

# MEA MONITOR

Moline Education Association

January/February 2019

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## President's Report - Susan Hafner

Hello Everyone-

Is it just me or has checking the weather become a part of everyone's daily routine? When it comes to school, I can't believe January is over and it is already the first week of February. I have barely seen my students since the beginning of the new year. One last thing, is this the first time we have had to work all five of our emergency days? I can't remember any other year during all my years of teaching.

With the Polar Vortex, we did not have our half-day inservice, where we were going to work on articulation. During that afternoon, the elementary teachers were going to complete a survey concerning the ELA units. Since we were home that day, the survey did not occur as planned, which led to some misunderstandings when the survey was given the following week. Due to the fact that I thought the surveys had been completed, I sent out requests to people to be part of a committee that would evaluate our current units and potentially pilot possible text(s) in the fall. In my email, I expressed that I wanted teachers to have their voices heard as we and the administration address the ELA curriculum. There have been no decisions made by anyone at Allendale, and we hope that the committee, which consists of teachers from every level and from every school, will play a major part in the evaluation and possible piloting process.

An exciting move from the district is the hiring of additional counselors, one at the elementary level and one at the middle school level. These counselors are a much needed addition to our schools as we have more students who have needs that go beyond the regular classroom. We are definitely heading in the right direction.

The other big change for the district is the hiring of Rachel Savage to replace Lanty as our superintendent. I hope you have had a chance to read her bio and learn more about our future leader. Lanty will be missed, and I hope that Dr. Savage will be as accessible as Lanty has been these past few years.

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If you are not busy on Tuesday, March 5th, the MEA and the Moline Public Schools Foundation will be hosting another forum to meet the candidates for the school board. It will be at 6:00 pm and will be held at the Wilson Middle School cafeteria. Returning board members are Kate Schaefer and Justin Anderson; Maria Trigueros and Audrey Adamson will be joining the board for the first time. Hopefully, our forum will give the community an opportunity to learn more about these individuals and their goals for our district.

As we go into the last half of February, I hope the weather settles down and that we can look forward to the upcoming months that will bring us some warmer temperatures. Spring will be here--eventually--and we get to turn our clocks ahead in about a month. Thank goodness, our days will be longer, and I am looking forward to some sunshine.

Try to stay warm-  
Susie

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## AR Secretary's Report - Emily Roberts

Moline Education Association  
Association Representatives Meeting  
Thursday, January 10th, 2019

The MEA Association Representatives met Thursday, January 10th, 2019, at the IEA office, Moline. President Susie Hafner called the meeting to order at 3:50pm. There were 22 ARs and 11 Executive Board members in attendance; a quorum was present.

A motion was made by Sheri Martin, seconded by Christine Watts, to approve the minutes of the September 6th, 2018, the October 11th, 2018, and the November 8th, 2018, AR meetings. **Motion** approved.

Treasurer Steve Sundberg reported balances in all accounts. A motion to approve the treasurer's reports of September 6th, 2018, October 11th, 2018, November 8th, 2018, and January 10th, 2019, was made by Jill Bogart, seconded by Debbie Sturgis. **Motion** passed. It was voted (January 2015) to not publish the dollar amounts in the MEA budget in neither the minutes nor the Monitor. Members with questions regarding the MEA account balances are asked to contact Treasurer Steve Sundberg.

### Committee Chair Reports:

**Membership** – Heidi Norcross reported membership at 439. There was a new teacher hired at Lincoln-Irving Elementary, and pre-kindergarten teachers who started in January have not yet been counted in the membership total.

**Elections** – Lori Wesemann reported that the Moline delegates to the IEA RA Convention are: Raegan Jones, Julie Bender, and Colette Guerdet. President Susie Hafner and Vice-President Christine Watts may also attend per MEA by-laws. The IEA RA convention will be July 3-7 in Houston, Texas. Nominations for delegates open January 23rd and close February 20th, with the election on March 6th. Members wanting their names on the ballots are asked to contact Lori Wesemann or Susie Hafner.

**Region 18** – Lori Wesemann reported that funding for IEA RA delegates would be a topic of discussion at the next meeting.

**Public Relations** – Kim Anderson will bring a "welcome to the district" card for ARs to sign, then give the card to the new Superintendent.



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**Social** – no report.

**Grievance/Negotiations** – President Hafner will send a negotiations survey to members. The concerns/topics with the highest numbers of responses will be discussed at negotiations.

**Old Business:**

President Hafner noted that the January 2nd morning professional development was good; the quality of the afternoon sessions varied from school to school. She noted that all staff, including paraprofessionals and hallway supervisors, should receive lockdown training.

**New Business:**

The district has posted two new counselor positions: one full-time elementary counselor, and one full-time middle school (half-day at JDMS, half-day at WMS) counselor.

During the articulation portion of the January in-service, inconsistencies were discovered within the ELA units. The plan is to form a new committee to review and preview options for the current units.

The Board of Education hired a new Superintendent.

President Hafner informed the ARs that there were four openings for the BOE election, with four candidates running. The Moline Public School Foundation has asked to partner with MEA to co-host a candidates' forum.

**A.R. Concerns:**

- It was voted (2010-2011) to not publish AR concerns in the Monitor. ARs were reminded to communicate concerns discussed at the meeting with the other MEA members they represent. President Hafner will discuss most issues in the "President's Corner" section of the Monitor or send superintendent's responses directly to the ARs for dissemination to members.

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Liz Finch, seconded by Matt and Leslie Perkins. **Motion** passed. The meeting adjourned at 4:25pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Emily Roberts  
MEA Secretary

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## Meet Our New Teachers!!!!!!

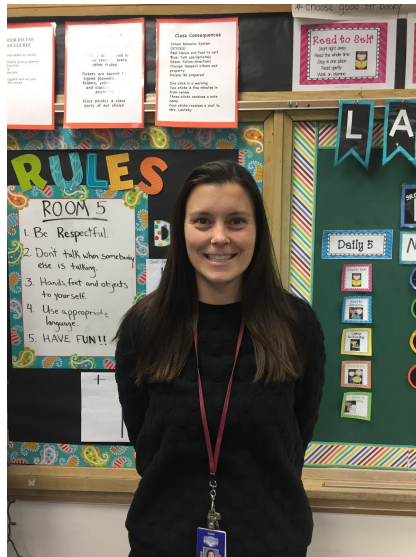


Brittany Alexander is in the Hearing Impaired program at Roosevelt.



Becky Morrissey is teaching Kindergarten at Roosevelt.





Megan Frederiksen returns to 4th grade at Roosevelt.



Stacey Reed teaches in our preschool program at Roosevelt.

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# MEA Member News

## **Congratulations to:**

- Jenna Bohland (Moline High School ) on the birth of her son
- Sarah Carlin (Lincoln-Irving) on the birth of her son
- Brooke Klein (Wilson) on the birth of her daughter
- Kate Nabb VanVoltenburg (Lincoln-Irving) on her marriage

## **Condolences to:**

- Laurie Capan (Jane Addams) on the death of her brother
  - Krista Decker (Jane Addams) on the death of her father-in-law
  - Judy DeWilde (John Deere) on the death of her father
  - The staff at Bicentennial on the death of their student, Thomas Conley
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