



# West Genesee Teachers' Association

PO Box 417  
Camillus, NY 13031

## Meeting Minutes September 9, 2014

### I. Meeting called to order at 4:02 by President Mannion

### II. Roll Call

|  |  |   |   |
|--|--|---|---|
| <u>Executive Officers</u><br>John Mannion<br>Mary Weaver<br>Keith Newvine<br>Sue Marshall<br>Jeanine Stables | <u>East Hill</u><br>Heather Tome<br>Janet McDonald<br><br><u>Onondaga Road</u><br>Kathy Gauthier<br>Kristen Hudson | <u>Split Rock</u><br>John Lawrence<br><br><u>Stonehedge</u><br>Allyson Winters<br>Courtney Lyons<br>Terry Lindsey | <u>WGMS</u><br>Matt Bolha<br>Donna Geer<br>MaryBeth Smith |
| <u>CMS</u><br>Eric Howes<br>Jamie Abdo   | <u>High School</u><br>Chris Paoli<br>Theresa Mosey   | Patrick Haines<br>Patti Sullivan  | <u>Guest</u>  |

### III. Secretary's Report (Jeanine Stables)

- August minutes were reviewed with calls for revisions, as needed. None offered.
- Motion to approve August minutes: Keith Newvine
- Seconded: Allyson Winters. Minutes approved

### IV. Treasurer's Report (Sue Marshall)

- Paid three months of rent so we don't owe again until October- no longer paying utility bill separately,
- Audit-have not gotten written report yet, but at an informal meeting, auditors were pleased with changes made
- IRS update- tax exempt status reinstated! Members thank Sue Marshall for making this happen.
- Report accepted as read

### V. President's Report (John Mannion)

- Sick Bank- donation period is open for D. Desimone.
- Elections- Statewide primaries today- please vote. Consider supporting alternative to Cuomo who demonstrate a greater interest in supporting teachers and public education. We will discuss option of financially supporting local challengers in Nov. elections.
- Retirement delegate- Dee Moore is willing to continue on and will attend meeting and report back. No election is necessary at this time.
- Cabinet is aware of significant technology issues that are occurring across the district. Please do not hesitate to contact Bill Roberge through email to document and make fixes, especially for issues that directly impact students learning (IEPs accommodations)

## **VI. Vice-President's Report (Mary Weaver)**

- a. Fall Fling- October 3<sup>rd</sup> from 4-6 at the Wildcat. We would like to invite other bargaining units to join us
- b. Directing council- first meeting- \$45,334 is budget for the year
- c. 4 Action research projects and 8 collegial circles will be funded.
- d. The district is committed to a stronger SU connection with Dr. Shedd this year.
- e. Mary would like to remind members to submit credit for vouchers.
- f. Looking into training for virtual book studies for more vertical collegial circles
- g. Sept 17<sup>th</sup> the first SLC.
  1. Members express continued questions regarding access to buildings over summer time. Teachers need more time and access at the end of August to prepare. We should revisit this issue in spring to be proactive.

## **VII. Vice-President of Grievances (Keith Newvine)**

- a. The Membership- not out yet due to time constraints. It will be published as soon as possible..
- b. We NEED a new membership newsletter editor!!!! This job pays a stipend-please reach out to colleagues who may have time and talent to take this on. Keith will help make transition.
- c. Grievance update- presented to the Board. . The grievance was denied. Member is currently at the school to which she was transferred. After discussion, it has been decided that the WGTA will continue to pursue the matter. It will be appealed to an arbitrator, because it sets precedence that Sp. Ed. teachers can be moved at any time. It is a good fight, and is the right thing.
- d. Assessment Audit- 8 days looking at tests was a bit grueling. They took a random sampling of tests and created a rubric. The good thing is the grant from State Ed to teach teachers how to make more authentic assessment. K-5 math teachers have been given opportunities as well as 9<sup>th</sup> grade to participate in training. May be being asked to create LAT for Jan at this meeting.

## **VIII. Membership (Matt Bohla)**

- a. Building leaders are asked to please follow up with new members to complete membership form. Email Matt if you need more forms.

## **IX. Building Leader Reports by Building**

### **ORoad**

- a. Questions about CAP sheets not being completed over the summer- are they still being used?
- b. Teachers are having serious issues with influx of kids with severe autism and how to program for them. Inclusion teachers are asking for and need more training and support.
- c. School tool late access- so teachers struggled to access 504 and IEP before school started to be prepared
- d. Concerns about responsibility for students with severe allergy(food or other)- teachers looking through lunch boxes every single day, need a more efficient procedure to protect students
- e. Should we have nursing staff involved in setting up scheduling and programming for students with severe allergy?
- f. Intervention time- Newly created block of time dedicated for IS service delivery- very difficult to get in science and SS given this 30 minute block

### **STB-**

- a. IS is asking about possibly needing a paid grade chair position.
- b. Members express interest when the district is going to review redistricting as they said it would be.
- c. Clarification of email usage- should it be used for personal, social issues?

### **STG**

- a. Is getting one new laptop cart- but there are two buildings- shouldn't each side get one?
- b. Heat index- in our classroom was well above the safe level

### **EH**

#### **Split Rock**

- a. constant printing problems
- b. Frustration with inclusive K set up – why very high needs are pushing into classrooms with high number of students- do they have appropriate supports.

### **WGMS**

- a. concerns over use of connected math after investing multiple hours in training over the summer with other programs.
- b. Nurses- pay is a continued issue..... 745 kids with one nurse... huge discrepancy versus other districts. Level of need has dramatically increased over the years

### **CMS**

- a. Lack of support for Sp Ed students is a big concern.
- b. Building morale is pretty low- big concerns about number of students
- c. No body covering In- school Suspension. Lunch coverage is tight- one teacher and TA- is this safe- what if there were an emergency?

### **HS**

- a. Computers- school tool not accessible. Printing nightmares.....
- b. Workshop days- no time on either day to do setup-
- c. Meeting- heterogeneous grouping is not something that members like or agree with. Not about ease of scheduling – it's about what's best for the students. Told it was done deal- is this true? Members want to sign a letter disagreeing with this action. HS goes first next week.

- X.** Motion to Adjourn- MaryBeth Smith  
Second: Kristen Hudson

**Meeting Adjourned 5:40pm**