

October 10, 2007

The September meeting of the ATA was called to order by President Scott Pecze. Holly McGuire moved that the minutes from the September meeting be accepted as amended. Stephanie Boggs seconded the motion, which passed.

Diana Beetler reported on our treasury fund. See attached. The rebates will be calculated, and forms will be sent to members. You may want to donate your rebate to the American Cancer Society, the Educational Foundation, the Arts Foundation, our Calamity Fund or leave it in the ATA checking. You will be able to inform Diana Beetler.

Insurance-Holly Miller-McGuire has volunteered to chair the insurance committee. The committee will be meeting on October 17 to consider two items: the increase of the number of immunizations we receive and the coverage of screenings such as colonoscopies. We are hoping to gain at least one of the items.

You are encouraged to report ANY exercising in which you are involved. Even if you're not interested in the prizes, etc. this year's program is way more accepting and less limited. Best of all, our premiums may go down. Report to Susan Watson or Greg Ring.

LPDC-Dream up something and teach it at your building. Encourage others too. There are all kinds of methods available to us to be shown to others. Spread the word. Make alternative inservice hours available to us.

Policy Review-E-mail is now a part of public record. The state says all messages are to be stored for a year. Be very careful to use the public equipment appropriately.

Elections-NEOEA ballots will be mailed tomorrow. Please return them by October 15th. It's easiest to take the ballot out of your mailbox, fill it out, and return it to your election rep's mailbox.

Local Option-The first meeting is October 25th at AJH. It is a dinner meeting beginning at 5:00 p.m. If you're interested, contact Scott.

Social-Plan on the Friday before Thanksgiving. That's November 16th. More info will follow.

Membership-Contact Heather Dick with any changes of address, etc.

Old business-

Prior to the "Meet and Greet the Candidates," the JSA (Junior State of America) organization will be hosting a dinner held at AJH at 5:00. The dinner will be cabbage rolls and chicken paprikash. Yum. They are asking for a \$10 donation. For the most part, the JSA will coordinate the "Meet and Greet the Candidates" for the school board election function. "Meet and Greet the Candidates" starts at 7:00 on October 23rd at AJH. The prepared questions will be sent to the candidates. Some questions will be impromptu. The high school students will create the questions.

Scott moved to create a budget of not more than \$175 to purchase refreshments for the meet and greet night. Gary Sooy seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Our website is available to all of us to use. Feel free to contact Brad Cocco.

New Business-

Scott appointed Claire Smith as Nord's new ATA rep, and Janet Latto will be AJH's new rep. (*Claire Smith and Janet Latto will be **Insurance** reps for Nord and AJH, respectfully.*)

New evaluation forms have been devised for the paraprofessionals, counselors, speech (SLP) and psychologists. While they aren't perfect, the new forms are more applicable to the job descriptions of these positions.

Permanent Improvement Levy-There are signs available in your building's office. There will be mailings to homes. It should be communicated to everyone that there will be no new taxes.

Shupe-Teachers are still in need of a copier.

Powers-The north parking lot is in dire need of repair.

Are any purchased years included in STRS's "years of service" considered as actual years of service in Amherst? If STRS recognizes the years as "credit," it's a go.

Harris-All is okay.

Nord-Do years of experience affect the paraprof's salaries as our years do?

A teacher is working without a computer. Her grades and all are tied up within the computer. There are no loaner computers available. Hopefully, Todd will find a way to remedy this.

AJH-Planning time issues have been caused because Mike has scheduled lunch duties which conflict with the teachers' planning time. Mike will talk to Bob about hiring lunch aides.

Steele-They're okay.

Lisa Jeskie moved that the meeting be adjourned. Sue Schneider seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned. Those in attendance were: Sue Schneider, Diana Beetler, Lisa Misson, Jennifer Henry, Stephanie Boggs, Laura Brogan, Gary Sooy, Wendi Lowe, Lisa Jeskie, Deanna Walther, Suzanne White, Scott Pecze, and Holly Miller-McGuire.

Respectfully submitted,
Kim Gambish, secretary

tidbits

Jody Kaiser, Steele teacher, is engaged! Congratulations!

Brett Thompson, Language Arts teacher at Steele, and his wife, Melissa, are expecting a baby in December. What a great time to have a baby!

Michelle Webb, social studies teacher at Steele and her husband, Todd, had a baby boy about six weeks ago, so they are probably starting to get some sleep. Best wishes.

As of June, Tabitha Chorak is officially Tabitha Bender. Congrats to the new couple.

Chris Barbaro was a summer groom as well. Congratulations to Chris and his bride.

Carol Gallagher is a grandmother. Her son, William, and his wife had a baby. Isn't it fun, Carol??

Stephanie Rothman and her husband, Jason, are the proud parents of a second son, Ryan, who was born in September. We wish them the best.