

Minutes of the West Irondequoit Teachers' Association
Governing Council
February 14, 2017

- I. The meeting was called to order at 3:37 by President Scott Steinberg.
- II. Scott Steinberg-President's Report
 - Scott welcomed new members.
 - Scott thanked Kate Dobosz for organizing today's New Member Event.
 - Scott introduced WITA Officers, Executive Committee members, and Governing Council members.
 - Scott reviewed the publications that all members should be receiving: *The Scoop, NYSUT United, NEA Today, and American Educator*.
 - Scott explained our union affiliates to the new members.
 - Scott reminded all members of our WITA website (WITEACHERS.org).
 - Scott explained the purpose of our WITA Constitution.
 - Scott explained Collective Bargaining to the new members.
 - Scott reminded new members that they should have a copy of the current contract, and that our current contract expires June 30, 2018.
 - Scott reviewed the procedure that members should follow when having contractual issues. See your building principal first, and then a building representative if there is no resolution to the problem. It is important to follow directives from administrators so as NOT to be insubordinate. Always see building representatives if you have any questions.
- III. Wendy Boomer-Secretary
 - The minutes from the January 10, 2017 Governing Council meeting were reviewed. A motion to accept the minutes was made by Beth Ford and seconded by Anna Conti. The minutes were approved by all.
- IV. Todd Fleming-Treasurer
 - Todd presented the treasurer's report for the month of January, 2017. A motion to accept the report as presented was made by Robert Sanchez and seconded by Leana Palumbo. The report was approved by all.
 - A motion to donate up to \$400.00 in support of the Adam Milne Game was made by Tammy Jaynes and seconded by Maureen Bacchetta. The motion was approved by all.
 - A motion to donate \$60.00 to the Dodge for Josh Game was made by Andrea Spallina and seconded by Erika Guetti. The motion was approved by all.
- V. Steve Schockow-Executive Vice President
 - Steve presented the Board of Education Capsule Summary from January 19, 2017.
 - The next Board of Education Meeting will be February 16, 2017 at District Office.
 - Steve explained what a caucus is to the membership.
 - Steve explained the grievance procedure to the membership.
 - Steve explained the meaning of a class action grievance to the membership.
- VI. Kate Dobosz-Second Vice President
 - Kate thanked new members for attending today, and encouraged new members to be as active in the union as they are comfortable with. Kate reported that only a few new hires still need to be signed up. Kate distributed raffle prizes throughout the meeting.
- VII. Jeff Guercio-Grievance Chair
 - Scott announced that the Class Action Grievance concerning sick days has been withdrawn.
- VIII. Julie Wolf-VOTE/COPE Chair
 - Julie explained VOTE/COPE to the membership.
- IX. Maureen Bacchetta-PTSA Chair
 - Maureen explained the role of the PTSA rep to new members.
 - Maureen announced that there is no PTSA update at this time.
 - Scott encouraged all members to join PTSA. Registration information can be found in school buildings and on the PTSA website.

X. Jane Beamish-NYSTRS Chair

- Jane explained the role of the NYSTRS representative. Jane encouraged all members to contact her if they have any retirement questions.
- Scott reviewed the difference between ERS and TRS for the membership.

XI. Scott Steinberg-President's Report

- Scott announced that all members have the right to Union Representation at disciplinary meetings.
- Scott reminded members that a variety of logo wear is available for purchase. Logo wear purchases support WITA scholarships.
- Scott explained the role of the Legislative/Political Action Chairperson to the membership. Scott announced that we are still looking for a legislative/political action chairperson. Scott reminded members to vote "NO" on November 7, 2017 regarding the Constitutional Convention. Scott explained the purpose of the NYSUT Member Action Center to the membership. Visit mac.nysut.org for more information. Scott announced that there will be a March for Educational Justice on March 4, 2017. The march starts at the Liberty Pole; 2:00-4:00.
- Scott announced that the United Way Campaign will begin soon. Scott thanked Building Reps in advance for their help in distributing materials. Scott announced that over 50% of our members give during this campaign (the highest in Monroe County).
- Scott reminded members that the Excellence in Education Banquet will be held on May 16, 2017 at Glendoveers. Nominations for Beverly F. Engel Excellence in Education Awards are due by March 31, 2017. If you are interested in donating a prize for the raffle, please contact Lindsay Shaughnessy or Erika Guetti.
- Scott announced that WITA Officer and RA delegate elections will be held in the Spring.
- Scott clarified sick day information. Please contact Scott or a building representative if you have any questions regarding sick days.
- Scott reviewed what our 105 plan is and how to use the Beniversal card.
- Scott explained Red Flag Reporting to the membership.
- Scott announced that the ERS workshop on February 1, 2017 was well received and attended.
- Scott announced that the Technology Subcommittee met on February 8, 2017.
- Scott met with Mr. Crane on January 30, 2017. Their next meeting will be on February 27, 2017.
- Scott announced that information regarding the Barrie Fleegel Memorial Active Educator Grant was distributed to all Governing Council Members today.

XII. Building Issues: Please contact Scott if you have any building issues.

XIII. Dates and Announcements to Remember

- MCFT Legislative Forum is February 25, 2017 at Burgundy Basin Inn at 8:15 a.m.
- WITA Logo shirt Day is March 3, 2107
- Educational Justice March is March 4, 2017 at the Liberty Pole at 2:00
- Committee of 100 is March 6-7, 2017 in Albany
- NYSUT ED 5/6 Meeting is March 8, 2017 at RIT Inn and Conference Center at 4:15
- WITA Executive Committee at WITA Office is March 9, 2107 at 3:30
- WITA Governing Council Meeting at IHS Campus Center is March 14, 2017 at 3:30
- District 25/35 Year Staff Recognition is March 16, 2017 at IHS Campus Center at 3:30
- Excellence in Education Dinner is May 16, 2017 at Glendoveers

XIV. A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mark Pringle and seconded by Emily Swanson. The meeting adjourned at 4:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy Boomer
WITA Secretary