

**Metro West Governing Board Meeting
Thursday, September 23, 2021
Virtual Meeting on Zoom**

Those of Attendance:

**Kay Carlson, SLP, President
Rose Korst, SLP, Secretary
Megan Lhotka, Treasurer
Melissa Benjamin, Orono VP
Shelly Sutherland, ECCS
Monica Byron, Richfield
David Clark, Richfield
Dale Clark, Hopkins
Marc Doepner-Hove, Westonka
Ann Hersman, Minnetonka
Mark Broten, Minnetonka
Cory Knutson, Wayzata
Anne Naumann, Wayzata
Adam Janiak, EdMN Field Staff
Beth Anderson, EdMN Field Staff**

Kay Carlson called the meeting to order at 5:06 pm.

Agenda approved with flexibility.

Motion to approve August Minutes.

Moved: Marc Doepner

Seconded: Ann Hersman

MOTION: PASSED

Melissa Benjamin reported on CRT. (Critical Race Theory)

See link she shared. How to talk to parents about this.

Teachers need to speak up and stand up for education.

Honesty in education

Professional Development is going to start in person again. Online is still available.

Talked about how each Uniserv is reimbursing locals for various things.

There are 36 teachers around the state who were rewriting standards. Their names and addresses were published.

Monica Byron: Board of Directors

First meeting is Oct.1.

If you have something you want her to share, please email her

**Their will be a director of Director of Racial Equity and
Inclusion appointed.**

Council Chairs:

- * Communications – Melissa B. Up to date at the moment
- * Legislation – David Clark No new info on special session
- * Negotiations – Marc D As you get settlements, please put that info into the folder. Actual contract and money/benefits. As a side note: Metro West Folder Open it and explore all the info Marc has included. A wealth of information is in there.

Treasurer's Report: Megan L

See report she sent electronically.

Balance: \$8,338.40

Savings: \$39,630.41

Dec 2 meeting – meals delivered to everyone

If you need a voucher for reimbursement, it is located on document Megan sent,

MOTION: To accept the treasurer's report.

Moved: Ann H

Seconded: Melissa B

MOTION: PASSED

Adam Janiak: MEA is Oct 21 On line and in person. Please register.

Letters in response to parents concerning any info they receive from parents. Basically, refer them to the principal.

Member portal for Negotiations – First MOU on pandemic issues with language....Second MOU on vaccine. Any employer covered by OSHA includes all school districts in Minnesota. Here's the rub, it actually hasn't happened yet. All we know at this time is what has been released. If you decline the vaccine, weekly testing is an option. There are 2 main things about this MOU. Testing – making sure there is a clear and easy way for members to be tested weekly. Second, who do they submit their tests to and how soon? As we haven't received the mandate yet, be prepared with a go plan for your district.

Adam Janiak has accepted a new position with EdMN. This is his last meeting as field staff. Until a replacement is found, he will continue working with his current districts. Thank you Adam for your exemplary service.

Ethnic Studies Coalition Initiatives. Nothing new since last meeting.

Local Engagement Activities.

Marc D – About 3 contract cycles ago started new teacher lunch and an all teacher welcome back lunch before school starts. This year is their 75th anniversary. A party is planned for spring.

Shelli S – Chaska

Chric C is leading a phone bank trying to pass a referendum.

Teachers in Chaska are saying it feels like February as they are really tired already. Chaska did the new teacher luncheon also.

Ann H – Minnetonka

New teacher luncheon had a good turnout. Out of the 66 there, 40 something joined. Got water bottles for members and passed them out. They did have 4 drops. Three out of the four were physical education teachers. They said state and national agenda goes against their beliefs.

Melissa B – Orono

They had everyone, but one who didn't join yet. Checking with husband.

Monica B – Richfield

Building reps are going around to talk with those who didn't join the union. Richfield is at 80%.

Adam J - EdMN

Teachers leaving the profession.

Statewide there has been around 50-100 ahead of last year which was around 270s.

Unity and local legislation

Richfield – they are good at this point

Minnetonka – two opposing groups One far right, one far left. It's a nasty situation right now. Untruths are being claimed and people are going rogue.

Wayzata – sounds like they are in the same position as Minnetonka. Things are like a “whac-a-do-zoo.”

The School Board has no visual response to folks and cut off mikes after 3 minutes.

Westonka – Three open positions. Lots of claims that don't add up. We've got crazy over here. Claim vaccines are sugar water. Onewestonka.org parents website. Take a look.

Any e learning issues?

Ann H. - MOU for e learning that covers the dual modality. Simultaneously streaming while teaching in person. MOU says if you have students out for 6 days or more you will get a letter with two options: a) here's a packet to complete. b) you can stream over a google meet and be paid per student per day if you opt to stream. The request has to come through the nurse who will verify the absence with the doctor.

Marc D – Westonka

Students who are absent can: Use schoology or stream.

Open Forum:

The state is looking for people to do the math standards review. Application on line.

Discussion/Action:

Masks are an issue in Orono. Kids keep taking them off.

Minnetonka says most students aren't wearing masks. They are doing contact tracing.

Again, Thank you Adam for all you have done. Best wishes in your new position. We will miss you!

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Moved: Ann H

Seconded: Melissa B

MOTION PASSED.

The meeting adjourned at 6:22pm. Our next meeting is October 28 at 5pm.

See you then,

Respectfully submitted,

Rose Korst

Secretary