. Next week, she will place telephone calls.

Motion by Lee Dorman, second by Lara Heubusch, to discuss AEA election policies at next Executive Board meeting in October.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:45 p.m. Executive Session began.