

# Amherst Teachers Association Exec. Council Meeting Minutes March 15, 2023

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 March meeting of the Amherst Teachers Association to order. Veronica Keck moved that the February 2023 minutes be approved. Mary Kay Mullen seconded the motion. The minutes were accepted and submitted.

## Committee Reports

<p><b>Treasurer's Report</b></p>	<p>The Treasurer's report for March 15, 2023 was submitted.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="532 768 1416 1146"> <tr> <td colspan="2"><b>Checking:</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Balance.....</td> <td>\$3,918.03.</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2"><b>30 mo. CD</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Interest .....</td> <td>\$0.95</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ending balance....</td> <td>\$8,294.75</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2"><b>Savings:</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Interest.....</td> <td>\$0.77</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ending balance.....</td> <td>\$13,143.01</td> </tr> </table>	<b>Checking:</b>		Balance.....	\$3,918.03.	<b>30 mo. CD</b>		Interest .....	\$0.95	Ending balance....	\$8,294.75	<b>Savings:</b>		Interest.....	\$0.77	Ending balance.....	\$13,143.01
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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. <u>Local dues:</u> the increase in local dues will be \$40 (a total of \$80 for all members) beginning with the 2023-2024 school year starting with the October 10, 2023 pay. <b>Contact Wendi Lowe</b>, ATA Treasurer, <a href="mailto:wendi_lowe@amherstk12.org">wendi_lowe@amherstk12.org</a> if you have any questions.</p>																

	<p>**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 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>**Please be sure you send any <b>name, phone number, personal emails and/or address changes</b> to Wendi Lowe to keep our records updated. Please submit changes ASAP.</p> <p>Council monthly meetings are open to the membership. (See link to "Legislative council meeting dates" below).</p> <p>We applied for and received a grant from OEA for gmail accounts for all officers and grievance chair. We will let you know when it goes live.</p> <p><b>Milestone Awards:</b> A motion was made to allocate no more than \$750 for Milestone Awards by Russ Marty, seconded by Diana Beetler. Motion passed.</p>
<b>LPDC Report</b>	No report.

<b>Grievance</b>	No report
<b>Elections</b>	No report
<b>Social</b>	See Old Business for Retirement Celebration.
<b>Insurance</b>	<p>Next meeting: Thursday, March 30th</p> <p>Medical costs are outpacing premiums. We do expect to see an increase in our premiums next school year-we hope to know that by the end of March.</p> <p>Remember-our current dental insurance is Delta Dental.</p> <p>Biometric Screening Dates for 2023-24:  Wed., Aug, 16th, 2023 6:00am-1:30pm @ Powers (this is a non-contractual day for certified staff, but a contractual day for 260-day employees). You do still have the option of scheduling this day.  Mon., Aug. 21st, 2023 6:00am-1:30pm (this is a contractual day for certified)</p> <p>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>	None
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<p><b>Elevating Positivity Committee-</b></p>	<p>The committee met Jan. 11th and wrote a description for the ATA Scholarship to turn into the high school to add to their current list. The committee will accept applications from our high school seniors, review and select a recipient.</p> <p>The ATA Scholarship fund balance is currently \$1,169.30</p> <p>Our Care Closets in each building are now set up.</p> <p><a href="#">Spring Service Project:</a> Clean up day and the ATA Positivity Patch Gardens will be created on each school campus with sandstone etched with possibly ATA's garden or supported by ATA. The event will happen on Earth Day around our schools on Saturday, April 22nd. We will be looking for volunteers to help clean up our campuses-please watch for more information on this event to promote our membership unity. Kim Haney has written a grant and we may be able to use some of the funds to purchase plants. Green Circle Growers has committed to donating annuals to help get our gardens started.</p> <p>The committee will be sharing all of the activities: service projects, scholarship with Mike Molnar to share with the community through his PR. He did include the activities in his last Staff News Flash. We look forward to the continued promotion of this Committee.</p> <p>Elevating Positivity Committee members: Deanna Walther (Chairperson), Emily Marty, Joyce Kasnyik, Cindy Giacobbe, Krystin Mackowski, Michelle VonKaenel, Chandler Kremer, Julie Hammond, Lynn Andrews.</p>
<p><b>Negotiations</b></p>	<p>An email was sent Tuesday, March 14th with an update through your personal emails. We will keep the membership updated throughout the negotiations process. Negotiation information will be communicated to members via personal emails. If you did not receive the email and want to be on the personal email list-please send Lisa and Russ an email through school email with your personal email and they will add you.</p> <p>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</p>
<p><b>Legislative conference</b></p>	<p>Wendi and Lisa S. will be attending on Monday, March 20th.</p>
<p><b>Retirement celebration</b></p>	<p>YES IT IS ON FOR THIS YEAR! Mark your calendars to celebrate your colleagues-looking at May 4th or May 10th. Celebration will be upstairs Ziggy's (that is the tentative plan). More details to come soon!</p>

## New Business

<b>Lobby Day</b>	March 28, 2023 (see handout below)
<b>OEA Endorsed candidate for STRS and NEA Member Benefits</b>	STRS Board candidate- Arthur Lard (see handout below) NEA Member Benefits (see handout below)
<b>Citizens for Amherst Schools Golf Outing</b>	Please consider supporting this Amherst event which benefits our district! The committee is also accepting donations for raffle items and door prizes-if you have any, send them their way. Handout attached.


## Handouts/Attachments

<a href="#"><u>NEA Member Benefits</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Green Tour</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>OEA Endorsed candidate for STRS Board</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Spring Service Project</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Amherst Schools Golf Outing</u></a>
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## Building Concerns

<b>Powers</b>	Nothing to report
<b>Nord</b>	Nothing to report
<b>AJH</b>	Nothing to report
<b>Steele</b>	Nothing to report

## Tidbits~Recognition

<p><b><i>Congratulations:</i></b></p> <p>Kelly Escher had her baby, Presley Rae on March 11th</p> <p>Brooke Hennes had her baby, Carson Thomas on Feb. 13th</p> <p>Jessica Stellwagen had her baby, Everett Richard</p>	
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**Those in Attendance:** Veronica Keck, Mary Kay Mullen, Lisa Schenk, Marcus Whiteamire, Diana Beetler, Deanna Walther, Chris Barbaro, Mary Romano, Heidi Triska, Lisa Harcula, Steve Latto, Russ Marty, Becky Bruck

**Adjournment:** Russ Marty moved that the meeting be adjourned and Lisa Harcula seconded the motion.

**Legislative Council Meeting Dates:** Next meeting: April 19th, 2023

**Next BOE Meeting** Monday, March 20th (Nord to cover @ Steele)

[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>	Deanna Walther
<b>Election Chairperson</b>	Lisa Misson

## LPDC Representatives

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

## Negotiated Contract & Bylaws

<a href="#"><u>ATA Negotiated Contract</u></a> (June 30, 2019 thru June 29, 2022-2023-1 year extension)	<a href="#"><u>Constitution &amp; Bylaws</u></a>
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