

MEA MONITOR

Moline Education Association

May 2018

President's Report - Susan Hafner

Hello Everyone-

The end is near! I can't believe we have three days left of the school year. During these last days, many of you are grading assignments, sorting through files, packing up classrooms, and even packing up an entire school. Amazingly, by next Thursday, we will have all of these tasks completed, and we will be ready to take a much needed rest after the chaos and stress that the end of the year brings.

At the last AR meeting, we awarded our two MEA Scholarships to Zamone Perez and Ryan O'Hern, two young men who will represent our scholarship well in their future endeavors. We had many amazing applicants, and I know that the scholarship committee had a challenge in awarding only two recipients. We also had our Executive Board elections earlier this month, and the results are in:

Vice-President - Christine Watts

Secretary - Emily Roberts

Treasurer - Steve Sundberg

Elementary at Large - Chris Ballard, Dinah Leibovitz, and Elizabeth (Leslie) Perkins

Middle School at Large - Marlene DeLong and Jill Bogart

High School at Large - Katie MacLennan and Scott Ehlers

I want to thank all of these individuals for taking on this responsibility and helping the MEA be a union that we can be proud of during these sometimes difficult times. Their commitment to their colleagues should be commended, and please remember, if you have any issues, talk with your MEA representative or one of the members of the Executive Board.

One of the issues that teachers and the district is currently facing is how do we make the Moline High School Coolidge Campus alternative now that it is on the same calendar as the regular


high school. Fortunately, teachers and administration have worked on coming up with ideas and a daily schedule that will address the needs of their students, who have struggled with the regular high school day. Due to the fact that the Coolidge Campus day is not in the current contract, we will be signing an agreement with the district that outlines the specifics, which includes no changes to their contract day minutes.

As we begin to relax during summer months, we will also begin thinking of ideas for next year. It is funny how that happens. Some teachers will be meeting formally to work on curriculum, while others will be creating lessons at home, hoping that their students will love their ideas in the fall. As educators, we constantly strive to become better teachers for our students, so that they get the best possible education in the Moline School District.

In helping to continuously better our district and educational environment, I want to thank everyone who took part in the Technology Survey that was sent out at the beginning of this month. The survey was developed with administration, IT, and our union and was insightful as to what is happening and what is needed in our classrooms. I feel the results will lead to some great discussions on how we can best provide technology to our students and our teachers.

Finally, as we sit in our hot classrooms (except for the lucky people at schools with air-conditioning), we can't help but reflect on the year that has just passed and also look to our future. At the end of a hundred and eighty school days, it is so exciting to see how our students have grown, and you should feel very proud as you send them to the next level, whether that is kindergarten or college. Teachers are a valued part of society, and we need to remind others and ourselves of that from time to time. As a union, we may face some difficult times ahead, especially with the Janus decision that is expected next month; however, just as we know that teachers are a valuable part of society, we also know that our union is too. The union leaders of the 70's and 80's fought hard to ensure appropriate compensation and a positive working environment for our teachers, and we continue that struggle today as we are faced with new challenges, especially those that threaten our futures and pensions. With a united voice, we are stronger in facing those challenges, and with that united voice, we can make a difference.

Have a wonderful Memorial Day Weekend-
Susie



AR Secretary's Report - Emily Roberts

Moline Education Association
Association Representatives Meeting

Thursday, May 10th, 2018


The MEA Association Representatives met Thursday, May 10th, 2018, at the IEA office, Moline. Rachel Moore, MEA Scholarship committee, presented the MEA scholarships to recipients Ryan O'Hern, son of Liz (LO) and Jeff O'Hern, and Zamone Perez, son of LuAnn Lindauer (FR) and Jason Perez. Ryan will attend the University of Florida, studying environmental science, and Zamone will attend Northwestern University, studying journalism and political science.

President Hafner called the meeting to order at 3:50pm. There not being a quorum present, the meeting began with the Committee Chair Reports.

Committee Chair Reports:

- Membership – Heidi Norcross reported membership stands at 441.
- Elections – Val Hayes collected ballots from the MEA elections; President Hafner will e-mail election results to members.
- Legislative – no report.
- Region 18 – no report.
- Public Relations – no report.
- Social – a social event is scheduled for Friday, May 18th, at 3:30pm. at the Steel Plow, Moline.
- Grievance/Negotiations – no report.

Old Business:

- A professional development survey was sent to all MEA members. Survey results were being shared with administration.
 - President Hafner noted that the 2018-2019 school year was the district's final year with the Purdue University study. She noted it appeared that Moline School District was the only school district to complete the study.
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New Business:

- A technology survey was sent to all MEA members.
- President Hafner met with Dave McDermott and Todd DeTaeye and discussed the salary schedule; another meeting is planned for July. President Hafner noted that the upcoming Janus decision would probably affect any changes to the salary schedule. There was discussion on how the result from the Janus decision might affect the school district.
- President Hafner and Vice-President Watts will meet with Matt DeBaene next week to discuss planning professional development that would include vertical articulation.

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, the meeting adjourned at 4:43pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Emily Roberts
MEA Secretary

MEA Member News

Congratulations to:

- Sarah Delp (Franklin) and Joel Delp (MHS) on the birth of their daughter
- Lezlie Friedline (Franklin) on the birth of her daughter
- Megan Reynolds (Lincoln-Irving) on the birth of her daughter
- Katie Taylor (MHS) on the birth of her baby

Condolences to:

- Taylor Ambrozi (Willard) on the death of her grandmother
 - Scott Calhoun (MHS) on the loss of his son
 - Ashley Motika-Roome (Jane Addams) on the death of her grandmother
 - Zahra Suss (MHS) on the death of her father
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