

Lincoln Education Association
<http://www.lincolneducationassociation.org>
Board of Directors
October 19, 2009
4:30 p.m., LEA Office

PRESENT: Jenni Absalon, Marcia Benner, Rita Bennett, Julia Doerr, Linda Freye, John Heineman, Jan Olmstead, Deb Rasmussen, Daniel Ross, Tammy Schafer, Karen Shelton, Resa Wiltse

ABSENT: Karen Shelton

ALSO PRESENT: Dan Studer; Jim Rea; Jan Stamper, LEA Retired

CALL TO ORDER: Jenni called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

CHECK IN/CELEBRATIONS: Welcome was extended to John Heineman, newly elected board member,

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The minutes of September 21, 2009 were approved as corrected. (*Under Superintendent Search it should read "contact your school board member" not "contact your school board meeting."*)

BUDGET REPORT: Jim Rea

Jim explained the new format for the monthly financial report. This is the condensed report that shows Budget vs. Actual. An expanded report can also be printed.

The Financial Report for September 2009 was approved as printed.

RETIRED LEA REPORT: Jan Stamper

Jan reported that they are helping with the Harvest of Books drive as well as providing many volunteers to get the books distributed.

INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION:

President's Report—Jenni Absalon

Action Plan Review/FR Cluster Groups Ideas: Discussion was held regarding the ideas submitted during the FR training in August. Board members chose three primary points from each area to focus on:

Member Relations: 1) Follow-up on membership grants, 2) inclusive language, and 3) historical perspective.

Communications: 1) District/school board/FYI, 2) publications, and 3) climate survey/negotiations.

Community: 1) Market ourselves/LIBA/Chamber of Commerce/PTO/PTA/community nonprofits, 2) Special Olympics, and 3) Harvest of Books/KFOR.

Publications—FYI is given to LPS School Board members. A copy of the latest FYI was given to the board members.

Community Conversation—Last Thursday, October 15, at Lincoln High School. This was attended by Jenni and Jan. Jim was a facilitator through Leadership Lincoln. There was a good turnout of people from the community. The next meeting will be November 5, 2009 at Lincoln High School from 6:00 to 8:30. Each

break out group from the October 5 meeting presented three main questions to be addressed at the November meeting.

Superintendent Search—LEA Board members received a copy of comments Jenni made at the last community forum. Her address focused on the comments that were expressed from members.

LEAF 9n'09—The September and October events was attended by approximately 60 to 70 members each month. Board members were informed that no due dollars are spent on adult beverages.

Midwest Regional—LEA Board budgeted for 6 people to attend this year. It will be held in Mesa, New Mexico, on January 15 through the 17th. Board unanimously agreed that the attendees will be chosen as follows: three from the Board, three chosen by LEA Leadership.

Legislative Contact Team—Brian Mikkelsen, NSEA, will pay for 10-15 members to attend the Chamber breakfast October 28th at 7:30 a.m. at the Nebraska Club.

School Board Meeting—Rita Bennett and Marcia Benner will attend the October 27th meeting.

Other—Jenni announced that January 30 we will celebrate the 90th birthday of LEA.

Appraisal Committee Report—Linda Freye, Jenni Absalon

Jenni, Linda, MaryBeth Lehmanowsky and Dr. Nancy Biggs met today regarding some of the issues the appraisal committee has had.

UniServ Director's Report—Dan Studer

Dan reported dealing with numerous issues for members. Additionally, has also worked with nurses on the issue of duty free lunch and pay issues for members at the Focus schools. Dan has advised an ESP member in regards to their termination, and is working with members in regards to performance issues identified by building administrators.

Dan also reported that a retired member called regarding Blue Cross/Blue Shield informing them that they considered changing their policy to direct billing was like starting a new policy and they were subject to the pre-existing conditions clause. The member had taken names from who they spoke with at BC/BS, so when Dan contacted Kurt Genrich, EHA representative for teachers, it was easy to handle. Kurt contacted the head of BC/BS and the issue was taken care of immediately. Dan has also dealt with some issues from members and Risk Management.

Executive Director's Report—Jim Rea

Annual Audit Report—working with Buckley Sitzman to schedule the audit the first week in November.

Educational Lobbyists are meeting tomorrow to discuss the Special Session.

Discussion with LEA Staff and communication vendors continues about replacing the current LEA phone system.

NEW BUSINESS: none

OLD BUSINESS: none

ACTION ITEMS: none

COMMENTS, CONCERNS, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS: none

ADJOURNMENT: Jenni adjourned the meeting at 6:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jan Olmstead

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Secretary-Treasurer