

# MEA MONITOR

Moline Education Association

May 2017

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## President's Report - Susan Hafner

Hello Everyone-

May is here and the ABC countdown has begun! It seems like yesterday that we were sweating in our classrooms due to the August heat, and now, the sun is finally out after all of the earlier cold and rainy May weather. As we wrap up the school year, I hope that you can look back and see the difference you make. Those wide-eyed young people who walked through your doors at the beginning of the year are now more confident, whether it is in reading, mathematics, music, or science. They have learned and you have helped them do that.

**Co-Teaching:** I hope that co-teachers had the opportunity to complete the survey that was sent. This is one of the ways in which the District assesses co-teaching and its effectiveness, so I hope everyone was specific and honest in his or her responses. I will keep you posted in regards to the results.

**Negotiations:** You should have completed the second survey from the negotiations team. We will do our final prioritizing in two weeks, so we will be ready to meet with administration at the end of this month.

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School Board: At the last school board meeting, the newly elected members were introduced and seated: Erin Waldron-Smith, Andy Waeyaert, and Sangeetha Rayapati. The members also elected new leadership: Kate Schaefer is President and Sangeetha Rayapati is Vice-President.

Title I Funding Changes: Hopefully, you have been informed of the changes to how the district uses the Title I funds. The changes should create greater equity to all of our schools, including the ones that did not receive funding in the past. If you have any questions, you can contact your principal or AR. If you need further information, please email Stephanie Jordan or me.

In closing, I hope that these last few weeks go well and that you can look back at the year with a smile. I know that some of you have had some rough patches, but you have all been very professional and have continued to be outstanding educators, even when it seemed overwhelming. Whenever I talk to our members, the number one priority is doing what is best for kids--that is why we are here and continue to come back year after year.

Enjoy this last month-  
Susie

## **AR Secretary's Report - Emily Roberts**

Moline Education Association  
Association Representatives Meeting  
Thursday, April 13th, 2017

The MEA Association Representatives met Thursday, April 13th, 2017, at the IEA Office, Moline. In the absence of President Susie Hafner, Vice-President Christine Watts called the meeting to order at 3:50pm. There were 18 ARs and 7 Executive Board members in attendance; a quorum was not present.



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Committee Chair Reports:

- Membership – no report.
- Elections – Colette Guerdet will replace Christine Watts as chair for the upcoming May elections.
- Legislative – Dave Strafford attended the Representatives Assembly Convention and reported: 1) members were encouraged to check the IEA website and vote; 2) the IEA portion of dues would increase \$5 next year, and \$10 the following year; and 3) IEA is promoting “Member to Member” contact, especially with new hires.
- Region 18 – no report.
- Public Relations – no report.
- Social – no report.
- Grievance/Negotiations – no report.

Old Business:

- New BOE members were elected.

New Business:

- Vice-President Watts deferred to Colette Guerdet to explain the proposed ByLaw Changes. The proposed changes would eliminate the term limit for MEA President, and change the four elected Executive Officers terms from one year to two years. The proposed changes will be voted on at a special April 27th AR meeting.
- Treasurer Mary Nelson distributed copies of the proposed 2017-2018 MEA budget, and noted there were no changes or additions to the proposed budget.

A.R. Concerns:

- It was voted (2010-2011) to not publish AR concerns in the Monitor. ARs were reminded to communicate concerns discussed at the meeting with the other MEA members they represent. President Hafner will discuss most issues in the “President’s Corner” section of the Monitor or send superintendent’s responses directly to the ARs for dissemination to members.

The meeting adjourned at 4:11pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Emily Roberts  
MEA Secretary



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Moline Education Association  
Association Representatives Meeting  
Thursday, March 9th, 2017

The MEA Association Representatives met Thursday, March 9th, 2017, at the IEA Office, Moline. President Susie Hafner called the meeting to order at 3:50pm. There were 26 ARs and 9 Executive Board members in attendance; a quorum was present.

A motion was made by Lisa Polito, seconded by Lisa Welvaert, to approve the minutes of the February 9th, 2017, AR meeting. **Motion** passed.

Treasurer Mary Nelson reported balances in all account. A motion to approve the treasurer's report was made by Kim Anderson, seconded by Jill Bogart. Motion passed. It was voted (January 2015) to not publish the dollar amounts in the MEA budget in neither the minutes nor the Monitor. Members with questions regarding the MEA account balances are asked to contact Treasurer Mary Nelson.

Committee Chair Reports:

- Membership – Heidi Norcross reported membership stands at 446 members.
- Elections – ARs were reminded to return election ballots for the IEA Convention to Christine Watts or President Hafner.
- Legislative – no report.
- Region 18 – no report.
- Public Relations – Kim Anderson reported that the MEA blog was updated and the MEA domain name was renewed for three years. She informed members that a news reporter had contacted her requesting information on Moline district rules for a teachers' strike (as a comparison to the East Moline teacher's union intent to strike policy). She informed him the information was not available on the MEA blog, but was in the union contract.
- Social – no report.
- Grievance/Negotiations – President Hafner noted that the Negotiations Team had held its first meeting and reviewed survey results.

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Old Business:

- President Hafner noted that Senate Bill 11 was defeated, and encouraged members to remain active and informed in legislative policy making.
- Middle School schedule changes were explained in the March Monitor. Members with additional questions or concerns were asked to contact President Hafner.
- Members were reminded to return completed MEA Scholarship forms to the MEA Scholarship Committee: Sue Krismanits, Sasha Sausedo, or Sherri Martin.

New Business:

- President Hafner noted that the school board candidate forum went well, with approximately 125 attendees.

A.R. Concerns:

- It was voted (2010-2011) to not publish AR concerns in the Monitor. ARs were reminded to communicate concerns discussed at the meeting with the other MEA members they represent. President Hafner will discuss most issues in the "President's Corner" section of the Monitor or send superintendent's responses directly to the ARs for dissemination to members.

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Tricia Leibovitz, seconded by Jill Polito. Motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 4:14pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Emily Roberts  
MEA Secretary



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# MEA Member News

## Congratulations to:

- Hanna Etheridge (Hamilton) on the birth of her daughter
- Molly Forbes (Bicentennial) on the birth of her son

## Condolences to:

- Erik Birkmeier (Coolidge) on the loss of his father
- David Lindstrom (MHS) on the loss of his sister-in-law
- Danielle Shull (Butterworth) on the loss of her father

