

Christopher Hodnicki,*President*

Jason Schreiner,*Vice President*

James Terry,*Vice President*

Rhea Young,*Treasurer*

Wendy McCall,*Secretary*

Jennifer Gent,*Secretary*



***“Working Together for our Kids”***

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING LOCATION: CAMPUS CAFE**

**April 15, 2015 Dinner: 3:30 Meeting Begins: After General Assembly**

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** 4:01(After General Assembly)
2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Heidi Hartman motioned to accept the March minutes. Jason Schreiner seconded. Motion passed.
3. **OLD BUSINESS:** Sue Wagner copied the minutes from the elementary caucus & handed out copies to elementary BRs to take back to their buildings.
4. **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**
   1. **ACTIVITIES – *Emily Schifko, Chair:***This Friday, April 17th is our TAWLS event at the Mud Hens renamed “Terry Time at the Mud Hens.” In addition to festivities this year, an added basket raffle is going to take place with proceeds benefiting the Zielinski-Terry Science Scholarship fund. There are currently 90 attendees with at least 10 children. This is an increase from the 28 who attended last year. Also, Jen made a recommendation at our recent officers meeting that we have a chairperson per event instead of one for all activities. This might someone for the Candy Budd relay, the Mud Hens, a winter activity, and the lunches for each building. There could also be someone in charge of first calamity day predictions, maybe do something with big sporting events throughout the year. These things are intended to make our association stronger and bring people together in the buildings as well as across the district.
   2. **AUDIT & BUDGET (Treasurer’s Report) –*Rhea Young, Chair:***

1. Heidi Hartman motioned to accept the February Treasurer’s report. Jason Schreiner seconded. Motion passed. Matt Durham motioned to accept the March Treasurer’s report. Lisa Raczkowski seconded. Motion passed.

2. Sue Wagner motioned to make the usual donation of $600 to the Whitmer After Prom. Jen Gent seconded. Motion passed.

* 1. **BANQUET –*Joy Krajewski, Chair:***The banquet is set for April 23rd. The hall will be open the day before to prepare it for the banquet. In addition to the sixteen retirees, we shall have three award winners and a special presentation in honor of Jim Terry.
  2. **AWARDS, *Heather Densmore, Chair:***The Awards Committee has announced the winners this year for the Outstanding Teacher Award: Kathy Chaka and Matt Kizaur. Congratulations! **Outstanding Educator will be awarded posthumously to Jim Terry**. Applications for the Golden Apple will be accepted until April 30th. Discussion was held about possibly changing how people are nominated for these awards since there were so few submitted this year. A question was asked about a list of previous winners and if this could be posted.
  3. **CALENDAR – *Paula Giovanoli, Chair:***
  4. **COMMITTEE TO ELECT –*Matt Durham, Chair:*** Matt would like to meet in May to get questionnaires ready for the beginning of next year. There may be a screening or forum for Board candidates.

Fritz Schermbeck motioned to form a TAWLS PAC for the purpose of donating money to supported school board candidates. Heidi Hartman seconded. Motion passed. We are allowed to use 25% of our FCPE donations to support those candidates we endorse if we form a PAC.

* 1. **EDI –*Jason Schreiner, Chair:*** The creation of a fourth Dean at Whitmer will use funds from a retiring librarian to pay for this position. This was suggested by administration.
  2. **ELECTIONS *– Jen Mayo, Chair:*** By acclamation, Jen Gent, Rhea Young, and Christopher Hodnicki were elected to serve as delegates to NEA RA this summer in Orlando, Florida.
  3. **GREIVANCE - *James Terry, Chair:***
  4. **HCCC – *Linda Markowiak, Chair:***
  5. **HISTORIAN – *Melissa Hieronimus, Chair:***Please send pictures to Melissa Hieronimus and Dana Edmonds who uploads them to the TAWLS website at tawls.ohea.us or under links on the WLS Teamwork page.
  6. **HUMAN RELATIONS/PUBLICITY – *Jennifer Gent& Wendy McCall, Chairs***
  7. **LEGISLATIVE (FCPE) – *Julie Hogan, Chair***
  8. **LPDC – *Lori Bosch, John Mohn, Mari Tate, Representatives:*** Remember to get your paperwork in if you need to renew your license. Sue Wagner called Rachael Novak for help with this process and she was very helpful.
  9. **MEMBERSHIP – *Judy Thomaswick, Chair:*** They are looking into purchasing very nice umbrellas for gifts this year.
  10. **NEGIOATIONS – *Jason Schreiner, Chair:***
  11. **NEW TEACHER – *Michelle Hetzel, Kristin McCorkle, Chairs:*** Gifts cards were purchased for the new teachers and will be given at the TAWLS banquet.
  12. **POLICY – *James Terry, Chair:***
  13. **SCHOLARSHIP – *Dana Edmonds & Heidi Hartman, Chairs:*** Friday, April 17th is the deadline for students to turn in the applications for scholarships. Please continue to support the TAWLS to support this fund, as well as thinking about donating.
  14. **NWOEA – *Jennifer Gent, Representative***
  15. **OEA *–Rhea Young, Representative:***

**1.** One out of every 32 voters in the presidential election is an NEA member.

**2.** Three things that are needed for Presidential candidates to be endorsed by NEA:

a. Questionnaire filled out

b. Video conference with Lily

c. Attendance at NEA conference in Orlando to address the delegates

**3.** The push to hold charter schools accountable will continue. Governor Kasich’s schools budget will find charter schools at almost a billion dollars a year. The state will pay charter schools $34.5 million more in the 2016/2017 school year than this school year for daily operations, even if charter enrollment stays the same. That equals about $279 more per student for each of the 123,000 charter school students. The state will also pay charters another $9.3 million a year to help pay for facilities. Many districts will see funding gains dwindle after charter deductions. In Cleveland, for instance, early budget gains were $5.6 million in state aid by 2016/2017. After increased dollars are deducted for charter school students, assuming no enrollment changes, that total drops to a gain of $488,000. Many legislators still don’t get the fact that local levy dollars are being used to fund charter schools. Auditor Dave Yost has been investigating attendance and conflict of interest issues and has made recommendations.

**4.** Testing-Senate Bill 3-Testing changes and deregulation of high performing districts –our lobbyists are working with Senator Hite, a former teacher in the Cleveland area, on possible amendments to this bill.

**5.** Safe Harbor-House Bill 7-districts will not be monetarily penalized next year for students opting out this year.

**6.** Time spent on testing and reasons for testing need to be addressed.

**7.** 5 of 8 Rule –Joint Committee on Agency Rule Review (JCARR) voted on party lines to validate proposed changes to the 5 of rule. Unfortunately, the vote did not go in our favor and they voted to eliminate it. Bob Hagen asked his constituents why they would vote to eliminate something that so many people had asked them to keep. He asked if they had received many letters about voting to eliminate it, because he had received hundreds asking to keep it.

**8.** The Education, Public Institutions and Local Government Committee voted to unanimously to recommend retaining language in Article VI, Section 2 of the Ohio Constitution that requires the General Assembly to “secure a thorough and efficient system of common schools throughout the state.”

**9.** House Bill 3 –would allow high performing districts to be exempt from having licensed teachers. That would be about 20% of the districts.

* 1. **AFL-CIO: *Rhea Young, Jason Schreiner, Chris Hodnicki, Delegates:*** Issues discussed: The AFL-CIO Executive Committee will meet to discuss and recommend an endorsement for Paula Hicks-Hudson for the November mayor’s race. There is also further work being done on the Strategic Plan to address mobilizing members, voters and involvement to influence legislation. It is recommended that members like the “Toledo Deserves a Great Newspaper” Facebook page to support the Blade union workers who have not been treated fairly by the management, 4000 days without raises, outsourcing, and cut wages by 14%. Another issue that was discussed included the support of the Steelworkers that are on strike. Since the AFL-CIO includes Steelworkers and the Affiliated Building Trades that work at refineries, decision was made that the national AFL-CIO voted to support, but no action is needed by locals. This caused a verbal confrontation between the two unions which required services of Cindy Perry, Sergent at Arms. Election season is around the corner: Councilwoman Webb is having a fundraiser at Chubby’s on Alexis Rd on April 21st from 5-7pm with ticket minimums of $25, Commissioner Tina Wozniak is having Spring Fling at the Toledo Club on Tuesday April 14th from 5-7pm with ticket minimums of $100 for 2. Also, I have been asked and will be serving on the AFL-CIO Labor Day Parade Committee. Finally National Train Day is May 2nd from 9-4pm at the Amtrak Station, the event is free.

1. **NEW BUSINESS:**
   1. Communication -An email was sent expressing so frustration with lack of involvement and communication. Please be careful with your tones, especially in emails or places where facial expressions and tones can’t be heard. Chris states that we understand that people are exhausted, overwhelmed and busy, but please stay involved and continue to communicate with your members. Jen Gent discussed that we really appreciate all of the people who are involved, but we need to look into how we can improve our association and strengthen our bond as co-workers. There is disappointment in the lack of follow-through and commitment. There are so many attacks on our profession that we need to be sure to band together. We are looking into a BR retreat or trying to find a time to meet before school starts to be sure we are all communicating as well as possible. Speaking about communication brought up the reminder that there should be time in staff meetings to share TAWLS information. Maybe ask to go first on the agenda if you are continuously running out of time to speak.
   2. Calamity Days- It was told that the Board decided that teachers always need more work time, so that is why students are not coming to school. Questions are being asked about what we will be doing on the two calamity days. It was said that some buildings were told that their principals were submitting their plan to Cherie Mourlam. Other schools said that they haven’t even discussed a plan. They are wondering if this plan is supposed to be a building decision, or if the principal will make the decision for the building. Other people were told that they will be able to use the two days as work days and won’t have to go to professional development. Some people are upset that they are being told what to do on these days instead of allowing us to be professionals and being able to work in our own classrooms or with our teams.
   3. Be sure to turn in your SLO paperwork and follow directions.
   4. Social media- Please be sure to be careful with what you put out there for the world to see. Even if you mark your things private, it doesn’t mean people can’t find a way to see it or maybe even use it against you. Just be careful!
2. **PRESIDENT’S COMMUNICATIONS:**

**1.** The officers are going to put together a comprehensive survey about the things that are happening in the district. We want people

to be able to express their opinions.

**2.** The Technology Advisory committee will meet to help Dr. Bob see how these new technology changes will affect staff and students. There is a great deal of frustration and up roar about these things. People have heard that these decisions are already made, but if it is told to people that the committee decided things, the members may not be as upset.

**Raffle Drawing**

**ADJOURNMENT:** 5:30p.m.