

Minutes of the West Irondequoit Teachers' Association

Governing Council

December 8, 2015

- I. The meeting was called to order at 3:34 by President Scott Steinberg. A motion to amend the agenda in order to start with a negotiations update was made by Leana Palumbo and seconded by Robert Sanchez. It was approved by all.
- II. Scott Steinberg-President's Report
  - Scott announced that we have a tentative contract agreement with the district. Scott thanked the Negotiations Team and the Action Team for their work. Scott thanked all members who wore T-shirts in support of the negotiations process.
  - Scott explained that an announcement about the tentative agreement would be sent via email to the general WITA membership today, December 8, 2015.
  - Scott announced that there will be a General Membership meeting at 3:45 on December 15, 2015. The meeting will be held in the large cafeteria at the High School. Materials will be available for members who cannot attend the meeting. Voting to ratify the contract will be held in individual buildings on December 17, 2015.
  - Scott explained that Colleen Vay, assisted by Steve Brickler, will coordinate the voting process. It is important to remind members to sign their names on the signature sheet when they cast their ballot. The number of ballots received must match the number of signatures.
- III. Wendy Boomer-Secretary
  - The minutes from the November 10, 2015 Governing Council meeting were reviewed.
  - A friendly amendment was made by Leana Palumbo to change the word "repot" to "report" in section III, bullet 3.
  - A motion to accept the minutes as amended was made by Tammy Jaynes and seconded by Leana Palumbo. The minutes were approved by all.
- IV. Todd Fleming-Treasurer
  - Todd reviewed the treasurer's report for transactions through November 30, 2015.
  - A motion to accept the November report as presented was made by Beth Ford and seconded by Wendy Passero. It was approved by all.
- V. Steve Schockow-Executive Vice President
  - Steve presented the Board of Education Capsule Summary from November 19, 2015. The next Board of Education Meeting will be December 17, 2015 at the District Office.
- VI. Joe Pelliccia-Second Vice President
  - Joe reported that we have signed up 45 new members so far this school year. There are 20 more new hires yet to be signed up.
  - Joe asked Governing Council members to let him know of any new hires in their buildings.
- VII. Jeff Guercio-Grievance Chair
  - Scott announced that there are no current grievances.
- VIII. Julie Wolf-VOTE/COPE Chair
  - Julie announced that there is no new VOTE/COPE information at this time.
- IX. Maureen Bacchetta/Lisa Poinan-PTSA Co-Chairs
  - Maureen announced that there is no new PTSA information at this time.
- X. Jane Beamish-NYSTRS Chair
  - Jane announced that there is no new NYSTRS information at this time.
- XI. Scott Steinberg-President's Report
  - Scott thanked all members who helped make SRP Day a success. In addition to WITA, thank you to the PTSA, the Administration Association, and Mr. Crane who helped sponsor the event.
  - Scott reported that he has been hearing about full day kindergarten issues and issues concerning protecting members' planning time at his lunch visits. Some of these issues have already been shared with Mr. Crane. Scott plans on making another round of lunch visits in the spring if possible.

- Scott shared issues we discussed at the November 10, 2015 Governing Council Meeting concerning substitute teachers with Mr. Crane.
- Scott distributed copies of the WITA Constitution to Governing Council Members. Scott suggested it was time to review our constitution. A Constitution Revision Committee will work with Scott to review our constitution and report their findings to Governing Council Members. Any proposed amendments can then be included on the Election Ballot in the spring. If you are interested in serving on this committee, please contact Scott.
- Scott explained that a Memorandum of Agreement with the district has been signed that allows for the accretion of four new positions into our unit. These four new positions consist of three new titles: Network Technician, Senior Network Technician, and Network Administrator. Since this accretion matter has been resolved, the hearing scheduled with PERB (Public Employment Relations Board), has been dropped.
- Scott reported that the full APPR Team is now in place and plans to have several meetings with the district between now and February break. The team is working on developing a new APPR plan to be ratified before the end of the 2015-2016 school year. The new plan will be in place at the start of the 2016-2017 school year.
- Scott announced that a WITA website and domain name could be developed and purchased using Weebly. A motion to spend up to \$200.00 to pay for Weebly and the domain name was made by Ellen Tuohey and seconded by Maureen Bacchetta. It was approved by all.
- Scott announced that Stephanie Shattuck is interested in becoming our new Webmaster. A motion to appoint Stephanie to the Webmaster position was made by Hillary Payne and seconded by Robert Sanchez. It was approved by all.
- Scott distributed a flyer with information from Foresters Financial around retirement planning. WITA does not endorse any product or service sold by Foresters Financial. The presentation will be held on January 14, 2015 at 4:00, in the Dake All Purpose room.
- Scott presented information from the AFT Northeast Regional Presidents Meeting held in Philadelphia. Scott attended this conference on December 5-6, 2015. The major message of the conference centered on how we can help induct our new teachers and paraprofessionals into the union.
- Scott announced that anyone is welcome to attend the NYSUT Regional Negotiations Conference on January 30, 2015 at the Rochester Hyatt. Members can sign up to attend using the link that Scott emailed to members the week of November 30, 2015.
- Scott announced that we still need a Legislative/Political Action Chairperson. Please see Scott if you are interested.
- Scott distributed an article entitled "Pandora's Box-Get the Facts about a Constitutional Convention". The article contains information about the Constitutional Convention.
- Julie reported that the Excellence in Education Banquet will be May 17, 2016. A deposit has been placed with Glendoveers. It is not too early to think about raffle donations.
- Scott met with Mr. Crane on November 30, 2015. They will meet next on December 21, 2015.
- Scott asked that members send any wedding or birth announcements to him, to be included in the next issue of The Scoop.

XII. Building Issues: No building issues were discussed today.

XIII. Dates and Announcements to Remember

- WITA Executive Committee Meeting at WITA Office is January 5, 2016 at 3:30
- WITA Logo Shirt Day for Scholarships is January 8, 2016
- WITA Governing Council Meeting at IHS Faculty Cafeteria is January 12, 2016 at 3:30
- NYSUT Regional Negotiations Conference at the Rochester Hyatt is January 30, 2016

XIV. A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Ann Holdaway and seconded by Leana Palumbo. The meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy Boomer  
WITA Secretary