



Christopher Hodnicki, *President*  
Jason Schreiner, *Vice President*  
Fritz Schermbeck, *Vice President*  
Matthew Durham, *Treasurer*  
Wendy McCall, *Secretary*  
Tammy Conlan, *Secretary*

“Working Together for our Kids”

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

LOCATION: Campus Café

April 5, 2017

after the General Assembly

Meeting Begins:

I. **CALL TO ORDER:** 4:14 p.m. after the General Assembly

II. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Amy Hannan motioned to approve the March minutes. Fritz Schermbeck seconded. Motion passed.

III. **OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Jen Gent reported: The ESSA plan is on hold so they can re-examine teacher evaluations and testing. They are postponing until September.

IV. **NEW BUSINESS /OFFICER COMMUNICATIONS: PRESIDENT**

1. Questions were asked about moving principals around, especially since there is one retiring. As far as the officers know, all principals are staying put unless they choose to retire, etc.

**LEGISLATIVE UPDATES-** Jen Gent reported

1. Educational Funding: The Trump-DeVos budget cuts funding to student programs and schools by \$9 billion dollars (13.5%...from \$68 billion to \$59 billion) while allocating \$1.4 billion for vouchers and charters. Funding slated to be eliminated or reduced includes:
2. DeVos feels that this budget “would invest in underserved communities by expanding funding to charter schools and publicly funded private school options” and that “it builds on programs proven to work while eliminating those considered ineffective, duplicative or best left to states and local districts to decide.”
3. Also of note are her beliefs that America’s education system has fallen behind other countries, U.S. public schools nationwide are in such bad shape that she isn’t sure how they could get much worse and that her predecessor wasted billions of dollars trying to fix public schools and that school choice is the way to reform the system.
4. Supreme Court Nominee: President Trump’s nominee for the Supreme Court, Neil Gorsuch, has failed to adequately and fairly protect the rights of students with disabilities. He has imposed barriers to prevent students from asserting their rights or proving their case in court by requiring extreme preconditions for bringing lawsuits. Even when students have successfully proved that their rights had been

violated, Gorsuch has denied them relief in court. Tell your senators to vote NO on Gorsuch 1-855-632-1921.

5. State ESSA Plans: Approval of state ESSA plans will not hinge on whether they include school choice policies although Secretary DeVos “will use the process as an opportunity to ‘encourage’ states to adopt those policies.”
6. Graduation Requirements: The work group established by the State Board of Education to recommend alternative graduation requirements here in Ohio starting next years has concluded its work. The group is recommending two changes for the class of 2018. Their recommendations will go to State Superintendent Paula DeMaria for consideration by the State Board of Education in April and would also need legislative approval to go into effect. One recommendation would allow students who do not meet the requirements of the current pathways to graduate provided they take all required end-of-course exams and meet any two of the six conditions.
7. ESSA: On Monday, March 13, 2017, State Superintendent Paula DeMaria announced that the Ohio Department of Education would delay submitting the state’s plan in response to the federal Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) until September. This was a reversal from all indications by the Department that the plan would be submitted in April, the earlier the window for submitting the plan.
8. OTES: A new version has been submitted to ODE for review that contains 6 recommendations from the Ohio Educators Board. The Ohio Department of Education can approve the changes, but the final decision will be determined by the state legislature. Highlights from the recommendations submitted include:
  - The 50% teacher performance and 50% Student Growth components would be changed
  - Student performance is no longer a separate measure but rather incorporated into the overall teacher evaluations
  - Using scores for growth rather for judgement
  - Focus on ways teachers can improve, then following up during the year to make progress toward the goals set forth
  - Yearly evaluations for everyone
  - Shared attribution is no longer an option
9. HB87: Recently has been introduced by Kristina Roegner. This bill, if approved, would require tax dollars recouped from mismanaged charter schools to be reimbursed to the local districts. Since 2001, \$29.3 million has been mismanaged by charters
10. SB85: This bill was introduced March 2<sup>nd</sup> by Matt Huffman (R-Lima). The bill would replace the EdChoice and Cleveland Voucher programs with a state-wide voucher program called “Opportunity Scholarship.”

11. FYI: 5,000 teaching jobs are projected to open each year in Ohio due to teacher turnover. At the same time, the number of graduates with teaching degrees dropped by 30% last year. National studies show that roughly 17% of teachers will leave the field within 5 years.

## V. OFFICER/COMMITTEE REPORTS-

### **ACTIVITIES/AWARDS-** Emily Schiffko, Cheri Schober and Cindy Lambrect

#### Mud Hens

1. Two years ago, buildings were asked to bring a basket for the Mud Hens game, but many people did not like this plan. Last year, Emily got all of the donations herself. It was a huge job! This year the committee is asking each building to collect money and Emily and Tammi Aducci will purchase items for the basket raffle. They would like nine baskets so there is one to give away between every inning. Pre-sale raffle tickets will be \$10 for an arms length. BRs will keep the tickets you purchased that have your name on them. If BRs are coming to the game, they can bring the tickets there, but Emily will arrange to pick them up they are not coming. They need the ticket money as soon as possible, so they can purchase items and put baskets together. All of the money raised goes to the Terry/Zielinski fund.

2. This year, they are asking BRs to talk up the event. They only have 6 orders so far and they are hoping for a larger number of people to attend, because they are combining the Mud Hens event with the banquet. It costs \$12 for a ticket alone (children are welcome and pay \$12) and \$30 for appetizers and open bar.

#### Awards

1. Awards information was sent out

### **AUDIT & BUDGET(Treasurer's Report)-** Matt Durham

1. We received a grant from OEA to purchase books for all kindergarteners. They gave us \$250 in the beginning and \$250 upon completion. We went over that budget by about \$95, so that money came from TAWLS.

2. Thank you to Rhea Young, for helping us earn the Fiscal Fitness award! We will receive \$2,000!

### **ELECTION** – Jen Mayo

1. The results from the NEA election were sent out in an email.

2. BR elections are coming up if someone in your building is stepping down.

### **ELEMENTARY CAUCUS** – Sue Wagner

1. Thank you for all of your support, from every level in the district. We are not planning on having an elementary caucus or survey this year with all of the new changes. We look forward to next year and start again in the Fall to see where the needs are.

**LPDC** -LPDC will hold its April meeting on Wednesday, April 12th - 3:30 pm at CO.

**SCHOLARSHIP**– Dana Edmonds

1. They did a survey last year asking why people do or do not donate. Some people said they didn't know how or when to donate. Hopefully BRs can present information at staff meetings, etc. to give people all of the information. Although we know that everyone uses a lot of their own money in their classrooms, hopefully people will consider giving between \$.50 and \$1.00 per pay for the scholarship fund. This would make a huge difference. You can give cash, check or through payroll deduction. The scholarship goes to a Washington Local student and if they have a parent who works in the district, they receive extra points. There has been an idea to create a secondary scholarship for a TAWLS member's child, even if they do not attend WLS, but the idea was met with a love/hate relationship, so it is not in place yet. They tried the TAWLS shop, but it did not do well. Some principals only wanted staff to wear WLS items, not TAWLS things. There is a committee of over 20 people who help score the applications. They need the most help with the essays and then they rank the candidates according to the points they scored. Dana reached out to OAPSE to be on the committee and help with the scoring. They want the most fair way to choose the winners. If a parent has a child applying for a scholarship, they are not able to be on the scoring committee.

Dana is finding that the non-profit status is not as straight forward as it had appeared in the beginning.

Thank you to Dana for all of her work! Dana says that it is a work of passion. It would be wonderful to see everyone donate \$.50 and raise the fund to over \$10,000.

**VI. Scenarios**

Fritz put together some scenarios to help BRs and all members. Some are based on actual events that happened either in our district or in another. Some are from long ago. The names have been changed.

1. At an educational building, new teacher Ms. Frog, parked in a back parking lot, where experienced teachers usually parked. The principal orally told Ms. Frog not to park there. (If this would be you, ask the principal to put that in writing.) Ms. Frog parked in the back parking lot again. (She **does** need to follow a directive.) Principal put a letter for insubordination in Ms. Frog's file. (Any letter given to a member with ERF on it is going in your employee record file. It is usually at the bottom of the letter. There is a building file and then the official employee record file. If you ask to have something removed from your ERF, it just goes into another file that is still at Central Office.) In the end, Ms. Frog complied and parked somewhere else. This could have set up a problem. It could have been considered past practice and may not have allowed new teachers to park in certain places. **She should have** followed the directive before receiving the letter in her file and then contacted a TAWLS rep to help figure things out. If she had parked in a handicapped spot, it would have been against the law and the Board would have the right to write someone up for that.

**VII. Adjournment 6:06 p.m.**