

MINUTES

January 15, 2013

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The meeting was called to order at 4pm. in room 205 at Guiteras School. A quorum was established.

ATTENDANCE: Jen Saarinen, Linda Bruno, Melissa Bernard, TJ Delsanto, Al Rezendes, Greg Arruda, Brian Chidester, Dayna Achilli, Brian Leger, Kate Barry, Keri Sloat, Jane Farnsworth, Maria Camara, Jay Seals, Robin Mello

Call to Order:

We are in need of building representation from Hugh Cole and Colt Andrews.

Grievance Report:

High School - Three grievances moving to level 3 on Monday, January 28th

Middle School - One grievance moving to level 3 on Monday, January 28th

Elementary- Level 2 in abeyance

New Business:

➤ **NEARI and AFT honors NEWTOWN, CT. -**

- The event is from 6-7pm, Friday, January 16th at the West Warwick Civic Center.
- BW student to read name at ceremony.

➤ **NEARI Event – SAVE the DATE--- Saturday, May 4, 2013-**

- Official title of event TBA
- Similar to Let Teachers Teach @URI last year
- New members strongly urged to attend
- Informational sessions will be available to address areas of need (i.e. evaluation)

➤ **Maps boycott in Seattle, Washington-**

- Brian C. presented information that the teachers at Garfield High School voted unanimously not to proctor the MAPS assessment. The reason for the Seattle boycott is that the NWEA MAP scores are a mandated part of teacher evaluation.

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- Informational links were provided for more information:

<http://dianeravitch.net/2013/01/10/teachers-of-garfield-high-school-in-seattle-say-no/>

<http://socialistworker.org/2013/01/14/scrap-the-map>

<http://labornotes.org/blogs/2013/01/when-teachers-refuse-tests>

Motion moved by Brian C. to adopt the following resolution: "The BWEA supports the teachers at Garfield HS in Seattle who voted not to administer the MAPS test."

Discussion:

- Clarification as to how MAPS scores are used in our district v. Seattle.
- Importance of showing support for other unified associations.
- While we support the Seattle teachers, we are not calling for our teachers to boycott the MAPS tests in our district. The reason for the Seattle boycott is that these scores are a mandated part of their evaluation; the same is not true for us.
- Brian urges everyone sign the change.org petition.
- https://www.change.org/petitions/seattle-public-schools-support-garfield-high-school-teachers-refusing-to-administer-the-map?share_id=eJiCRhfNoR&utm_campaign=autopublish&utm_medium=facebook&utm_source=share_petition

Motion Carried

Old Business:

- **Evaluation Committee Update- Appeals Subcommittee**
 - The work of this committee is still a work in progress.
 - Committee made up of teachers and administrators.
 - Committee worked on setting ground rules and policy writing for the appeals process.
 - This work is being sent to the larger evaluation committee and then to the staff.
 - Stay tuned!
- **Sick/ Personal Time**
 - Last month the rep council decided that it was in the best interest of the BWEA to bargain the language of how sick/ personal time would be discharged.
 - The request was made, but no news as to when that will begin.

MINUTES**➤ Evaluator Rating Scales**

- BWEA will complete second round of evaluator scales within the first week of February. Reps will tally and report out within that month.
- Statements 8 and 9 were changed to eliminate the false positive on first survey.
- Linda B. will copy and send copies to building reps to administer.
- Building reps are asked to hold a meeting in the first week of February to administer survey to the staff at their school.
- Our February 12th rep council meeting will be used to compile the results
- All scales are anonymous and reported back to administration by level ONLY (Eled, Middle, High).

➤ Evaluation/ SLOs for Specialists

- BWEA filed a grievance based on mandating SLOs outside of a specialist teacher's content area. This was put in abeyance since a tentative agreement/ work in progress agreement was thought to be made.
- Earlier this school year a proposal was made to the superintendent regarding allowing content specific goals for physical education teachers and specialists.
- Since then the work in progress on this issue has stopped.
- Jen S. will request to be included in all correspondence regarding the ability to change SLOs for all specialist teachers.
- Jen S. will look into next steps for the specialists this affects.

Building Issues:**➤ Guiteras-**

- Teachers were asked to benchmark writing samples of own class and blindly of another class during CPT.
- Scores must then be inputted into an excel spreadsheet.

*Reminder- CPT is for teacher created goals and work should not be mandated during that time.

- ✓ Linda B. suggested again starting up the Elementary Task Force to deal with these types of issues. Kate B. and Linda B. will send another email looking for new members. If you are interested you may also contact one of them in the meantime. Elementary teachers are encouraged to sign up.

➤ MHHS-

- A building meeting is scheduled to discuss the duty assignments for quarter 2 and the upcoming quarter 3.
- Building reps will be creating duty schedules for the year per contractual language.
- Thank you to Kerry Mastriano, from MHHS, who has worked very hard on organizing and building an equitable schedule.

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- Per contract, members can call for a fair rep meeting if there are future issues with the duty schedule.

- Colt Andrews & Hugh Cole-
 - Building representation is needed.

Reports:

- Treasurer-
 1. 1099s sent out by accountant.
 2. Nancy Lavey asked in lieu of flowers, for her mother's recent passing, that members make donation to the BWEA scholarship fund. Please submit those donations to T.J. if you wish to donate.

Motion moved by Greg A. to adjourn. **Motion carried.**

Meeting adjourned at 5:25pm

Respectfully submitted,
Melissa Bernard