

Reading Education Association
Representative Council Meeting

Thursday, February 3 , 2021

REA Office
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Executive Board Members Present:

Rebecca Titus	Evan Jack	Joe Okonski
Nathan Henschel	Chrissie Stauffer	Jen Oakes
Deb Redcay	Lindsay Evans	
Dana Gerhart	Jessica Steffy	
Beth Planer	Lisa Herbinko	

Executive Committee Members Absent: n/a

Committee Chairs Present:

Laura Stauffer	Desiree Wagner	Jennifer Bard
Jennifer Mazur	Judy Treichler	

Committee Chairs Absent: Shanalyn Eckenrod

Rep. Council Members Present

Ashley Weiss	Jamie Folk	Lael Schwartz
Bonnie Fox	Jaquella Koroma	Lauren Walton
Brian Benkert	Jen Brumbach	Liza Hoppes
Brian Miller	Jen Sell	Mark Wurster
Christine Reichardt	Jeremy Lowther	Megan Fox
Christina Davis	Jessica Chinae	Michael Metzger
Dana Schaffer	Jessica Rizzolo	Michelle Metz
Danielle Smith	John Reinhard	Nicole Slickers
Dara Kluth	Josh Lambert	Patricia Swartz
Deb Gingrich	Josh Stoica	Sara Frederick
Desiree Wagner	Karl Ruch	Shannon Duff
Elizabeth Reach	Kelly Fuller	Sherry Katrinak
Heather Scholl	Kelly Snyder	Steve Hudak
Heather Shutter	Kevin High	Teresa Heckman
Jacob Maurer	Kristina Roxburgh	Tracey Therrien
Jamie Petro	Krista Cyran	Vicki Halferty

Rep. Council Members Absent:

Ashley Rambo Kristen Moyer-Ringler
Duane Kring Lori Snyder
James Wright

PSEA Uni-Serve Representative Absent:

John McKiernan

The zoom meeting was called to order at 4:30 pm. by President Rebecca Titus

- I. Adoption of Agenda with Flexibility – motion to approve agenda with flexibility was made by Joe Okonski and 2nd by Lael Schwartz.
- II. Introduction of Guests – n/a
- III. Minutes from Rep Council Meeting - January 2022
 - A. Additions/Corrections – Jaquella’s name was spelled incorrectly
 - B. Questions - n/a
 - C. Approval – motion to approve January Rep Council minutes was made by Lindsay Evans and 2nd by Dana Schaffer
- IV. Treasurer’s Report – Lisa Herbinko
 - A. Addition/Corrections – n/a
 - B. Questions: n/a
 - C. Approval – motion to approve Treasurer’s report was made by Lindsay Evans and 2nd by Dana Schaffer.
- V. New Business
 - A. Pay the Bills - motion to pay the bills made by Joe Okonski and 2nd by Lael Schwartz. Motion passes and bills will be paid.
- VI. Officer Reports
 - A. Membership - Dana Gerhardt
 - a. Speaks for itself
 - B. VP/Grievance - Lindsay Evans
 - a. VP
 - i. Speaks for itself
 - b. Grievance
 - i. Grievance for HS - meeting on February 7th
 - ii. Sp. Ed Grievance - denied at Level III
 - C. High School VP - Jessica Steffy
 - a. Report speaks for itself

- B. Middle School VP East/West - Joe Okonski
 - a. Report speaks for itself
- C. Special Services - Beth Ploner/Chrissie Stauffer
 - a. Report speaks for itself
- D. Elementary East VP - Evan Jack
 - a. Report speaks for itself
- E. Elementary West VP - Nathan Henschel
 - a. Report speaks for itself
 - i. RVA - students being told they were exiting the program; administration wasn't able to contact these students so the teacher had to tell the parents and the parents were becoming upset with the teacher.
 - 1. If you have an RVA teacher who has a student that was not contacted by administration, tell them to request a rep. from the district to be present at the student conference so they can let the parents know their child will be exiting the program.
- F. NTPE - Jen Oakes
 - a. Caseloads of NTPE members was brought up to SAC

VII. Chairperson Reports

- A. Communications (Laura Stauffer)
 - a. Report speaks for itself
- B. Sick Bank (Jen Mazur) - absent
 - a. Report speaks for itself
- C. Health and Safety (Judy Treichler)
 - a. Report speaks for itself
- D. Intergroup Welfare (Jen Bard)
 - a. Report speaks for itself.
- E. IPD (Shanalyn Eckenrod) - absent
 - a. Read her report
- F. SAC (Desiree Wagner)
 - a. SAC was held on Wednesday and Desiree will send out the minutes

VI. President's Report - Rebecca Titus

- A. Report speaks for itself
- B. Thank you to the buildings that collected for the food drive
 - a. Two car-loads will be brought to New Journey Food Bank.
- C. Rebecca will be out the week of February 14th
 - a. Lindsay will be in the office for the week
 - b. Contact Lindsay with any issues
 - c. John McKiernan will be contacted with emergency issues.

VII. UniServe Report - John McKiernan - absent

IX. Old Business

- A. Heather Scholl
 - a. Happy that unnecessary stuff is out of the way

X. Good of the REA

- A. Brian Miller
 - a. Recall election for Rebecca Titus
 - b. 308 signatures on the petition
 - i. Shannon has the other 3
 - ii. Full list will be submitted
- B. Meeting Turned over to Lindsay
- C. Rebecca
 - a. We have taken so much time, effort and resources to focus on this instead of what we need to do for our membership
 - b. If people were so unhappy at May, they had an opportunity to run for an executive board position
 - c. Members chose to not run and start attacking membership
 - d. It is difficult to align almost 1200 members
 - e. The administration knows we are divided.
 - f. After signatures are verified as REA members - she is requesting a vote be held regardless if we drop below the 25%
 - i. This is a non-precedent setting
- D. Lindsay
 - a. Dana Gerhart is checking signatures already - has found 3 non-member signatures so far
 - b. 1153 is our membership so we need 288 signatures
 - c. We have our constitution and by-laws to govern our body
 - i. Recognizes that Rep. Council is the governing body
- E. Heather Scholl
 - a. Would like to honor Rebecca's request
- F. Theresa Heckman
 - a. Would like to honor Rebecca's request
 - b. If we go to a vote, will this end this issue?
 - i. Jeremy - HS members don't feel represented by the REA President and don't see anybody speaking for them
 - ii. If the full membership votes and the recall does not pass, then he will not send another petition around.

- G. Jacob Maurer
 - a. We are a union and our vote counts - we have to have a vote
- H. Judy Treichler
 - a. If we vote as Rep. Council to have this go through as a vote, will each party have a chance to speak about their positions?
 - i. Rebecca will have a chance to speak to defend herself
 - ii. Lindsay - there is no evidence at this time on this petition
- I. Jaquella
 - a. Jeremy got cut off and did not get a chance to speak
- J. Christine Reichart
 - a. This isn't solidarity; this looks like a case of "sour grapes"
 - b. One signature from her building is someone who resigned
- K. Lindsay
 - a. The vote would be February 15th
- L. Jessica Chinaea
 - a. This is a big waste of time to talk about
 - b. Would like to honor Rebecca's request
- M. Kevin High
 - a. Respect Rebecca's wishes and hold the vote
- N. Rebecca Titus
 - a. While there is a new petition with a very short paragraph, there are still multiple accusations based from the prior petition.
 - b. Willing to visit any school and defend her position.
- O. Motion to hold a one time non-precedent recall vote was made by Judy Treichler and 2nd by Teresa Heckman.
 - a. Roll Call Vote - Unanimous (56 members) yes vote
- P. Recall Vote Guidelines
 - a. The recall vote will be held on Tuesday, February 15th as a paper and pencil ballot
 - b. Votes will be counted that night as well as MS officer votes (if needed)
 - c. Result of the vote will be communicated via REA website as soon as it is finished
- Q. Considerations
 - a. We have members who think if this recall vote is successful, we will have another election for a president. The next election will be held in 2023.
 - b. If the recall vote is successful
 - i. Lindsay becomes president
 - ii. If Lindsay is unable or unwilling to take the position of president then the following will happen:
 - 1. Exec. board will nominate and elect new president
 - 2. Based on the following criteria
 - a. Grievance experience in the REA
 - b. attendance at Grievance School
 - c. experience as an officer.
 - iii. we will be without a President for a period of time as the new president can't immediately just up and leave the classroom

1. Executive board has to follow the procedures and contact those members fitting the criteria to see if they are willing to take the position.
 - c. Next year is a contract negotiation year
 - i. if Rebecca is recalled, she is done (out that week) and there will be no one in the REA office
 - d. We follow a democratic process - election every 2 years - Rebecca ran unopposed
- R. Lindsay
- a. Make sure the membership knows the seriousness of the recall vote
 - b. Expresses her appreciation to Rebecca for her continuation of work she is doing for the membership despite the petition.
 - c. Everything will be done on personal email, so check Spam
- S. Jen Oakes
- a. If the petition has 25% then we will still vote; if it is less than 25% we will still vote because Rebecca has requested it.
 - i. We are accepting the petition as is, with 25% of membership signatures.
- T. Michelle Metz
- a. Rebecca ran unopposed and if she is recalled there will be no president.
 - b. There are only about 6 members eligible for the position; they did not run for President because they didn't want the position.
- U. Jen Sell
- a. We are going into a negotiation year and if we don't have the leadership, then we are in trouble.
 - b. What happens if those 6 people say NO?
 - i. The Executive Board will meet and consult PSEA to see how to proceed.

XI. **Adjournment** – made by Lindsay Evans

Meeting adjourned at 5:37 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Deb Redcay,
REA Secretary