GEA Minutes

Dec. 5, 2022

Call to Order: 3:20 pm

Present: Emily App, Kristi Damboise, Lauren Merritt, Darcie Crete, Derrick Landano, Amanda St. Pierre, Pat Moriarty, Sarah-Jane Nadeau, Mary Grassett, Jennifer Beauchmin, Kristen Pelchat

Secretary’s Report: Accepted. Pat Motions to accept and Darcie seconds.

Treasurer’s Report: Accepted.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Scholarship (Darcie, Kristen, and Amanda)

Did a great job on the Turkey Raffel. Brought in $220, but spent $100 on gift cards. Hannaford will not donate for “scholarship”. Market Basket is willing to donate. Paperwork was filled out for that, but we didn’t hear back from them.

Darcie proposes to do basket raffle again for Valentine’s Day.

Grievance:

Mary reports nothing at this time, but a couple of things have come up. Those do not appear to be moving to grievance.

Negotiations:

Nothing at this time.

Elections (Kendra, Kristi):

Delegate assembly. Kristi wants the spring delegate names.

The Delegate assembly will be held on March 10th, 2023. In person with catered lunch and breakfast. Need to double check names.

Website: (Desrochers, Grassett, Tisbert)

Josh updated the website. He has been adding pictures, organizing folders, and other nice additions.

Social: (Merritt)

Nothing at this time. Should start thinking about that in January to see if we want to do the spring one. Mary says the idea of doing an activity was great, but it is difficult to do that because of head counts.

By-Law Committee: (Former “Constitution”)

Nothing at this time

Sick Bank: (Lawes)

Someone had approached, but they couldn’t use it because they hadn’t given into the sick bank.

All member requests for sick days need a doctor’s note. Member needs to be absent for 3 consecutive school days in connection with the same illness for the request. No other compensation can be collected at that time.

NEA-NH: (Damboise)

Mary and Julie attended last month’s meeting and they learned tips to enroll new members. Concord has a 98% rate of members. They had tips like have members attend new teacher orientation meetings. They bring ice cream to that. They hand out forms at the orientation meetings. They also have a big social in the fall. They also are able to get donations from major companies and place to have the social. They ask members to bring a new hire to the social. It took a couple of years to get people interested in going to a big party.

Old Business:

Mary talked to Brian about vaccine clinic, not enough interest in one. Brian will revisit if there is a sudden amount of interest.

Mary met with Wendy Kohler last month about Schoology. Wendy is aware of the difficulties of and is trying to fix some of the issues of it from the past. It will take time for that to be fixed. Mary talked with her about holding students accountable for using Schoology if teachers are expected to put a lot of information on it. Parents aren’t checking it.

High school students are mixed on how many are using, but the message for the high school teachers isn’t clear of how it needs to be used by the teachers.

Something to think about is Powerschool will be linked to Schoology next year. There is a need to meet and digitalized curriculum, especially for things that were not created digitally.

Schoology cannot be used among the psychology department or any department that requires others to see confidential names.

New Business:

Question was asked about a parent comment at a school board meeting last night. She talked about homework and reviewed the policy of 10 minutes per grade level. Is there continuity through the schools about that? The parent said it was causing a difficult relationship with her and her children. The question about quality versus quantity.

It’s important to know this has been brought before the schoolboard.

Parents should stop after the time limit, and let the teacher know why their child is not finished with their work.

There is also the question of continuity between New Boston and Goffstown with regards for homework.

Meeting Adjourned: 4:02 pm

Next meeting: Jan. 10th

Respectfully submitted,

Kendra Tisbert