



# West Genesee Teachers' Association

PO Box 417

Camillus, NY 13031

## Monthly Meeting of the Cabinet

Wednesday, April 9, 2014

### I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by John Mannion at 4:02 pm.

### II. Roll Call

Cabinet Members Present:

<b><u>Executive Officers</u></b> John Mannion Mary Weaver Keith Newvine Sue Marshall	<b><u>East Hill</u></b> Heather Thome Janet McDonald	<b><u>Onondaga Road</u></b> Jeanine Stables Kathy Gauthier	<b><u>Split Rock</u></b> Wende Ogden John Lawrence
<b><u>Stonehedge</u></b> Terry Lindsey Allyson Winters Courtney Lyons	<b><u>CMS</u></b> Kristyn Sperdutti	<b><u>WGMS</u></b> Matt Bolha	<b><u>High School</u></b> Patti Sullivan Theresa Murray

### III. Secretary's Report (John Mannion):

- a. March Minutes were shared and approved as written.

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

- a. The annual AFT Audit was submitted for approval.
  - i. Grossman, St. Amour external audit was submitted.
  - ii. AFT requires an internal or external audit once/year.
- b. We have not received notice of a reinstatement of our tax exempt status from the IRS to date.
  - i. Sue continues to check the IRS website and will report back as soon as she receives notification.

### V. Membership Chair Report (Matt Bolha):

- a. Nothing to report

### VI. President's Report: John Mannion reported:

- a. Elections
  - i. Nominations for Building Leaders & Representatives are due in May; vote will occur in June
- b. Nominations
  - i. John asked for nominations for Secretary and Vice President for Negotiations. Please contact John if you know of someone interested in the position or to nominate someone.
  - ii. Conversations between John and previous Executive Officers has been helpful and productive.
- c. State Tests

- i. John Mannion went to the Opt Out meeting at Westhill
  - ii. Number of opt outs should not impact our funding—at least not for at least another two years.
  - iii. NYSED modified the “95% Rule” to allow for an average of participation from the 2012-2013 and 2013-2014 school year.
  - iv. A concern from Stonehedge was raised as to their school’s likelihood of losing Title I funds as a result of 2012-2013 participation rate at their school.
- d. VOTE/COPE
- i. There will be a VOTE/COPE drive to encourage members to begin donating to this political action fund or to increase the amount of their donation.

**VII. Vice-President’s Report (Mary Weaver):**

- a. Mary attended the NYSUT Representative Assembly on April 4-April 6 and reported that the assembly:
  - i. drafted resolutions which will be sent directly to legislators
  - ii. passed a vote of “no-confidence” of NYSED Commissioner John King and called for his removal
  - iii. removed Governor Cuomo’s name from any resolution regarding Women’s Equality
  - iv. For more information, go to <http://www.nysut.org/resources/special-resources-sites/representative-assembly>.
- b. The WGTA vote was casted in favor of the Revive NYSUT ticket
  - i. John and Mary were in constant contact
  - ii. Mary met and spoke with Karen Magee, recently elected NYSUT President, and Andrew Palotta, recently elected NYSUT Vice President
- c. Superintendent Liaison Committee is scheduled for April 16<sup>th</sup>
  - i. Stay tuned for an email from Mary asking for agenda items.
- d. Honoring Years of Service
  - i. The WGTA covers ½ the cost of the District-wide Retirement Party.
  - ii. The WGTA will cover the cost of cakes honoring members for their years of service.
  - iii. The WGTA will purchase blankets with West Genesee imprints, acknowledging 25 years of service.

**VIII. Vice President for Grievances Report (Keith Newvine):**

- a. A LAT Survey was co-created by the WGTA and the WGAA to determine how best to assess teachers’ on the LAT portion of the APPR Process
  - i. Cabinet members reviewed and approved the survey and asked that it wait to be sent out until their could talk to their building members.

**IX. Elementary Report**

- a. Onondaga Road
  - i. A question was raised about refusals or absent students counted against teachers in the calculation of the APPR Score.
    - 1. A policy was approved by the WGTA & District Administration which removes refusals or absent students

from the denominator of any APP calculations; see John or Keith for more information.

- b. Split Rock
  - i. It was reported that some IS Staff are not required to leave sub plans and that some days are not provided a substitute by the District.
    - 1. John will send an email to Deb Miller to address this concern.
- c. Stonehedge—Blue
  - i. A question was raised if members could grieve the APPR Process due to inconsistent artifact collection across the district and inequitable requirements of the plan.
- d. Stonehedge—Gold
  - i. A concern was raised about losing Title I funding as a result of falling below the 95% participation rate.
    - 1. John will send an email to Dr. Brown to address this concern.
- e. East Hill
  - i. A question was raised as to whether or not a student can receive OT/PT during Interaction Time.
  - ii. A concern about artifact collection (binder) inconsistencies across the District was raised.
  - iii. A question was raised about Family Medical Leave Act Accessibility for part-time employees.
- f. Camillus Middle School
  - i. A concern about members on paid leave being charged a sick day for an emergency closing day was raised
    - 1. John, Keith, & Mary are in communications with the District Administration about this concern.
  - ii. A concern about staffing and enrollment was raised regarding the building not having enough staff to cover duties
  - iii. A concern about members being asked to choose their placement for next year without any time to deliberate was raised.
- g. West Genesee Middle School
  - i. A concern about using email to contact parents, as per Administrator directive, was raised.
  - ii. A concern about members being forced to draft or sign a letter was raised.
- h. High School
  - i. A concern about the recent faculty meeting was raised.
  - ii. A concern about reducing class size was raised.

**X. Adjournment**

- a. The meeting was adjourned at 5:43pm.