

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Christopher Hodnicki
TAWLS President



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Greetings Members -

Welcome to the President's Message Newsletter connecting you with information from the association president. Continuing with a promise I made to you last year to increase communication, the President's Message Newsletter will deliver current and relevant information, events, and actions from the association president to you.

Besides communication, we will continue to unify our association through, member involvement opportunities and professional development, which contribute to our advocacy power.

In addition, our Officers will begin communicating out to share specifics and details on pieces they are currently working on for the membership, which may be included in the newsletter or one of their own.

*Let's make it a great school year together!
Chris*

MONTHLY LEADERSHIP MEETING WITH DR. SUSAN HAYWARD

On October 10th, Fritz Schermbeck, Jason Schreiner and I met with Dr. Hayward, Mr. Davis, Mr. Fouke, and Mrs. Novak. Topics discussed included:

Technology Issues/Concerns: Insight and feedback offered by Tammy Conlan and Wendy McCall. Problems with the speed of the network, connectivity, Learning.com, and Schoolnet were addressed. Dr. Hayward is making our technology issues a priority and will begin working to resolve them.

HIGH SCHOOL SCHEDULE UPDATE



Dr. Hayward indicated that she is still researching high school schedules by looking at a variety of information and research, which includes

Nurses in every building/partnership with Promedica: Dr. Hayward will be meeting with Promedica this week to take our advocacy for having a nurse in every building to them to support us with funding one for our remaining buildings. This would be a similar program to TPS.

Sex Education Curriculum at the Junior High: The Sex Ed. curriculum in 8th grade Jr. High Health class will focus on an abstinence program. Thanks to the work of Tina Dake, Brett Herr, and Karen Campbell for collaborating and designing the curriculum that was clarified and supported by TAWLS at the meeting.

ESSA/Cultural Competencies: TAWLS is partnering with the OEA, NEA, and Montgomery Institute for Torian and I to bring in a comprehensive professional development program to help understand our socio-economic groups and how to teach/serve them. Due to numerous other district initiatives we are working with Dr. Hayward to advance our district at this time the professional development will be brought to the high school as a pilot program this spring.

TAWLS Visitations : TAWLS shared and explained the purpose and role of the building visits to Dr. Hayward. This year visits will focus on how we can better serve you.

comparable school districts. Dr. Hayward indicated that she will make a decision by November and it will be based on what is best for kids. She has read and reviewed the data and suggestions/comments in our recent survey from the high school and greatly appreciated the input. I did not get any indication on her preference for a particular schedule, other than making a change. Any change, especially if there is a move to a 45-55 minute period schedule, plenty of professional development will be provided. Since the HS has been on block since 1999-2000, there are very few who have experienced a schedule other than the 4 block schedule, so providing professional development aids in easing any change. From the association position, the most important piece I sought clarification, reassurance, and advocated on was staffing. Dr. Hayward was clear and reassured us that there will be no RIFs on any schedule change. A survey of high school teachers and feedback on preferred schedule is attached.



A NEW OEA LRC

On October 12th from 4:30pm until 8:30pm, Rhea Young (OEA Board of Director) and I, along with a dozen other presidents in our OEA Service Council

extensively interviewed three candidates pulled by the OEA region director. It was the recommendation of the committee/leaders, that Marcus Whiteamire to be hired as Torian's replacement, pending OEA Board approval. Marcus is a local leader in the Sheffield-Sheffield Lake City Schools in Ohio. He has experience in contract & language negotiations, crisis situations, and organizing. Rhea and I had him as our top choice. Until he is officially hired, Denise Carmack and Dee Groman (who work as LRCs out of the Holland OEA office) will serve as our LRCs.

ELEMENTARY CAUCUS



A big shout out to the nearly 60 teachers in attendance at our elementary caucus! A special shout out to Susan Wagner and Lisa Raczkowski for organizing and running the event. Dr. Hayward attended and responded/clarified issues regarding Planning Time, Placement/Retention, Data Collection, Class Size, Kindergarten Start Date, Intradistrict/Interdistrict Enrollment Issues, and Communication. Notes, compliments of Wendy McCall.

OEA PRESIDENTS MEETING



At the end of September, I attended the presidents of large locals meeting (locals with over 500 members) hosted at OEA in Columbus with President Higgins and the OEA officers. Topics that we discussed: OEA 2016 priorities. The priorities are the 2016 election, which is important

for us to be involved to elect pro public education candidates and New Member Engagement.

New Member Engagement are opportunities and methods to listen and hear from our newest members in order to support them in education. Programs to support our newest members include professional development and outreach, we are already working on. In conferring with our OEA Board of Director, Rhea Young, we (TAWLS) are going to organize a phone banking evening on October 27th - more details to come.

TAWLS AND THE LABOR DAY PARADE



On September 5th TAWLS continued the tradition of showing solidarity with local unions and our community by walking in the Labor Day Parade. Local children delighted in the candy that we gave out.

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION BANQUET

On October 13th I attended the Employee Recognition Banquet where we all had an enjoyable evening celebrating years of service for staff and retirements. All board members attended and presented recognition to our staff.



