



West Genesee Teachers' Association

PO Box 417
Camillus, NY 13031

Monthly Meeting of the Cabinet Wednesday, September 11, 2013

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by John Mannion at 4:03 p.m.

II. Roll Call

Cabinet Members Present:

<u>Executive Officers</u> John Mannion Mary Weaver Keith Newvine Sue Marshall Katie Williams	<u>East Hill</u> Janet McDonald	<u>Onondaga Road</u> Jeanine Stables Kathy Gauthier	<u>Split Rock</u> Linda McKeon Wendy Vogt
<u>Stonehedge</u> Terry Lindsey Allyson Winters	<u>CMS</u> Kristyn Sperduti Courtney Updegraff	<u>WGMS</u> Matthew Bolha Carol Glor Mary Beth Smith	<u>High School</u> Theresa Mosey Theresa Murray Mark Grier Patti Sullivan Patrick Haines Chris Paoli Molly Devaney
<u>Guests</u> Courtney Lyons (Stonehedge-Gold) Ray Fuller (Onondaga Road)			

III. Minutes: Katie Williams reported:

- a. Minutes from the May WGTA Meeting were accepted.
- b. Agenda for future meetings will be e-mailed to cabinet members.

IV. Treasurer's Report: Sue Marshall reported:

- a. Sue Marshall presented the current WGTA budget
 - i. MOTION: John Mannion
 - MOVED: Accept the current budget
 - The motion was SECONDED: Patti Sullivan
 - The motion was PASSED: Unanimous voice vote.

V. President's Report (John Mannion)

- a. Copies of the Bylaws were passed out to any member that didn't receive them.
- b. Open WGTA positions at Camillus Middle School and Split Rock Elementary
 - i. CMS: Kristyn Sperduti will be the temporary appointed leader until the WGTA election.
 - ii. Split Rock: Sue Giannini is stepping down from building leader. John Lawrence will be temporary appointed for that position until an election can take place for building leader.
 - iii. Stonehedge: Sandi Sherlock is stepping down from building leader. Allyson Winters (Blue) and Terry Lindsey (Gold) will be temporary co-leaders until an election can take place.

- iv. John Mannion would like to hear from appointed leaders by September 18th and run elections on October 2nd.
- c. Executive Election Results: If anyone is interested in results, they can get them.
- d. Lead Teachers: Need a clear job description from administration.
 - i. Concern that they are on teacher seniority list because they do not follow APPR like all of the teachers in the district.
- e. APPR: Meeting tomorrow with administration regarding APPR.
 - i. After this year, our APPR contract can be renegotiated.
 - ii. Concern over how students who don't show for the tests will count towards a teacher's APPR
 - 1. Discussion on how for NYS Tests if students write a word on their test, it does not count as a "no show"
 - iii. Concern over new students that come to the school district with no data. How are teachers supposed to acquire data on them for their SLO and LAT?
 - iv. Elementary Administrators are using 75% for ELA and 80% for Math as expected passing rates and there is concern over these percentages. They are unrealistic based on this past year's NYS test scores.
 - v. Elementary LAT: Discussion on an electronic versus paper format. There is an unequal distribution of computers among the elementary schools. Split Rock and Stonehedge have actual computer labs, whereas East Hill and Onondaga Road do not. Teachers would prefer a paper and pencil format.
 - vi. Concern over LATs: Why are elementary school LAT tests have to be secured and no teacher can view them, whereas middle school and high school teachers have access to them?
 - vii. What data should elementary teachers use for their LAT? AIMS Web is not common core aligned. Teachers also are expected to grade on a holistic 4, 3, 2, 1 basis, but now we are expected to view children as percentages in regards to SLO and LAT.
 - viii. Stonehedge Elementary teachers received last year's NYS test scores in their mailboxes, but other elementary teachers did not receive them.
 - ix. There is a need for a district specific start date of when observations should take place.
 - x. Teacher Improvement Plans need to be filled out 10 days after the 1st day of school
- f. In-Service Training: Need 4 WGTA representatives (p.58 of WGTA Contract)
 - i. Teachers will have input on what happens on Professional Development Days at a district-level.
 - ii. First meeting will be on October 8th and will meet once a month after school to discuss professional development. Contact Mary Weaver or John Mannion if interested in joining this committee.
- g. Special Education Teachers' Committee
 - i. Mary Weaver and Jeannine Stables will be on this committee with Cheryl Saidel. Please contact them if you have agenda topics.
 - ii. They will meet on 9/30, 10/28, 12/3, 1/14, 2/25, 3/31, 5/5, 6/16
- h. Teacher-Superintendents' Liaison (p.43 of WGTA Contract)
 - i. John Mannion will be on that committee and Terry Lindsey would like to join. Please contact John if anyone else is interested in joining.

- ii. Discussion on PLC minutes: These are supposed to be sent to John Mannion and Chris Brown.
- i. Committees
 - i. Committee of 100: Terry Lindsey would like to participate.
 - ii. Grievance Committee: Contact Keith Newvine if interested.
 - iii. Legislative Committee: Contact John Mannion if interested.
 - iv. Orientation Committee: Contact John Mannion if interested.
 - v. Public Relations Committee: Contact Mary Weaver if interested.
 - vi. Rules and By-Laws Committee: Can make changes to the By-Laws
 - vii. Scholarship Committee: Patti Sullivan is part of this.
 - viii. Social Committee: Contact Mary Weaver if interested.
- j. Delegates for New York State Retirement System
 - i. John Christian and Dee Moore were delegates and they have stepped down.
 - ii. Sunday, November 3rd: Sue Gifford is planning on attending in Saratoga for more information. Jeannine Stables will attend as a visitor.
- k. Onondaga County Teachers' Association (OCTA)
 - i. This took place on August 21st and John Mannion attended.
 - ii. Noted that appeals going to the Superintendent isn't a favorable process

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

- a. Health Insurance Benefits Committee: September 23rd will be the first meeting.
- b. Open Enrollment was September 11th
- c. Denim Day will be on October 12th for Carol Baldwin breast cancer run
 - i. Looking to have a West Genesee District team
- d. Race for Respect will be held at noon on Sunday, September 22nd
 - i. WGTA members will help pass out water. If anyone would like to help out, please contact Mary Weaver.
- e. Fall Fling Update: It'll be held on Thursday, October 17th at Pine Grove
- f. Teacher Center Update: Today was the first meeting.
 - i. Teacher as Leader and Advanced Teacher Leader courses will be offered. Brian Kesel will be providing more information.

VII. Vice-President's Report (Keith Newvine)

- a. No grievances filed.
- b. The Membership
 - i. Looking for Kudos and Spotlight on a Teacher
 - ii. WGTA gets \$100 each time we put NYSUT ad in the paper.
- c. Middle School Interaction Time: This is a one-year initiative.
 - i. Passed out the Middle School Interaction Time Assurances document that was sent to Dr. Brown.
- d. Looking to amend the Bylaws for the election process.

VIII. Building Leader Report

- a. Elementary Schools
 - i. Concern on Lead Teachers and how their observations is going to effect teachers' evaluations. Keith Newvine noted that Lead Teachers cannot come into your room if you don't want them to.
 - ii. Discussion on how kindergarten teachers have to attend kindergarten orientation in the summer and then have to attend Open House. P.17 of the WGTA Contract was noted on this topic.

- iii. Special area teachers did not attend Curriculum Nights and they are supposed to go to 2 after school events.
 - iv. Question about if teachers have to sign out if they need to leave school for lunch.
 - v. Concern about special area teachers having so much planning time because they double up on classes and classroom teachers don't.
 - vi. Teachers are getting e-mails this past Sunday (9/8) about a formal observation next Wednesday and are starting with non-tenured teachers.
 - vii. Concern about brand new teachers being asked to be on committees.
 - viii. Concern over lack of materials for Investigations and how they have to present Investigations to the Board in November
 - ix. Curriculum Associates Material: Stonehedge parent is a representative for this company.
 - x. Special Education: Not given proper materials to support 6 + 1 Writing Program
- b. Middle Schools
- i. Middle School Interaction Time: Teachers are expected to report to work at 7:30 a.m. and homeroom starts at 7:32 a.m. Children in the breakfast program get into the building before 7:30 a.m. and there is concern over no staff supervision. There also isn't any time given for kids to move from Homeroom to 1st Period Class. At WGMS, Homeroom is 1st Period.
 - ii. Concern over LAT creation and collaborating with teammates
 - iii. September Professional Workshop Days: Concern over no classroom prep time because entire time was spent on IEP and 504 Reviews. Concern over the uneven distribution of IEPs between classrooms
 - iv. Concern about where IEP students are placed on the different sides.
 - v. Miscommunication about Vera House and the Home and Careers Teacher.
- c. West Genesee High School
- i. Administration wants to see all Open House materials. They are looking to see the weight that homework is carrying.
 - ii. Why do teachers need to upload their unit plans to Edmodo? What is the justification and purpose behind this?
 - iii. Inequity in room assignments in departments
 - iv. Department chair meetings concern: Would like support study halls
 - v. No department chairs in Fine Arts, P.E. and Counseling Office
 - vi. School Tool: Teachers do not have a true list of students because of scheduling issues of new students.
 - vii. Learning Centers: New cut scores that are coming from the Board of Regents around September 16th. There will be more kids in the Learning Center. What is the future of Learning Centers?
 - viii. Concern about students who are behind in credits because they need 7th period class.
- d. Adjournment
- i. Meeting was adjourned at 6:25 p.m.