

# MEA MONITOR

Moline Education Association

November 2022

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## President's Report - Susan Hafner

Hi Everyone-

We survived the first quarter! With the late start to our year, it was a bit strange to be having conferences during the first week of November. However, as we look forward to the rest of the month, it seems like it is going to go very quickly—so enjoy!

I would like to thank all of you who completed the early negotiations survey that I emailed last month. We are already trying to take steps to address some of the issues mentioned. For example, at the high school level, one concern is that a “half-day” absence is only three class periods. By talking with administration, we were able to help with a possible solution that adds some time (lunch) to the absence, making the absence more accurate in regards to timing. Discipline is another concern, and we have discussed ways in which to help with this issue, such as encouraging equity among schools through principal discipline scenario calibrations. I feel that we should do as much as possible now, rather than waiting until the end of the year for negotiation discussions.

I would also like to thank the number of you who have been working on the math pilot for the elementary and middle school levels. I know that this requires extra work and can be frustrating at times, but your participation is greatly appreciated—and will be by future students. Thank you again!

Tomorrow is election day, so I encourage you to vote if you have not done so already. If you are interested in the IEA recommendations, you can go to <https://ieanea.org/legislative/ipace-recommended-candidates/>. Whether you agree with the recommendations or not, please let your voice be heard with your vote.

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Please enjoy the rest of the week and our upcoming Thanksgiving break. I can't believe I just typed those words—Thanksgiving break! Where has this year gone? Take time to enjoy your friends and family, and of course, enjoy the food! 😊

Take care-  
Susie

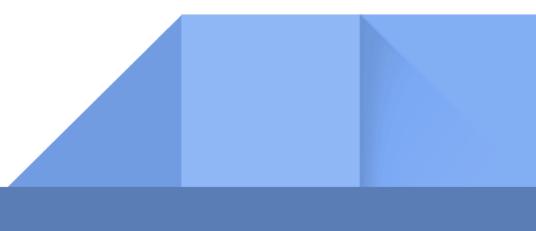
Moline Education Association  
Association Representatives Meeting  
Thursday, October 13th, 2022

The MEA Association Representatives met at the IEA Office, Moline, on Thursday, October 13th, 2022. President Susie Hafner called the meeting to order at 3:46pm. There were 17 ARs and 9 Executive Board members in attendance; a quorum was not present.

Committee Chair Reports:

- Social - Aubree Krol drew names for KickServe Coffee gift cards. Winners were: Tammy Murphy-Flynn, Megan Radosevich, Jackie Brown, Trish Leibovitz, Kim Anderson, and Abby Thrasher.
- Membership - Heidi Norcross reported that membership stands at 479. Out of 33 new teachers to the district, 32 have joined MEA, as well as 7 new teachers from last year. There are only 8 non-members in the district. MEA membership is at 98.3%.
- Elections - Karri Dies is the new Elections Chair.
- Region 18 - Lori Wessemann reminded members to check the IEA website to see candidate recommendations. The Emerging Leaders training is scheduled.
- Public Relations - Kim Anderson distributed the remaining Years of Service pins and certificates to the ARs to take to the buildings. She reported that Jay Bohnsack will continue to provide the server for the MEA 40 blog, which has been updated. Please send any positive news to Kim to publish on the blog.
- Grievance/Negotiations - reported under new business.

Old Business - no report.



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New Business:

- Early survey - President Hafner reported that the early negotiations survey has enabled MEA to address issues sooner rather than later.
- President Hafner noted that there seemed to be more student discipline issues at the elementary level rather than the secondary level. Discussion with Todd DeTaeye included having a consistent expectation for discipline across the district at the elementary level.
- There was discussion on the RTI flowchart, and what could be done to speed up the process in order to better help students.
- President Hafner informed the ARs that there would no longer be bonus pay for longevity for substitute teachers, and that keeping the building subs for the second semester is being discussed.

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" of the Monitor or send superintendent's responses directly to the ARs for dissemination to members.

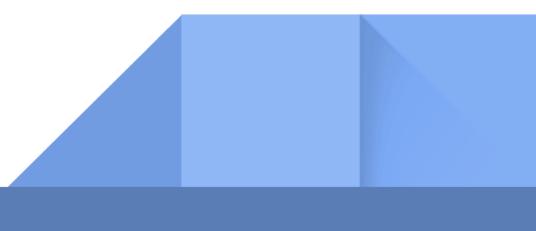
Treasurer Steve Sundberg reported balances in all accounts. It was voted (January 2015) to not publish the dollar amounts in the MEA budget in neither the minutes nor the Monitor. Members with questions regarding the MEA account balances are asked to contact Treasurer Steve Sundberg.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:12pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Emily Roberts  
MEA Secretary

Moline Education Association  
Association Representatives Meeting  
Thursday, September 8th, 2022

The MEA Association Representatives met via Google Meets on Thursday, September 8th, 2022. The building ARs introduced themselves. President Susie Hafner called the meeting to order at 3:52pm. There were 27 ARs and 10 Executive Board members in attendance; a quorum was present.



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President Hafner ceded the floor to Vice-President Watts, who read the appointed committee chairs. A motion was made by Marlene DeLong, seconded by Steve Sundberg, to approve the appointed chair. **Motion** approved.

President Hafner resumed the floor. A motion was made by Christine Watts, seconded by Marlene DeLong, to approve the minutes of the May 12th, 2022, AR meeting. **Motion** approved.

Treasurer Steve Sundberg reported balances in all accounts. A motion to approve the treasurer's report was made by Liz O'Hern, seconded by Marlene DeLong. **Motion** approved. 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 that the membership drive was going well and that every new teacher in the district had joined MEA. One new part-time teacher will require a custom membership form. Heidi and Steve Sundberg will meet to finalize paperwork and membership count.
- Elections - MEA is in need of an Elections Chair. If interested, please contact President Hafner.
- Legislative - no report.
- Region 18 - no report.
- Public Relations - Kim Anderson reported that all Years of Service pins and certificates had been distributed, and asked that anyone who was inadvertently missed contact her. She noted that MEA does not award 5-year pins. The MEA blog has been updated and includes past Monitors, meeting dates, updated AR and Executive Board lists, and good news.
- Social - in the absence of Aubree Krol, Vice-President Watts announced the winners of Whitey's gift cards. Winners were: Annette Epperly, Jackie Brown, Rachel Moore, Megan Radosevich, and Karen Jennings.
- Grievance/Negotiations - to be discussed under New Business.

#### Old Business:

- MEA scholarships were awarded. President Hafner noted the final AR meeting will be in person in order to meet the scholarship winners.
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New Business:

- Negotiations - President Hafner reported that the Negotiations Committee and surveys would be starting. She encouraged all members to complete the survey. There was discussion on terminology and what topics could be added to the survey.

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" 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 Christine Watts, seconded by Erin Stuedemann. **Motion** approved. The meeting adjourned at 4:12pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Emily Roberts  
MEA Secretary



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# MEA Member News

## Congratulations to.....

- Laura Polizzi (Hamilton) on her marriage in October
- Kelly Karstens (Jane Addams) on the birth of her daughter
- Jessica Larson (Jane Addams) on the birth of her daughter
- Hannah Iams-Lagerstam (MHS) on her marriage in June

## Condolences to.....

- Jenna Bohland (MHS) on the death of her father
- Judy DeWilde (John Deere) on the death of her mother-in-law
- Sue Iverson (John Deere) on the death of her mother
- Beth Mosley (Hamilton) on the death of her father
- Sarah Roman (Franklin) on the death of her uncle
- Angela Sheese (John Deere) and Jim Sheese (Franklin) on the death of her mother/mother-in-law
- Jen Ulam (MHS) on the death of her brother

\*Please send any member news to  
[cwatts@molineschools.org](mailto:cwatts@molineschools.org)

