

**TEACHERS ASSOCIATION OF ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY**

20521 Riva Road, Suite L7  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

**MINUTES - Representative Assembly Meeting**

Wednesday, December 13, 2023

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by the President, Nicole Disney-Bates, at Severna Park Middle School, at 5:11 p.m.

**CONCERNS COMMITTEES**

Representatives moved into Concerns Committees for Elementary, Middle, High, and Speciality program areas at 5:12 p.m.

Reading of Mission, Vision, and Month Acknowledgment - President Disney-Bates read the Mission, Vision and the Acknowledgment for Universal Human Rights Month.

**ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

It was moved by Brendan Maltese, seconded by RaeAnne Eastman, to adopt the agenda with flexibility. The motion was approved.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

Amend minutes under Adoption of the Agenda to change Marie to Maria.

It was moved by Marissa McHarg, seconded by Stephanie Leuschner, to approve the amended November 8, 2023 Minutes. The motion was approved.

**ASSOCIATION BUSINESS**

ACT - President Disney-Bates reported that we are going to make a decision as an Association about ACT who came and presented to us. This Assembly needs to make a decision on do we become members of ACT.

It was moved by Kristina Korona, seconded by Maryalice Davis, to continue our exploratory membership with ACT by paying the \$2,000.00 exploratory membership. After 3 greens and 3 reds, it was voted to close debate. The motion failed.

**LOCAL**

LOA Presentation - President Disney-Bates reported that several of our leadership team attended the Local Officers Advance and will present on what they learned while they were there.

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Kristina Korona and Cathy Flanders both reported on what they learned at this training. The topics at the training included an overview of the UniServ Directors' job responsibilities, evaluating community groups and their level of partnership in order to achieve union goals, and how local unions should handle a variety of crisis situations that could arise.

Budget Hearing - Mike Magee reported on the essential parts of the Contract Action Team. RSVP cards were given to Building Representatives to RSVP for the January 9, 2024 Budget Hearing at Old Mill High School. Fill the card out and turn in as your raffle ticket. On Monday, the CAT will be meeting. Between then and the Budget Hearing, there will be a Hussle Palooza at the TAAAC office on January 4, 2024, from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Government Relations - Kristina Korona, Elizabeth Ruddy and Maryalice Davis reported on the PAC Fund. Building Representatives were asked to have at least five one-on-one conversations. There will be a raffle for those that do at least five one-on-ones. Four schools that have the highest percent increase will get a breakfast or lunch. The schools that are currently in the lead to win are West Meade Early Education Center, Meade Middle, Glendale Level V, and Crofton High.

Brendan Maltese reported on legislation probably coming through on 180/1080 Day Bill. Senator Gile is introducing a Student Loan Forgiveness Bill.

Kristina Korona reported on the Essential Worker Housing Bill. We did endorse this bill and need members who can testify at the next county council meeting as to the need for affordable housing in the county.

Brendan Maltese reported that the Legislative Happy Hour is scheduled for January 6, 2024, 6:00 p.m., at the Frisco Taphouse. January 22, 2024 to March 25, 2024, every Monday, will be our Lobby Nights.

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR UPDATE**

Executive Director Soares reported on the status of the office renovations.

Executive Director Soares reported that the Negotiations Teams met last week and put proposals across the table.

Executive Director Soares reported on the stipend for Special Education.

It was moved by Cathy Flanders, seconded by Maggie Graham, to extend the meeting for 15 minutes. The motion was approved.

## **UNISERV UPDATE**

Jason Fahie reported on the work being handled by UniServ Directors and committees.

### **NOMINATING**

Jessica Roth reported that the following names have been submitted for President: Will Johnson, Nicole Disney-Bates and Kristina Korona. The following names have been submitted for Vice President: Russell Leone, Jorge Córdoba and Marissa Raimond. The following names have been submitted for Board of Directors: Logan Wilson, Jennifer Fulwiler, Karina Zotti, Christopher Lerch, Cathy Flanders, Elizabeth Ruddy, Charis Cephas, Kevin Castillo, Dawn Austin, Jessica Roth, Keanuu Smith-Brown and Melissa McHarg. There are a number of people that have submitted their names for MSEA and NEA Delegates.

Nominations will close on December 15.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

None

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Credentials Committee - It was reported that there were 55 Representatives for 42%, and 42 Units represented. Nineteen Representatives attended online.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Amanda Menas announced that \$25.00 in PAC funds was collected.

The next Representative Assembly meeting is on January 10, at Severna Park Middle, at 5:00 p.m.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:02 p.m.

Approved:

  
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Kristina Korona, Vice President

  
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Nicole Disney-Bates, President

Minutes approved at Representative Assembly Meeting 11/24/2024  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)