



General Membership Meeting Minutes

February 22, 2016

- I. Call to Order**
- II. Roll Call – shall be done on sign-in sheets**
- III. Approval of Agenda, approved**
- IV. Approval of Minutes from January’s meeting, approved**
- V. Welcome**
- VI. Open Nominations for Secretary and Treasurer**
 - a. Bill Rahn nominates Jim Glazer for treasurer**
 - b. Pam Rickers nominates Amanda Beale for secretary**
- VII. Reports**
 - a. President
 - i. Information about how Justice Scalia’s death impacts Friedrichs vs. CA Teachers Union
 - ii. Attended the Humphrey Mondale dinner
 - b. Vice President – will report out during item i
 - c. Secretary
 - d. Treasurer
 - i. Monthly finance report
 - ii. Reminder for UTSWC Reps about the \$2.00 per UTSWC member at each site to be spent on connecting with members
 - e. Membership
 - i. As of February 16th we have 1288 full members and about 3% fair share

- f. Member Rights
 - i. Final letters for retirement due March 15th
 - ii. Transfer timeline will be posted on our website
 - iii. Reminder on social media use and district technology policy
 - iv. Our contract does not have language about unpaid days; HR does not have to approve unpaid time off
- g. Professional Development
- h. Communications/LCAT
 - i. Rally on February 18th
 - ii. Next events
 1. Union Fellowship at Cowboy Jacks on Friday, February 26th immediately following your building duty day. Appetizers will be provided.
 2. Monday, February 29th – All members congregate near the front of the building and enter the building at the start of the duty day
 3. Friday, March 11th – wear union shirts to staff development activities
 - iii. Social Media
 - iv. Members needed from OMS, WMS, NFSI
- i. Negotiations
 - i. Continue to be in active negotiations
 - ii. Updates on website
 - iii. Meeting with the media – Marty Fridgen is our spokesperson
 - iv. Professional united efforts
 - v. All UTSWC members will received a fact sheet about the message being conveyed by the UTSWC negotiation team as of February 22nd. Things can change quickly so stay tuned to the negotiation updates.
 - vi. The negotiation team may consider the option of mediation at some point
 - vii. District Negotiators – Denise Griffith, Dan Pyan, Mike Johnson, Kari Lopez, Ron Kath, Katie Schwartz, Joe Slavin
 - viii. Approximately 40% of districts have yet to settle their contracts
- j. Government Relations
 - i. MN caucus night on March 1st – flyers in envelope
 - ii. NEA endorsed Angie Craig for CD2
 - iii. Lobby Day for UTSWC on April 7
 - iv. Candidate screening was on Feb. 18th for Kelly Fenton’s seat

VIII. Information/Discussion Items

- a. Voting for NEA RA State Delegates on Feb. 23rd
- b. Ed Mn Rep Convention delegates – no vote needed, 13 of 17 slots filled
- c. 2017-18 calendar update – first reading was done on Feb. 18th
 - i. There are two members of the UTSWC exec. board on the calendar committee
- d. Attending School Board meetings - only a few dates left

- e. Four members nominated for Minnesota Teacher of the Year
 - i. Wes Bolin, WHS
 - ii. Andrea Kleoppel, OMS
 - iii. Linda Pieper, MES
 - iv. Kaarin Schumacher, WHS
- f. Local delegates to NEA RA and AFT – email will come out next week

IX. Close Nominations for Secretary and Treasurer

X. Other

- a. Concerns shared about teachers at buildings with planned HVAC repairs being granted 1 day to pack rooms
- b. Members considering retirement should contact TRA before making their final decision; without a contract being settled
- c. Back pay and reimbursement for increase health insurance premiums have to be negotiated
- d. The district decides where VCS teachers are placed on the step schedule, these teachers will also get to see how many available positions are open in SWCS – they will not get to bid on a specific position, they will be placed in May if they choose to come to SWCS. By state law, we have to allow VCS teachers the opportunity to join our district. There may be jobs at VCS available but the building does not become part of our membership until September 2016 therefore current SWCS teachers cannot bid on those positions. VCS teachers will receive 0 seniority when they join our district. If you have more questions, you may contact Marty Fridgen.
- e. Question about the discretionary positions – for the positions that have yet to be bid on, were those automatically 4 year term positions?
- f. Questions about open house days and times

XI. Door Prizes

XII. Adjournment at 5:32