GEA Minutes

Jan 10, 2023

Call to Order: 3:25pm

Present: Emily App, Darcie Crete, Derrick Landano, Amanda St. Pierre, Pat Moriarty, Mary Grassett, Kristen Pelchat, Julie Lawes, Jess Murray

Secretary’s Report: Accepted.

Treasurer’s Report: Accepted.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Scholarship (Darcie, Kristen, and Amanda)

Darcie and Kristen report they have the baskets again. They tried to stick to local businesses at this time. They will get info out to the reps. Get everything back to them on 1/30 with the drawing on 2/3. Interoffice mail takes a while. Darcie will email everything and says Venmo works well. Darcie thinks we spent about $100 last year. A motion is made to spend up to $150 to put together the Valentine’s fundraiser. The motion passed.

Grievance:

Nothing at this time. There were a few things from December have quieted down.

The question is raised that last week at MVMS the principal emailed teams to ask about feedback for paras. Mary explains this is not allowed. There are no job descriptions for paras and teachers are not trained to do that. It was later explained by the principal is not mandatory. NEA sent a letter to Kate McGrath regarding the situation. Kate McGrath reported that teachers were not to provide feedback.

NEA got involved with the request in the fall regarding teachers being asked to make phone calls home.

Negotiations:

Nothing at this time.

Elections (Kendra, Kristi):

Kristi has reached out and talked to the spring delegates.

Elections for spring in March. Will be discussed at the Feb.meeting.

Website: (Desrochers, Grassett, Tisbert)

Nothing at this time. Mary would like to jazz up the website with a better place to store minutes.

Social: (Merritt)

Talked about thinking of Spring Social. Lauren is not at the meeting, so we can discuss further. Jess Murray offers McIntyre Ski area.

Derrick asks if there will be a business meeting at that time, so all members are able to be present to listen/ask questions.

By-Law Committee: (Former “Constitution”)

Nothing at this time

Sick Bank: (Lawes)

Nothing at this time. Derrick mentions the new hires can contribute as long as they have seven days total.

Kendra will send an email out telling them Feb. 1st date to contribute.

NEA-NH: (Damboise)

No one attends the monthly meetings. NEA-NH is struggling with attendance with meetings.

Old 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.

At this time, we heard nothing from that.

New Business:

7th grade teachers have questions about students dropping Spanish so they don’t have to take it and can join Content Lit to hang out with their friends. The other questions is about UA- students are intentionally upsetting the Art teacher so they can drop Art and take another class they want. Administration is not following up with the team and allowing students to do what they want.

Kendra brings up students leaving classes and having no follow through with administration. Mary and Julie are meeting with admin soon and will bring this up.

Mary and Julie are following through with NEA-NH idea of making information known to union members – talking about meetings and other things going on locally. How they helped faculty, answered questions, Schoology, trainings, etc. Jess M. likes the idea, and suggests adding humor, adding “anecdotes” like a police blog. Mary and Julie will create a draft and email it to us for feedback.

Meeting Adjourned: 4:12 pm

Next meeting: Feb. 7, 2023

Respectfully submitted,

Kendra Tisbert