

A.L.E.A.
Alta Loma Educators' Association
Alta Loma School District, Alta Loma, California

Helene Kowal, Executive President
Dan Wilt, Executive Vice President
Peggy Swistock, Treasurer
Shari Megowan, Secretary

www.youralea.com

ALEA Representative Council Meeting Minutes
August 29, 2019, 3:30pm
Hermosa Elementary

In attendance: Helene Kowal, Dan Wilt, Peggy Swistock, Shari Megowan, Heather Wade, Deanne Conroy, Kristina Hedlund, Linda Honaker, Dom Spezialy, Jena Kerr, Michelle Zomer, Jamie Bonaldo, Stephanie Frye, Monique Hooper, Laura Stoddard, Kathleen Minor, Bailey Hooper, Karena Zubiante, Jacque Lavallee, Don Burke, Kaitlyn Baehr, and Katherine Jackson

Meeting was called to order at 3:33pm by President Helene Kowal.

Helene Kowal-

Approval of April 14, 2019 Minutes: Motion to approve, Peggy Swistock; 2nd Dom Dom Spezialy –motion passed.

Took time to introduce representatives for the new school year.

Treasurer's Report- Peggy Swistock shared a printout of the register report with all reps. She added the PAC fund update- thanks to all who are voluntary contributing.

Membership- Stephanie Frye distributed membership cards. If a correction was marked in purple, then the correction was already sent to CTA.

Negotiation team was introduced. Negotiations are scheduled to begin October 1st. As always, money is an opener. If you have an idea for the negotiation team, please email Helene and Dom.

September conferences are not written into the contract, so we will be asking for feedback from membership after this first year.

Site Concerns:

Disappointment in 3rd grade not being able to participate in PE this year. We would like to expand the program, but know we will have to look at cost.

Concern regarding Wednesday trainings at the district interfering with teacher prep. time- It has been addressed and seems to be corrected.

Special Education concern that there is not enough support to mainstream younger children. (ex. aides to help the littles *get* to another classroom)

Also Special Education concern that the receiving general education teachers are not present for meetings where decisions about mainstreaming are being made. (ex. a parent is told times for their child to be mainstreamed in another classroom that does not fit a time of the day that is best for the child.)

In addition, Special Day classrooms have been split to adjust number of students in each class, leaving one teacher to have to address 3 different grade levels.

Concern with the role of SST Coordinator. As a Coordinator, they are comfortable setting meetings and being part of the team, but feel admin. should be the note taker. Maybe a clear definition of the position or additional training.

Would like to see PK leave openings for Kinder student who start school and may not be ready or need the "gift of time".

Would still like to see each site with a PK program.

Question about health insurance *cash in lieu* amount increasing- Dollar amount is set by JPA and it probably won't increase because they don't want to encourage people to use the cash in lieu option.

Beginning of the year online trainings took a lot of time- and time allotted doesn't seem to be equitable across the district.

A need to reexamine 6th grade *optional* vocal music policy. Letter sent home at one site had no accountability to know if parents even saw it. What are the opt out students doing during music. Maybe more student buy-in if curriculum adjusted to older kids?

Straight grade level teachers should not be pressured/forced to take on additional students who are in combo classes.

Primary classrooms will probably never see “overage” money.

What are the guidelines for remaining teacher budgets when changing grade levels or sites? Different people seem to have different answers.

Jr. High construction updates: Safety concern when doors are propped open. Noisy during classes. No one seems to know what has been completed and what still needs to be done. Is there one “go to” person?

Staff meetings should be limited to two 60 minute meetings per month, as stated in the contract.

Pay day changes- what happened? This is at the county level. We need to let them know if we are unhappy.

Teacher computer updates- a site is still struggling to get teacher computers that are up to date. Last year Dr. Thomas said he would be willing to work with any principal who was having difficulty finding money to do this for their teachers. Most sites were taken care of last year.

Concern over Governor Newsom’s expulsion bill.

Next ALEA Meeting: Thursday, September 28, 2019
Hermosa School, room 19, 3:30

Meeting adjourned; 4:41pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Shari Megowan
Secretary