

April 9, 2008

The April meeting of the Amherst Teachers' Association was called to order by President, Scott Pecze. Stephanie Boggs moved that the minutes from the April meeting be approved. Diana Beetler seconded the motion. The minutes from the previous meeting were accepted as submitted. Diana Beetler gave the treasurer's report. (See attached.)

Insurance- Wellness info and credits need to be sent to Greg Ring by May 2. The awards will be at Avon HS on May 7. A comic from "The Last Comic Standing" will provide the entertainment. We are getting to the point where the district may be seeing some financial benefits from our wellness program. We are at approximately 37% , but we need to be at 50% to see these benefits. This includes any adult who is covered by our insurance. We need more people doing the online Health Risk Assessment and reporting their points. Unfortunately, many people do things that would accumulate points, but they do not report. People can still email Greg to tell him what they have been doing even if they are working out on their own. They are to report their activities to Greg via email. It was suggested that next year they could get us smaller purse size calendars to record the info instead of the bigger wall calendars.

LPDC- Get an early start on renewals, etc. Columbus is bogged down, and we don't want anyone missing any paychecks in the fall.

Policy and Procedure: Board policy has been realigned to support the new background checks and fingerprinting policies. Ohio revised code 3319.39 lists offenses that would raise concern. Social Security numbers WILL NOT appear on any documents that can be seen by the public. This has been done at the board office, but now it is actually in writing.

Social: Spring Social is on April 25 from 3-?. Happy Hour Prices will be honored from 4-7. There will be a cash bar, but finger foods will be provided by ATA. "Men of Steele" will perform starting at 4:30-?. Helping the band bring their equipment inside may get them started early. Holly Miller-McGuire moved to keep the budget below \$500. Jennifer Henry seconded the motion. The motion carried.

The retirement dinner is on May 1. Cocktail hour will begin at 5:00, and dinner will be served at 5:30. The dinner of the retirees and their guests will be paid for by ATA. The reps' dinners will be paid for too. The cost of the dinner will be \$20.00. The dinner is open to anyone who wishes to attend. Checks should be made payable to the ATA and sent to Diana Beetler at Nord Middle School. RSVPs should be sent to Diana Beetler by April 23. Retirees need to RSVP by April 18. We will honor Mr. Boynton as well at the dinner.

Powers and the JH received new copiers, and Scott will talk to Mr. Boynton about the other buildings in need.

New Business: New law goes into effect on 1/1/09. We want to have everything done by the end of this school year. There are new IRS regs on payroll deductions on 403b accounts. The district

is looking into having the fewest number of providers possible but attempt to avoid surrender fees. ATA will be working with the treasurer to create a plan to abide by the new tax laws. We (OEA) are endorsing Tim Myers for the STRS board. Voting can be done online or on the phone instead of sending in the paper ballots. Details are outlined in the mailing you recently received.

There is a new STRS rule that says retire/rehire people are no longer able to use STRS insurance. They must use their own school district's insurance. Unfortunately, our contract says that rehires must get their insurance from STRS. Scott is talking to Bob about changing this rule. Negotiations will take place to deal with this issue.

The tech support negotiations meeting will be next Wednesday. See Scott to let him know who is doing building levels tech duties. Also let him know if those people are being paid via discretionary funds. There may be a stipend created to pay these people.

The May meeting will be held at 4:00 prior to the retirement dinner At German's Villa.

Lisa Schenk moved the meeting be adjourned. Steve Latto seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Kim Gambish, secretary

#### TIDBITS

Jennifer Romes, Intervention Specialist at AJH, has a new baby girl. Her name is Addyson Caroline Romes. What a beautiful name!! Congratulations!