

Amherst Teachers Association Exec. Council Meeting Minutes May 4, 2023

To the world
you may be just
a teacher but to
your students
you are a HERO!
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Vice President Russ Marty called the May meeting of the Amherst Teachers Association to order. Nate Wolschuck moved that the April 2023 minutes be approved. Chris Barbaro seconded the motion. The minutes were accepted and submitted.

Committee Reports

Treasurer's Report	<p>The Treasurer's report for May 4, 2023 was submitted.</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td colspan="2">Checking:</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-right: 20px;">Balance.....</td> <td>\$8,836.24</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">30 mo. CD</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-right: 20px;">Interest</td> <td>\$1.02</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-right: 20px;">Ending balance....</td> <td>\$8,296.83</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">Savings:</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-right: 20px;">Interest.....</td> <td>\$0.78</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-right: 20px;">Ending balance.....</td> <td>\$9,453.79</td> </tr> </table>	Checking:		Balance	\$8,836.24	30 mo. CD		Interest	\$1.02	Ending balance	\$8,296.83	Savings:		Interest	\$0.78	Ending balance	\$9,453.79
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Membership	<p>DUES: 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. Contact Wendi Lowe, ATA Treasurer, wendi_lowe@amherstk12.org 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 unpaid Leave of Absence (LOA) ahead of the leave, please contact Wendi Lowe .</p> <p>**Please be sure you send any name, phone number, personal emails and/or address changes to Wendi Lowe to keep our records updated. Please submit changes as they happen.</p> <p>Council monthly meetings are open to the membership. (See link to "Legislative council meeting dates" below).</p> <p>ATA Milestone Awards: The list was reviewed and updated.</p> <p>Milestone Awards will be presented at building meetings at opening inservice days.</p> <p>Motion made by Mike Edwards to increase the retirement dinner budget amount by \$100. Seconded by Chris Barbaro. Motion passed.</p>
LPDC Report	<p>Be sure you are submitting all coursework in the LPDC website for approval. If you are planning on taking any courses for the summer-be sure to get them approved before you pay for them. It is recommended to submit summer classes/coursework for approval prior to the end of the school year.</p>

Grievance	No report
Elections	<p>Secretary vacancy as Becky Bruck is retiring. Per ATA bylaws, nominations will be solicited from membership and executive council will vote to determine who will fulfill the secretary's position for the remainder of the current term. We would like to open nominations for the week of May 8 so that a replacement can be voted upon prior to the end of the school year. This will allow for a smoother transition.</p>
Social	See Old Business for Retirement Celebration.
Insurance	<p>Medical costs are outpacing premiums. Medical premiums will be increased by 9% and dental will increase 5% for next school year. These are claim based and worked through LERC.</p> <p>Open enrollment is May 1st-31st this year.</p> <p>Encouraging people to participate in Wellness points. You have until April 30th to earn points. Raffle drawings will be done in May for those earning points for: Peloton, Stationary Bike, Elliptical.</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</p>

	<p>260-day employees). You do still have the <i>option</i> of scheduling this day.</p> <p>Mon., Aug. 21st, 2023 6:00am-1:30pm @ Steele (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>
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Old Business

Thank Yous	None
Elevating Positivity Committee-	<p>The Committee met before spring break. A senior was picked for the ATA Scholarship (applications were submitted and reviewed by the Committee), It will be announced at the Senior Awards Banquet May 23rd--Deanna will be presenting our Scholarship!</p> <p><u>Spring Service Project: Comet CleanUp Day!!</u> Saturday, May 20th 10:00am-12noon Meet at your building campus-there will be an Elevating Positivity Rep. at each building to organize our efforts. Our CleanUp Day will coincide with Amherst Beautification Day. We will be adding annual flowers to current garden areas, weeding, and garbage clean up around each building. We will be looking for volunteers to help clean up our campuses-please see the attached flyer for the event to promote our membership unity. Green Circle Growers has committed to donating annuals to help get our gardens started.</p> <p>The committee will continue to share all of the activities: service projects, events, activities, and scholarship with Mike Molnar and Rachel Mellen to share with the community through PR. We look forward to the continued promotion of this Committee. \$1169.30 without the \$1000 VFW donation. We may be able to give out 2 scholarships next year.</p> <p>Excellent first year 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>
Negotiations	<p>The Negotiations Team continues on the path of bargaining. Team met on April 26th in a negotiations session. We are currently in agreement on contract language. We are working on financials. Another meeting is set for May 24th. Look for an email in your personal emails after this date.</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
Citizens For Amherst Schools Golf Outing	Event takes place on June 9th. 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. Flier attached.
Staffing updates	Mike M. has been very communicative and working collaboratively with updates to staffing positions.

New Business

OEA Top 3 Issue Cards	OEA wants to know your top 3 issues impacting education. Please see the OEA Top 3 Issue cards being placed in your mailboxes by your building reps and share your opinion with OEA. This is to help inform OEA what our concerns are.
NEOEA Summer Leadership- July 19th & 20th	If anyone is interested in going please let Lisa Schenk and Russ Marty know.

Handouts/Attachments

<u>Spring Service Project</u>	<u>Amherst Schools Golf Outing</u>
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Building Concerns

Powers	Nothing to report
Nord	Nothing to report
AJH	Nothing to report
Steele	We have a CCP teacher that was assigned by LCCC to do a lot of work. High school admin told the teacher they could not "blue slip" the time. It was communicated to the member to not complete the work if they are not being compensated.

Tidbits~Recognition

***Congratulations:
To our retirees:
Becky Bruck and Katie Innes***



Those in Attendance: Lynn Andrews, Veronica Keck, Mary Kay Mullen, Deanna Walther, Chris Barbaro, Lisa Harcula, Steve Latto, Wendi Lowe, Russ Marty, Nate Wolshuck, Mike Edwards, Becky Bruck, Marcus Whitemire, Brian Kelley

Adjournment: Mary Kay Mullen moved that the meeting be adjourned and Veronica Keck seconded the motion.

Legislative Council Meeting Dates: TBD in August at the New Teacher luncheon

Next BOE Meeting Monday, May 15th Powers to cover @ Steele CLC

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

ATA Officers 22-23

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

Building Representatives 22-24

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

Social Chairperson	Deanna Walther
Election Chairperson	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

<u>ATA Negotiated Contract</u> (June 30, 2019 thru June 29, 2022-2023-1 year extension)	<u>Constitution & Bylaws</u>
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