

MEA MONITOR

Moline Education Association

May 2019

President's Report - Susan Hafner

Hello Everyone-

In my last letter, we were celebrating spring, but with the new season came the rains. However, we have had some beautiful days to help balance the gloomy ones like today. As the year ends, we are having some bittersweet days of our own. We are so happy to see our students have success and summer seems just around the corner, yet there is some sadness as we say goodbye to the students we have watched grow this past year. We will also have to say goodbye to some of our colleagues as they begin a new chapter of their lives--retirement--and all of us will be saying goodbye to our superintendent, Lanty McGuire.

Negotiations are underway, and we are still hopeful of having a tentative contract to present to you before the end of the school year. Please remember this is our hope, not a promise. :) I would like to thank all of the schools that have been providing food for the meetings. Your generosity is greatly appreciated by all who are there.

The two MEA Scholarship recipients will be announced tomorrow at the AR meeting. Each student will receive a scholarship of \$1000.00 to help with the daunting cost of college. We are so very proud of all the outstanding candidates and know that they will do great things as they begin this next chapter of their lives. The scholarship committee had very difficult decisions, and I want to thank them for taking on this challenging task.

The K-5 ELA committee for curriculum review will be piloting a text next year. The teachers are excited about this opportunity, and we look forward to their thoughts after finishing the pilot. We will keep you updated in the upcoming year. Once again, I would like to thank all of the volunteers for this committee because it is a big commitment.

As we close the year, I think that we can all look back at a year well done. We helped our students read challenging new books, solve math equations, build robots, run the mile, sing

beautiful songs, create works of art for all of us to appreciate, and say “Au Revoir” as they leave us. As part of the Moline School District, we can be very proud of what we and our students accomplished during the 2018-2019 school year and can look forward to the amazing accomplishments in the future. Enjoy these last days--hopefully, we will see more sun than clouds--and to the elementary and middle school teachers, enjoy that last day. ;)

Have a wonderful month-
Susie

AR Secretary's Report - Emily Roberts

Moline Education Association
Association Representatives Meeting
Thursday, April 11th, 2019

The MEA Association Representatives met Thursday, April 11th, 2019, at the IEA office, Moline. There were 14 ARs and 10 Executive Board members in attendance; no quorum was present.

Committee Chair Reports:

Membership - Heidi Norcross reported membership stands at 439.

Elections – in the absence of Lori Wesemann, President Hafner reminded members to check with write-in candidates before submitting their names on a ballot.

Legislative – in the absence of Raegan Jones, President Hafner reported that legislative voting looked favorable towards a return to the 6% salary limit, paying student teachers, and eliminating a required test for teacher certification.

Region 18 – no report.

Public Relations – in the absence of Kim Anderson, President Hafner informed the members that the MEA scholarship deadline would be extended until April 22nd.

Social – an event is being planned for the end of the school year.

Grievance/Negotiation – Colette Guerdet noted that negotiations training had been held; the MEA team will meet on April 15th, with negotiations beginning soon after that date. The negotiations team hopes to present a product to members by the end of the school year.

Old Business:

The proposed amended MEA By-laws could not be approved.

New Business:

-President Hafner will be sending a survey to members regarding Cluster Grouping/Flexible Grouping.

-It was noted that 17 teachers were out of one building for a Lead Moline meeting. As a result, that school was four substitute teachers short. A suggestion was made that these meetings be held on professional development days.

A.R. Concerns:

- It was voted (2010-2011) to not publish the 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 4:04pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Emily Roberts, MEA Secretary

Moline Education Association
Association Representatives Meeting
Special Meeting
Thursday, April 25th, 2019

The MEA Association Representatives met in a special meeting on Thursday, April 25th, 2019, at the IEA office, Moline. A quorum was present.

Vice-President Christine Watts called the meeting to order at 4:02pm. A motion was made by Leslie Perkins, seconded by Lisa Welvaert, to approve the amended MEA By-laws as presented at the March AR meeting and by e-mail. **Motion** approved.

A motion to adjourn was made by Liz Finch, seconded by Colette Guerdet. **Motion** approved. The meeting adjourned at 4:02pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Emily Roberts
MEA Secretary



MEA Member News

Congratulations to:

- Ann Talbot (Hamilton) – birth of son

Condolences to:

- Kelly Adams (WMS) – loss of her mother
- Kevin Gorgal (MHS) – loss of his mother
- Becky Morrissey (Roosevelt) - loss of her mother

