

To: Executive Board

From: W.E.A. Secretary

Re: Board Meeting, March 1, 2021

The meeting was held via Google Meet and was called to order at 3:52 pm by President Lori Lyncosky. The following members were present: (see attached).

REPORTS

MTA

Paul Ryan reported that the MTA Legislative Agenda is out. There are 19 items on the Agenda and it can be found on the MTA website under "Initiatives."

MEMBERSHIP

Pam Collins reported that we still have members coming in and going out. Please send names of new members directly to Pam as soon as reps become aware of them. For those members who have been getting dues deducted since the start of the school year, deductions will stop by the end of March.

SECRETARY

A motion to accept the February 2021 meeting minutes was made by Pam Collins and seconded by Matt Wroth. A vote was taken and the minutes were accepted.

TREASURER

The Treasurer's Report for February 2021 was presented and Pam Collins moved to receive the report. Matt Wroth seconded. A vote was taken and the report was received.

PROFESSIONAL RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Kristen Biancuzzo reminded members to be professionally responsible with the use of time off.

WEBPAGE:

Tom Dearborn is keeping the WEA webpage current. Check it out for all WEA up to date info.

MTA's Ethnic Minority Affairs Committee:

Timothy Thomas had nothing new to report.

NEW BUSINESS

1. General Membership meeting - Wednesday at 3:45 to go over what is hopefully, the MOA for this school year.

2. A survey monkey link will be sent out Wednesday after the meeting VOTING WILL TAKE PLACE FROM WEDNESDAY WHEN THE LINK IS RELEASED UNTIL THURSDAY AT 4:00. Results will be posted on the WEA website (westfield.massteacher.org) no later than Friday at 6:00 pm.

3. Fort Meadow - Lori met with members at Fort Meadow along with central office administration on Friday. Fort Meadow is in need of at least \$500,000 in repairs. Someone from the City walked through the building recently and said that if there weren't children in it it could be condemned. Discussion will take place at the School Committee meeting tonight about options for Fort Meadow. There is enough space in the 4 large elementary schools to shift the preschool classes that are currently at Fort Meadow into those 4 schools. Any statements that are made before tonight's meeting are premature.

4. Unit D - we will be entering into negotiations as soon as we can.

5. PLEASE be sure to check your paycheck... AND...MAKE SURE YOU CHECK YOUR PAY CHECK TO MAKE SURE THE CORRECT DEDUCTIONS ARE BEING TAKEN OUT, BUT MORE IMPORTANTLY THAT YOU ARE BEING PAID THE CORRECT AMOUNT. Understand

that it is state law that if you are overpaid that the district has the right to reclaim the overpaid funds. Most districts are only going to go after the funds that are overpaid in the current year; however Westfield is going after it ALL. The only thing we can do as a union is to negotiate a repayment schedule.

6. April 1st reopening - an appeal is being filed with DESE to remain in hybrid, as we currently are, until the end of the year. The appeal is in process and the district is hopeful to have more information in a couple weeks.

OPEN FLOOR INQUIRIES/Reminders:

- ? about personal days - Lori reviewed the use/approval of personal days

A motion to adjourn was made by Matt Wroth and seconded by Kristen Biancuzzo. The meeting was adjourned at 4:42 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Aimee Blair
WEA Secretary