

# Amherst Teachers Association Exec. Council Meeting Minutes November 14, 2022

To the world  
you may be just  
a teacher but to  
your students  
you are a HERO!  
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President Lisa Schenk called the November meeting of the Amherst Teachers Association to order. Nate Wolshuck moved that the October 2022 minutes be approved. Chris Barbaro seconded the motion. The minutes were accepted and submitted.

## Committee Reports

<p><b>Treasurer's Report</b></p>	<p>The Treasurer's report for November 14, 2022 was submitted.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="532 814 1419 1192"> <tr> <td colspan="2"><b>Checking:</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Balance.....</td> <td>\$1,961.20.</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2"><b>30 mo. CD</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Interest .....</td> <td>\$1.06</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ending balance....</td> <td>\$8,290.66</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2"><b>Savings:</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Interest.....</td> <td>\$0.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ending balance.....</td> <td>\$12,292.00</td> </tr> </table>	<b>Checking:</b>		Balance.....	\$1,961.20.	<b>30 mo. CD</b>		Interest .....	\$1.06	Ending balance....	\$8,290.66	<b>Savings:</b>		Interest.....	\$0.00	Ending balance.....	\$12,292.00
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<p><b>Membership</b></p>	<p><b>DUES:</b> For the 2022-2023 school year, the total annual dues will be \$800 for full-time members (\$17 total increase from 2021-2022), \$444 for half-time members and \$274.75 for quarter-time members (Title Tutors and Paraprofessionals). Also added to this amount is \$40 for every member for our local dues, Dues will be divided into 22 pays beginning October 10, 2022 (except Title Tutors divided over 18 pays). If you have any affiliation membership, that will increase your amount. (Contact Wendi if you would like to know if you have an affiliate membership attached to your dues.) Every member pays the local dues of \$40 divided over your 18 or 22 pays. You will see 2 union dues deductions-one local and the other for OEA. No dues are deducted in September. <b>Contact Wendi Lowe</b>, ATA Treasurer, <a href="mailto:wendi_lowe@amherstk12.org">wendi_lowe@amherstk12.org</a> if you have any questions. **As a member, you are financially responsible for the entire year's amount of the ATA dues no matter when you leave or retire. This is</p>																

	<p>contractual language- 5.04 H, I, J.</p> <p>If you know you are taking an <b>unpaid</b> Leave of Absence (LOA) ahead of the leave, please contact Wendi Lowe .</p> <p><b>**Please be sure you send any name, phone number, personal emails and/or address changes</b> to Wendi Lowe to keep our records updated. Please submit changes ASAP.</p> <p><b>REMINDER:</b> Executive Council monthly meetings are open to the membership. (See link to “Legislative council meeting dates” below).</p> <p><b>GRANT OPPORTUNITY:</b> OEA is offering a 1 year grant to pay for a business license for our 4 officers and grievance chair. The main reason for having these business email accounts is that our ATA information should not be sent to school accounts (as it becomes public record) and it will allow our past chain of emails to be able to be seen by future officers. Wendi is working on completing the grant application and is working with Marcus to process it. After the 1st year, ATA will pay to maintain the business accounts.</p>
<b>LPDC Report</b>	No report at this time.

<b>Grievance</b>	No report at this time.
<b>Elections</b>	<p>NEOEA &amp; OEA delegate elections are complete. Congratulations and thank you to the following:</p> <p>OEA Delegates: Mary Kay Mullen, Lisa Schenk, Todd Strebel, Wendi Lowe</p> <p>NEOEA Delegates: Alex Baldwin, Holly Miller, Mary Kay Mullen, Lisa Schenk, Todd Strebel, Wendi Lowe. We look forward to their involvement in these important elected positions representing our local.</p> <p>The fall NEOEA Rep. Assembly was this past weekend. Todd Strebel was in attendance.</p>
<b>Social</b>	See information in Old Business.
<b>Insurance</b>	<p>Next meeting is scheduled for Jan. 12th, 2023. You will pay no premium in the month of December for both dental and medical (this is our premium holiday for this year). Please complete the Online Biometric/Health Assessment. This assessment is due <b>March 1st</b> in order to receive the Wellness rate for insurance. Insurance Committee Members: Lisa Schenk, Russ Marty, Marcus Whiteamire, Brian Cesear (Steele), Cindy Giacobbe (AJH), Joe Mullen (Nord), Veronica Keck (Powers)</p>

## Old Business

<b>Thank You</b>	From: Redeemer Lutheran Church and the Family of Burton Bursley (in honor of Burton Bursley-Michelle VonKaenel's father).
<b>Promoting Positivity Committee-</b>	<p>Banners were made for all of the schools to promote positivity. Please be sure to display the banner at any event your building is having. See your ATA positivity building person for use of this banner. (For example-Powers displayed it during conferences as they collected donations from their families for their Care Closet.) Next committee meeting will happen in January-date TBD. The committee will be developing the criteria for the Scholarship. The next event will be a <b>Dine-To-Donate</b> with Ziggy's on November 22nd from 11AM-11PM for our ATA scholarship fund. Both dine-in and carry-out will give us a 15% profit on total sales. Consider ordering lunch and promote it building-wide to order! When you place your order and when you pick up your order please tell them the order is for the ATA scholarship fund. Thank you to Emily Marty for organizing this event. The flyer is attached. Please share as you like!</p> <p><b>Community service event:</b> A Christmas Caroling event to shut-ins has been tentatively planned for Sunday, December 11th from 4-8 pm. More details to follow-please consider joining in this! It is a great way to get in the holiday spirit!</p> <p><b>Care Closet Update:</b> Each school is doing their own Care Closet-to address the needs of the students in the building. The students will be able to access any materials, supplies, etc. that they have a need for.</p> <p>Elevating Positivity Committee members: Deanna Walther (Chairperson), Emily Marty, Joyce Kasnyik, Cindy Giacobbe, Krystin Mackowski, Michelle VonKaenel, Julie Hammond, Lynn Andrews.</p>
<b>OTES 2.0/Appraisal Review Committee update</b>	Please be sure contract language is being followed regarding your specific observations/evaluations. If you have questions please follow up with an email to your building reps. or anyone on the ARC/OTES Committee: Steele: Brian Kelley & Emily Marty, AJH: Lisa Schenk & Kelly Taylor, Nord: Erin Kinser, Powers: Mindi Krase & Jackie Fink.
<b>Negotiations</b>	No new update. The team attended Bargaining Bootcamp the weekend of November 5 & 6. Committee Members: Brian Kelley, Russ Marty, Nate Wolshuck, Mike Edwards, Allison Allen, Lisa Schenk, Staci Peltz, Diana Beetler, Beth Kovach, Deanna Walther, Becky Bruck, Meg Riegler.
<b>PublicSchoolWorks</b>	Due 11/23/22

<b>Local dues</b>	As a result of forecasted expenses, local dues will need to increase starting in the 2023-2024 school year. The Executive Council has been discussing and planning options regarding the increased amount. Please plan for an increase in local dues-Council will be sharing out information to the membership as we organize information. We are tentatively considering a \$40 increase (example of per pay: \$1.82 to increase to \$3.64). Council will be reviewing this tentative plan. If anyone has questions-Wendi can answer them for you.
<b>District Grant (ESC/Nordson)</b>	A survey is being sent to the membership for ideas on how to use this grant. The administration would like to use some monies for teacher appreciation/staff morale.

**New Business**

<b>NEOEA Contact Email Outreach</b>	<p>Emails coming from NEOEA are being unsubscribed or blocked. Necessary and good information is sent from our union regional group. Please read the following from the NEOEA Exec. Director: <i>NEOEA has noticed a number of our members have UNSUBSCRIBED or have been BLOCKED from our emails. There may be some questions to you as their local leader regarding this email, so I wanted to send you the contents: Your name has been UNSUBSCRIBED from our NEOEA contact lists. This may have been unintentional, but you are the one who must re-subscribe - we cannot do that from the office. Here is the link for the form to re-subscribe ...</i></p> <p><i><a href="https://visitor.r20.constantcontact.com/d.jsp?llr=ciltg5kab&amp;p=oi&amp;m=1111262604546&amp;sit=k5pdqvjhb&amp;f=601fe5a7-7423-45ec-add1-70a58ea1e469">https://visitor.r20.constantcontact.com/d.jsp?llr=ciltg5kab&amp;p=oi&amp;m=1111262604546&amp;sit=k5pdqvjhb&amp;f=601fe5a7-7423-45ec-add1-70a58ea1e469</a>.</i></p> <p><i>We send out monthly newsletter emails with updates and links to flyers for our events as well as other emails with important information. Our member email addresses come from OEA, so if you think you need to update your information - please call OEA at 844-OEA-info or email the helpline at <a href="mailto:membership@ohea.org">membership@ohea.org</a>. Keep in mind, if you previously unsubscribed from one of our lists, your email was unsubscribed from all of our lists and you will not receive any information from NEOEA. Local Leaders are especially encouraged to maintain up-to-date contact information in our lists in order to have the information you need to serve our members in your own local.</i></p> <p><i>When I have contacted Constant Contact in the past, I was also told that your email security may also be unsubscribing you from the email lists. You may want to check with your carrier and look at your own settings.</i></p>
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<b>Freedom Foundation Flyer/Mailing</b>	See the handout attached below regarding OEA facts on the assaults from the Freedom Foundation being mailed to OEA members.
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### Handouts/Attachments

<a href="#"><u>ESP Virtual Conference</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Lottery Teacher Recognition</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>OEA Facts: Freedom Foundation</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>ATA Ziggy's</u></a>
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### Building Concerns

<b>Powers</b>	Nothing to report
<b>Nord</b>	Nothing to report
<b>AJH</b>	Nothing new-there are still special education issues. Service delivery for many students is not effective with high numbers and the schedule we follow.
<b>Steele</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>30 minute lunch schedule is still an issue-especially when there is a different schedule to follow.</li> <li>Members continue to express their concern and struggles over the new math curriculum. They are very frustrated with the program. They are concerned that their scores/data are going to go down. They are being told to trust the process.</li> <li>Meetings that are held for content areas that are tested need to have purpose-there should be data driven guidance for improvement in content areas that have the need. Those who need help with data improvement should be having meetings to analyze their past data.</li> </ol>

### Tidbits~Recognition

<p><b><i>Congratulations:</i></b> Allison (&amp; Chris) Allen welcomed baby girl Darcy October 25th.</p>	
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**Those in Attendance:** Lynn Andrews, Wendi Lowe, Mary Kay Mullen, Lisa Schenk, Nate Wolshuck, Marcus Whiteamire, Diana Beetler, Heidi Triska, Deanna Walther, Mike Edwards, Chris Barbaro.

**Adjournment:** Mary Kay Mullen moved that the meeting be adjourned and Chris Barbaro seconded the motion.

Legislative Council Meeting Dates: Next meeting: December 14th, 2022

Next BOE Meeting Monday, December 12th @ Powers- Powers to cover

Amherst Teachers' Association Officers, Building Reps, and LPDC Reps for 21-24

### **ATA Officers 22-23**

<b>President</b>	Lisa Schenk (AJH)
<b>Vice President</b>	Russ Marty (Steele)*
<b>Secretary</b>	Becky Bruck (Powers)
<b>Treasurer/Membership</b>	Wendi Lowe (Steele)

### **Building Representatives 22-24**

<b>Powers</b>	<b>Nord</b>	<b>AJH</b>	<b>Steele</b>
Lynn Andrews Veronica Keck Heidi Triska	Diana Beetler Mary Kay Mullen	Lisa Harcula Steve Latto Mary Romano	Chris Barbaro Mike Edwards Nate Wolshuck

<b>Social Chairperson</b>	Deana Walther
<b>Election Chairperson</b>	Lisa Misson

### **LPDC Representatives**

<b>Powers</b>	<b>Nord</b>	<b>AJH</b>	<b>Steele.</b>
Diane Carpenter	Erin Kinser Jessica Stellwagen	Lisa Schenk Jennifer Rush Mary Bartek	Sarah Rigda

### **Negotiated Contract & Bylaws**

[ATA Negotiated Contract](#)

(June 30, 2019 thru June 29, 2022-2023-1  
year extension)

[Constitution & Bylaws](#)