

# MEA MONITOR

Moline Education Association

November 2017

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## President's Report - Susan Hafner

Hello Everyone-

Just a few more days and we will be on break! Is it really the middle of November? I feel like I am constantly rushing, and we even gained an hour this month. I think I need a few more, so I can grade all of the essays on my desk. I think I know what I will be doing during Thanksgiving break.

Last night at the School Board meeting, the future plans for Franklin were discussed, which makes me hopeful for the extent of the renovations. If all of the proposed plans are approved, the children will return to an amazing school next year. It is an exciting time for Franklin.

If you haven't checked already, the current contract is posted on the district's website. Also, our salary statements, which will be shared electronically this year, should be sent to us by the end of this month. In the meantime, you can check the employee portal to make sure your salary is accurate for this school year. If you see any problems, please let Lori VanderVinne know.

John Deere and Wilson should be seeing some changes in discipline as the district tries to move the middle schools to a program similar to the high school's. This should be very helpful and should ease some of the issues that are occurring at the middle school level.

We are hoping to have an MEA social in January, which will be near the end of first semester. I encourage you to attend because it is a nice time to chat with colleagues from other schools without having to take part in a Kagan activity to do so. I will email more information as we get closer to the date.

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In closing, I hope that everyone enjoys his or her break and truly takes time to enjoy friends and family. As difficult as it may be, put work aside and take the time to re-energize, which should consist of eating a lot of amazing food and getting amazing deals on holiday gifts. It is going to be a blink of the eye and the holiday programs, Share Joys, and other festivities will be well under way. After that, we will be starting our winter break--how does time go so fast?!

Enjoy every minute and have fun during break-  
Susie

## **AR Secretary's Report - Emily Roberts**

Moline Education Association  
Association Representatives Meeting  
Tuesday, November 7th, 2017

The MEA Association Representatives met Tuesday, November 7th, 2017, at the IEA office, Moline. President Susie Hafner called the meeting to order at 3:45pm. There not being a quorum present, the meeting began with the treasurer's report.

Treasurer Mary Nelson reported balances in all accounts.

Committee Chair Reports:

- Membership – Heidi Norcross reported membership stands at 439, with one new position filled. She reported that the new member social had been a fun event.
- Elections – in the absence of Lori Wesemann, President Hafner reported that nomination forms for the IEA/RA Convention had been sent to members.
- Legislative – in the absence of Dave Strafford, President Hafner reported that the recommendation meeting would be held in December, with Representative Neil Anderson a possible candidate.
- Region 18 – no report.
- Public Relations – in the absence of Kim Anderson, President Hafner reported that the MEA blog had been updated.

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- Social – President Hafner reported that a social event was being planned for the end of January.

- Grievance/Negotiations – no report.

Old Business:

- President Hafner reported that an additional ED room would be added at Washington Elementary, and that an additional special education teacher would be hired.

New Business:

- President Hafner reported that salary statements would be sent electronically, and that the new contract would be available on-line on November 8th, 2017. She noted that the cost of the contract booklets was equally shared between the district and MEA; since the contract is available on-line, and MEA's portion of the cost exceeded \$600, a recommendation was made that hard copies be printed only for the MEA Executive Board members, ARs, and any member who requests a hard copy. President Hafner will notify MEA members of this recommendation via e-mail; any member wanting a hard copy of the contract is asked to contact President Hafner.

President Hafner commended Vice-President Christine Watts on her effort to encourage administrators to provide good, focused, professional development. President Hafner noted that team meetings at the middle schools do not need to have a professional development component.

-President Hafner has discussed discipline concerns at the middle school level with Todd DeTaeye and Kristin Sanders. MHS Dean Chris Moore will visit the middle schools to articulate the positive happenings in the behavior room at MHS.

There were now 23 ARs and 5 Executive Board members in attendance; a quorum was present.

- A motion was made by Colette Guerdet, seconded by Sherri Martin, to approve the minutes of the October 12th, 2017, AR meeting. **Motion** passed.

- A motion to approve the treasurer's report was made by Colette Guerdet, seconded by Liz Finch. **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 Mary Nelson.

- A motion was made by Trisha Leibovitz, seconded by Lisa Welvaert, to cancel the December 14th, 2017, AR meeting unless a grievance is brought up. **Motion** passed.

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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 Sherri Martin, seconded by Heidi Norcross. **Motion** passed. The meeting adjourned at 3:59pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Emily Roberts  
MEA Secretary

Moline Education Association  
Association Representatives Meeting  
Thursday, October 12th, 2017

The MEA Association Representatives met Thursday, October 12th, 2017, at the IEA office, Moline. President Susie Hafner called the meeting to order at 3:45pm. There were 29 ARs and 13 Executive Board members in attendance; a quorum was present.

A motion was made by Valerie Hayes, seconded by Tricia Leibovitz, to approve the minutes of the May 11th, 2017 and September 14th, 2017, AR meetings. **Motion** passed.

Treasurer Mary Nelson reported balances in all accounts. A motion to approve the treasurer's report was made by Lori Wesemann, seconded by Lisa Welvaert. **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 Mary Nelson.



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#### Committee Chair Reports:

- Membership – Heidi Norcross reported membership stands at 438. She reminded ARs of the upcoming Supreme Court debate regarding Fair Share. To promote the IEA goal of supporting new members, the MEA will host a social meeting for new members and Executive Board members on Friday, October 20th, 3:30pm., at the Steel Plow, Moline.
- Elections – Lori Wesemann reported that nominations for candidates to the IEA RA Convention would open October 23rd. The convention will be April 19-21st, 2018, at Rosemont.
- Legislative – no report.
- Region 18 – Lori Wesemann reported the September 20th meeting included information on the push to involve new members. She also reminded ARs of the free professional development hours available on the IEA/NEA website.
- Public Relations – Kim Anderson reported that thank you cards and Starbucks gift cards had been sent to the Allendale secretaries who had helped with the Years of Service certificates. MEA members who think they should have received a Years of Service certificate and pin are asked to contact Kim.
- Grievance/Negotiations – no report.
- Social – Aubree Krol reported that a social event is scheduled for the end of second quarter, and that a raffle drawing would be held at the end of the meeting.

#### Old Business:

- President Hafner reminded ARs that, while the BOE had approved the union and non-union contracts, the fire at Franklin Elementary has delayed the printing of contracts.
- President Hafner informed ARs that teachers would be receiving new Apple laptops, and that they would be allowed to keep the old desktop monitors. She noted that the desktop monitors would not be repaired nor replaced.
- President Hafner and Matt DeBaene have been giving a short presentation on Academic Freedom at the schools. All schools will be visited.

#### New Business:

- President Hafner expressed her thanks and appreciation for everything the district and community had done in the aftermath of the fire at Franklin Elementary. Due to the
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changes in the schedule at Franklin Elementary, an official Memorandum of Understanding will be added to the contract.

- President Hafner noted that some vacant staff position still need to be filled. The positions are posted.

A.R. Concerns:

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There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Colette Guerdet, seconded by Tricia Leibovitz. **Motion** passed. The meeting adjourned at 4:12pm.

Winners of the raffle drawings were: Sherri Martin, Alina Schafman, Marlene DeLong, and Tricia Leibovitz.

Respectfully submitted,  
Emily Roberts  
MEA Secretary

## MEA Member News

### Congratulations to:

- Ron Morton (Elementary Instrumental) on the birth of his grandson
  - Megan Bennett (Hamilton) on her marriage this summer
  - Erica Waterman (Hamilton) on the birth of a baby boy
  - Kaitlyn Yakish (Willard) on the birth of a baby girl
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## Condolences to:

- Liz O'Hern (Logan) on the death of her father
  - Luann Lindauer (Franklin) on the death of her father
  - Ryan Rosenthal (Hamilton/Bicentennial) on the death of his grandmother
  - Stacy Madison (Bicentennial) on the death of her grandfather
  - Kimber Frieden (Butterworth) on the loss of her father
  - Lindsay Schilb (MHS) on the loss of her mother
  - Kim Resler (Wilson) on the loss of her mother
  - Mike Resler (Wilson) on the loss of his stepmother
  - Shara Semelroth (MHS) on the loss of her father
  - Heather Breidenbach (MHS) on the loss of her grandfather
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