

## **SECTA General Meeting: 10:30 am, October 18, 2011**

### **Convention 2011: Regina, Saskatchewan**

There were no errors or omissions made to the agenda.

#### **1. Introductions:**

- Executive members were introduced. Currently, 18 members sit on our local executive. Executive meetings are open to all SECTA members. A calendar on the website indicates all meeting dates. Our SAS representative is Shirley Humphries. Members of the local executive are: Regional Representatives: Lisa Taylor, Craig Williamson, Cathy Webb. Councillors: Nancy McLeod, Chylisse Urschel, Jeanette Halpape, Bev Magal, Colin Kees, Nina Lonsberry, Nathan Bromm, Kelly Glaspey, Lloyd Morrison, Tera Hale. Standing Committee Members: Val McNab, Peggy Lawson, Stacey Mcinnes, Margot Arnold, and Karla Beatty.

#### **2. Information Items:**

- A School Staff Liaison (SSL) Forum will be offered every year. This year the SSL Forum will be held on October 25<sup>th</sup> at 2:00pm in the Arcola School Library.
- Strike Pay reimbursement and Pension Buy Back: Forms need to be filled out and submitted to the STF. These forms can be filled in online and they must be witnessed. Strike pay reimbursement is not taxable money.
- Resolutions for Spring Council: Resolutions may come from individuals or groups. Submit resolutions to Karla Beatty. The deadline for Spring Council Resolutions is February 3, 2012.
- Dr. Stirling McDowell Foundation & Arbos Awards: Remember to nominate an individual for the Arbos Award or to apply for a McDowell Foundation grant to research an innovative teaching idea or use of technology. Remember to apply.
- SECTA Calendar: Calendar for the upcoming year can be found on the back of the meeting agenda. In addition, this calendar can be found on the website in color. The only date not yet confirmed is the date for the Spring Retirement seminar. SSL's will be given updated information once a date is confirmed.

#### **3. Reports:**

##### **LINC Report:**

- LINC was formed last year and had 5-6 meetings. Local negotiations were suspended during sanctions. The LIN Committee believes that a tentative agreement is possible by Christmas.
- LINC conducted a survey last year to obtain feedback from members regarding issues for negotiation. 141 of 590 teachers responded. General comments for consideration for

the negotiating team included: Pay, Leaves, Unassigned Time, Early Notification of Superannuation, Professional Growth, and EDO's. Comments from the survey included positives as well as suggestions for improvement.

**Treasurer's Report:**

- \$26 875.89 was the opening balance for the SECTA account. Three scholarships have been paid out and full Convention fees were deducted from teacher's paycheques. The auditor for the books still needs to be paid. A financial summary will be sent to all SSL's to share with his or her staff.

**Convention 2012 Report:**

- Convention 2012 will be held in Regina at the Delta on November 5 & 6. The East region is hosting and the convention committee will be looking for members from the East as well as one representative from the South and one representative from the West. The 2012 committee will begin planning in January. Remember that teacher convention is not board driven and that it is teacher suggestions and presenters that drive the planning. Contact your local SSL for more information or who to contact if you would like to be involved.

**Fall Council Report:**

Fall Council focused on three areas: Report on PCB, STF Policy and Bylaw Review, and a Town Hall Forum.

- The report on PCB was a comprehensive analysis of what happened in this round of negotiations and how to prepare for the next round of negotiations. Strong statements were made by councillors to the STF.
- Policy and Bylaw Review involved quality discussion and feedback on proposals that will come forward as resolutions at Spring Council. Policies being reviewed included: ICP, Committees, Teacher Education and Executive Eligibility.
- For the Town Hall Forum all sitting MLA's and candidates were invited to attend the forum and lunch table discussion regarding issues in education. Forum questions were posed by the Executive and Councillors to a panel of three – Donna Harpauer, Ryan Bader and Cam Broten. The Forum was recorded by the STF and news crews and will be available for viewing on the STF portal.

## **Teacher Political Advocacy: Election 2011:**

The STF is encouraging all members to engage in the political process and address issues related to a publicly funded education system with all candidates. Members are encouraged to use the postcards and booklets sent to each school to help guide these actions.

### **4. Other: Questions/Comments posed from the floor**

- LINC Agreement Question: Is there equity for part-time employees when collecting and using EDO's? The clarification from Nathan Bromm is that hours are not pro-rated for extra-curricular. For example: a 50% time teacher who works only mornings and collects 40 hours of extra-curricular would receive the equivalent of 1 day off which would entitle the 50% employee to two mornings with pay.
- Resolution Comment: It is through the process of submitting resolutions that teacher's voices for change come to council. Resolutions may be submitted more than once. Our SAS member Shirley Humphries and our local executive are available to provide assistance in writing resolutions.
- Employing Sanctions Question: How will the voice of teachers be supported in the future? There was a concern that this latest round of negotiations lacked planning and that any plans made were not revealed to the membership. There was also a concern related to the timing of the contract. Sentiment was expressed that in the future the hope was that the collective would continue to stand together with a detailed plan in place.
- Teacher Welfare Comment: There was discussion regarding division and provincial outcomes and assessment practices.

Meeting adjourned at 11:20 am.