

Minutes September 28, 2017

Present: Mallory Soffin, Deb Baughman, Rhonda Phillips, Rob Pawloski, Denise Cadwell, Dave Groenenboom, Lisa Klink, Chris Maes, Karen Van Epps, Colleen Deaven, Amanda Miller

Absent: Lisa Boschma, Erin Sullivan

Welcome and Roll Call: Karen Van Epps

Presidents Comments: Deb discussed the State of Michigan focus on trauma and restorative justice. May be an idea for a one day training. Trauma example: **Handle with care slips**. If kids are present when police were called to their home the night before, the school is notified by these "slips" the next day electronically so that the school is then aware to look out for these kids.

Warm Up: Board members shared one thing they are worried about this year and one thing they are excited about.

There is concern about: drugs, suicide plans, pupil counts, staff turnover, bond initiatives, restorative justice mandate, SE suspensions and "neediness" of students.

Excited about: graduation and students earning diplomas, Chris's wedding, student initiative, insect preservation, gardening with children, opportunity of new staff, bond proposals, grandparenting, success at leaving work at work, new school initiatives, Whole Mind Design, increasing student numbers, Work Services Inc., restorative justice, student leadership group.

Approval of July 2017 Minutes: Motion to accept as presented Rhonda Phillips and second by Lisa Klink. Motion passed

Board Reports:

- Past President - Dave G no report. Deb asked Dave if he would follow up with a woman in Virginia who is interested in starting an Alternative Education board in her state. Dave is happy to be the past president.
- Conference and Membership-Denise reported that MAEO membership is at 388 which is slightly down from the last count. Lots of reasons for the decline in numbers.

Mt. Pleasant for the 2018 Conference, Bay City in 2019. Need to start working on the Keynote speakers for this year's conference. How can we highlight the school of the year information for conference attendees? Breakout? Colleen asked if we considered reducing the afternoon sessions on Fridays as attendance declines so much on Fridays? Deb reported that the change in the dates of the annual conference were challenging for some schools because they had already asked for a school waiver based upon the calendar. . Board Assignment: By the October meeting each board member should

submit one name for Keynote presenter and at least one name/idea for a breakout session. Erin Sullivan is willing to explore the conversation about SCECHs.

- Scholarships: no update
- STARS: The date for the STARS Kickoff needs to be changed because of a scheduling conflict. Notice that it will be rescheduled for a different date in November will go out immediately, however, the new date will not be publicized until confirmed with the host site. Because Mallory was not able to participate in the discussion of stipends at the board retreat, in particular the role and responsibilities of the STARS Chair(s), she felt the board needed to hear what was involved in planning and executing the three events that are part of STARS. She indicated that the entire board needs to step up and assist with STARS. Two of the major tasks are locating and committing judges, and updating the competition manual. We are hoping that some of the Delta College staff will be interested again in helping judge the events, however, scheduling them is complicated because it is an all day event which requires consistency in judging and many of the Delta volunteers can give "only" a few hours that don't necessarily match with the need. For the task of judging, we need 32 volunteers at the site (Delta College) from 9 to 4. Producing 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place certificates for each individual competitor in each of 32 events is another challenging task that could use assistance. Board member assistance with STARS as well as the conference will continue to be discussed. Colleen stated that she is willing to work on the brochure for the STARS program.
- MEA - There does not seem to be much happening. Deb reported that there is discussion at the state level about setting a school truancy standard of 10 days.
- Treasurer - Rob P presented the 9/28 board report for transactions between 6/1/2017-9/28/2017. Current balance \$50, 560.87. Chris Maes moved to accept the report and second by Colleen Deaven. Motion passed.
- Retreat reflection: Good work on the goals

Board Matters/Task Updates

Website development-Amanda Miller- Amanda has things updated. Couple of bios and photos still needed. Amanda would like photos from schools highlighting students and activities. Need past award winner information for posting on the website from Denise.

Communication- Fall Newsletter to go out November 3, 2017 so submission deadline is October 26th of information to Amanda. Amanda suggested other schools be contacted and asked if they want to submit information for the newsletter. Member school map? Can we post anything that will help link folks?

One Day professional development- Lisa Klink and Dave G. Topic ideas: Balanced and restorative justice, Credit outside of the classroom ideas. Who is our market? Teachers or administrators? General Education vs. Alternative Education, curriculum. Erin and Amanda are willing to host an event in their area.

Member survey-Ask the members Location /timing/ topic and cost. If professional development was an option what would you be interested in? Survey to be constructed by Lisa Klink and send to Denise Cadwell for sending out.

Goal Benchmarks- Review of what progress has been made per the goal document. Goal 1-Membership, Goal 2-Network of support.

Relationships with other boards

MACAE- Fall conference is coming up October 15-18th at the Amway Grand.

MASSP-Nothing to report

MDE- Nothing to report. Deb asked Rhonda to investigate At-Risk Funds and the proposed changes.

MAAA- In person meeting was not accomplished. Email continues to be way that games are scheduled and matters are discussed.

NAEA-Conference in Dallas again this year. Deb would love to present the MAEO STARS program at the National Level

Other Business:

Scholarship process: Rob made a suggestion that when the board is reviewing this year's scholarships that we form a selections committee made up of at least a three board members. Ideally these board members should not be from any schools that are nominated nor have staff that are nominated for any awards. This will allow for a transparent and perhaps more comfortable choice of our yearly winners. Chris Maes suggested that the service awards selection committee should follow the same protocol.

Motion made and seconded to adjourn, meeting concluded at 7:20pm.