Minutes of the West Irondequoit Teachers’ Association
Governing Council
September 22, 2015

I. The meeting was called to order at 3:36 by President Scott Steinberg. Scott welcomed all to our first Governing Council Meeting of the year. Council members introduced themselves.

- Scott announced that he appointed Jeff Guercio to replace Patty O’Connor as Grievance Chairperson. A motion to accept this appointment was made by Leana Palumbo and seconded by Tammy Jaynes. It was approved by all.

II. Wendy Boomer-Secretary

- The minutes from the June 9, 2015 Governing Council meeting were reviewed.

- A motion to accept the minutes was made by Beth Ford and seconded by Christine Riesenberger. The minutes were approved by all.

III. Todd Fleming-Treasurer


- A motion to accept all reports as presented was made by Anne Holdaway and seconded by Leana Palumbo. It was approved by all.

- Scott spoke briefly about the dues break-down for 2015-2016.

- A motion to donate $125.00 to the Noah Passero Softball Game was made by Christine Riesenberger and seconded by Maureen Bacchetta. It was approved by all.

- Scott explained a request from the United Way to contribute to the “Classroom Kit” drive for School #9. A motion to donate $100.00 to the cause was made by Beth Ford and seconded by Leana Palumbo. Discussion ensued, and a motion to call the question was made by Julie Wolf. The motion passed with one nay vote.

IV. Steve Schockow-Executive Vice President

- Steve reviewed the “Board of Education Meetings Capsule Summary” for the summer 2015 meetings and the September 17, 2015 meeting.

- The next Board of Education Meeting will be October 15, 2015 at the District Office.

V. Joe Pelliccia-Second Vice President

- Joe reported that the new member breakfast on August 28, 2015 was well attended. More than 20 new hires were signed up.

- Joe reported that he is in the process of updating membership lists as soon as he gets an updated hire list from the district.

- Joe asked Governing Council members to let him know of any new hires in the buildings. New member folders will be distributed to Building VPs within the next two weeks.

- Steve thanked Joe and noted the tremendous effort that Joe has expended to keep our membership up-to-date.

VI. Jeff Guercio-Grievance Chair

- Scott announced that there are no current grievances.

VII. Julie Wolf-VOTE/COPE Chair

- Julie announced that there is no new VOTE/COPE information, but noted that she will accept donations anytime.

VIII. Maureen Bacchetta/Lisa Poinan-PTSA Co-Chairs

- Maureen reported there is no update this month.

IX. Jane Beamish-NYSTRS Chair

- Scott announced that Jane Beamish will be attending the NYSTRS conference November 1-2, 2015. Scott noted that an email was sent from Jane regarding important retirement information. Please contact Jane if you have any questions.
X. Scott Steinberg-President’s Report

- Scott reviewed WITA goals for the 2015-2016 school year. Scott noted the emphasis on increasing member unity and involvement. Scott reported that Nan Rogers will attend an upcoming Governing Council Meeting in order to teach/review what it means to be a building representative.
- Scott distributed various updates including a list of important dates, Representative list, lunch visit schedule, and a basic WITA information sheet.
- Scott requested master schedules and Building Representative Lists from all schools.
- Scott asked members to send birth and wedding announcements to be included in the next edition of the SCOOP.
- Scott reminded members to contact the WITA office if you would like to request a NYSUT calendar.
- Scott urged members to consider joining the PTSA.
- Scott announced that Lee Denim Day will be October 2, 2015. Sign-up sheets and stickers will be delivered to Building VPs soon.
- Scott announced that The Making Strides Walk on October 18, 2015 will be organized by Tammy Jaynes. Tammy will be emailing information to members.
- Scott announced that a Legislative/Political Action Chairperson is still needed. Scott reported on current legislative/political action in New York State. APPR changes and the tax cap are hot button topics.
- Scott reported that the Excellence in Education Banquet will be May 17, 2016. The High School is hosting the event this year.
- Scott reported that WITA received an accretion request from four individuals. We are waiting to hear from the District concerning this request.
- Scott announced that he, Wendy Boomer, and Julie Wolf attended the NYSUT Regional Conference in August. NYSUT’s main message was “Every Member Counts”.
- Scott reported that Steve Schockow attended a local conference on APPR over the summer.
- Scott announced that contract negotiations with the District are ongoing. The next negotiations meeting is October 6, 2015.
- Scott updated the membership concerning the new APPR process. Scott, Steve Schockow, and Wendy Boomer will meet with the district to begin the process.
- After discussion, a motion to spend $228.00 to renew our Survey Monkey subscription was made by Nancy Reece and seconded by Mary Theresa Boerman. It was approved by all.
- Scott met with Mr. Crane on September 21, 2015. The next meeting with Mr. Crane will be October 26, 2015.

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

XII. Dates and Announcements to Remember

- Lee Denim Day is October 2
- WITA Logo shirt Day for Scholarships is October 2
- WITA Executive Board Meeting at WITA Office is October 6 at 3:30
- WITA Negotiations Team Meeting at WITA Office is October 13 at 3:30
- WITA Negotiations Team Meeting at District Office is October 15 at 3:30
- Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk at Frontier Field is October 18
- WITA Governing Council Meeting at IHS Faculty Cafeteria is October 20 at 3:30

XIII. A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Maureen Monaghan and seconded by Leana Palumbo. The meeting adjourned at 4:39 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy Boomer
WITA Secretary