

SPRINGFIELD EDUCATION ASSOCIATION
LEGISLATIVE BOARD MEETING

December 8, 2011

Minutes

- I. Call to order 4:18
- II. Review minutes of November 17, 2011 – Approved
- III. President's Report
 - A. New format for Association Representative Training will be held March 23 & 24 on the campus of UMass Amherst. The training will be open to ALL members, not just Representatives.
 - B. Please fill out brief AHERA (Asbestos) survey and return
 - C. School Committee can change the February vacation; however, it should be negotiated. Please write DOE to ask that dates for MCAS be pushed back to give students more time to prepare. See SEA website for talking points and contact information.
 - D. KEYS Survey to be conducted again district wide. Goal is to have 90+participation at every school.
 - E. L-Board meeting moved from February 9 to the 16.
- IV. Recommendations for Executive Board – Ten minutes discussion in small groups to review a list of additional duties for Unit A members at all levels. L-Board asked to survey their respective members and report back with any additions to the list.
- V. Issues
 - A. ILS schedule for the coming year may include days added to the beginning and end of the year, just as it is the current practice for ETLs and counselors. They will be paid a stipend.
 - B. ILS must log how they spend their day. They feel it takes time away from their duties.
 - C. Some Unit A members feel that they're being forced to use curriculum material – such as Lead 21, that is beyond the current ability of their students. These educators feel that the pressure is coming from representatives of the company. Principal should direct. Tim Collins has asked for the names of the schools where teachers are being denied the right to use their professional judgment. Send specific concerns to contact@seateachers.com
- VI. Vice President's Reports
 - A. Bargaining – They have come to agreement on two areas where there's unclear language and/or duplications. Job descriptions looked at for teacher leaders and test coordinator. Number of extended days to be reduced.
 - B. Grievance – No meeting this month
 - C. COPE – Keep an eye out for future meetings with legislators, set up by LPAT. Reach out to other community partners and encourage them to contact our officials to change the dates of MCAS testing.

- D. Professional Development – There’s still money available for workshops. Mary Kate is examining the value of PD in the schools as it’s being currently implemented.
 - E. Sick Bank – No report
 - F. Superintendent’s Committee – Stand for Children group discussed. Tim is concerned that they may have a negative impact.
 - G. New Teacher Committee – No report
 - H. City Wide SCDM – continues to visit schools throughout the District
 - I. Minority Affairs Committee – MTA EMAC Conference held the first weekend in December. Four members from Springfield attended. Excellent speaker and conference.
 - J. Health & Safety Committee – Please complete the simple three question survey concerning Asbestos reports on file in your school. Return to the SEA office at your convenience.
 - K. MTA Board of Directors – Discussed getting MCAS pushed backed and February vacation reinstated. Board endorses President Obama. Teachers and families need to understand that taxes support our communities.
- VII. Treasurers Report – distributed
- VIII. Unfinished Business – None
- IX. New Business - A member questioned if there’s a program in place where high school students mentor elementary students during the school day. Can members get an overview of the issues to be discussed prior to negotiation sessions? Can the “time-on-task” sheets passed out to attendees at this meeting be sent to members electronically?
- X. Adjournment – 6:12

Respectfully submitted,
Debra Askwith
Recording Secretary