

To: Executive Board

From: W.E.A. Secretary

Re: Board Meeting/October 2019

The meeting was called to order at 3:49 by President Lori Lyncosky. The following members were present: (see attached).

REPORTS

MTA

Paul Ryan and Tyler Rocco were both present. Paul reported that there is new proposed legislation to get more funding for education. The legislation has passed in the Senate and is going to the House. If this passes it is projected that Westfield could receive up to \$2.2 million over the next 7 years. More info regarding this is on the MTA website.

MEMBERSHIP

Pam requests that all reps promptly notify her of anyone newly hired in their building as she is not always receiving this info. Also, please let her know if anyone needs a membership card.

SECRETARY

A motion to accept the September 2019 meeting minutes was made by Heather McIntire and seconded Kristen Biancuzzo. A vote was taken and the minutes were accepted as presented.

TREASURER

The budget for September 2019 was sent via email from Greg. Matt Wroth moved to receive the report. Pam Tesko seconded. A vote was taken and the report was received.

PROFESSIONAL RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Kristen reported that there is currently 1 grievance which is in the final stages of being resolved. Please be sure to bring forth to her any potential grievances ASAP as there are timelines that must be met.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Check your paystubs! Be sure your deductions are correct. Call payroll directly if you find any errors.
2. PLC and faculty meetings should be occurring on the 1st and 3rd week of the month unless the week is a holiday week. However, that does not mean that the department supervisor or principal can't reschedule or schedule a different day with prior notice.
3. IEP and 504 meetings- DO NOT HAPPEN BEFORE OR AFTERSCHOOL AND IF THEY ARE ON YOUR PREP YOU NEED TO BE COMPENSATED WITH LIKE TIME OR PAID. If administration says they will pay you for the time, you must submit a timecard.
4. Compensatory Time...THERE IS NO SUCH THING IN OUR CONTRACTS. If a principal tells a Unit D member they will give them "comp time" to offset additional time they are working it's wrong. There is some flexibility with Unit D members working in some of our SPED programs and if the Unit D member agrees to some slight changes to start/end times that is okay. As long as the length of the work day is not changed. Also a reminder that WEA members are NOT crossing guards and should NOT be doing the work of one, including any "cross walk" duty. We are not insured for this and if our members are injured doing such they would not be covered.
5. The Foundation Charter School – we need to be very active on this. This is the 2nd application by Frank Damaris for a Root Rd Charter School. It's for a 6-12 school that would take at least 60 students from Westfield. Just a reminder that when students leave a district and go to a charter school \$ goes with them. Lori has all the paperwork that contains all the info on this charter school and she will email it to anyone who would like it. Building reps are encouraged to become well versed on this topic so they can speak accurately to it.
6. Election Time is right around the corner. This years City Council election is very important. The current City Council has stated that they have "legal opinion" that says that even if we settle our Unit A contract with the School Committee, once it goes to the City Council, they can not approve it

based on the fact that it wasn't part of this year's budget that they approved. Springfield did this and it went to court and they lost, yet our CC still holds by the "legal opinion" they got. Members who are able to vote in Westfield are encouraged to keep this in mind as they head to the poll.

OPEN FLOOR

- Question regarding 5th and 6th grade SPED teachers on ½ days. They were told to have lunch on these days with their students. No...this is not ok.
- Prep time = NO students present

A motion to adjourn was made by Kristen Biancuzzo and seconded by Pam Tesko.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:33 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Aimee Blair

WEA Secretary