

Summer MSTA Teleconference

8/14/14

Called to order at 1 pm

1. Minutes of the last meeting are online on our website.
2. Treasurer's report and budget, plus membership updates – Carol P.

Checking account \$3812.95

Savings account \$2401.71

Total \$ 6214.66

NCESE reimbursement filled out and should be received soon \$200.00

Cybermission \$200 received.

No other outstanding bills or money owed at this time.

Membership:

106 current/Paid/Lifetime -- memberships.

63 Expired Memberships that we have recent contact information (in the last 2-3 years)

56 Expired Memberships that we don't have recent information.

Judy asked if a reminder could be sent out as memberships end and need renewal.

3. Regional Directors reports

Region 1 – Jim Rodgers - (recent resignation) needs filling.

Region 2 – David Chalmers - not present

Region 3 – Marianne Prewett - not present

Region 4 – Rick Hannula - not present

Region 5 – Dan Bartsch – All preparing for a new school year. Regionally mont cast scores are up from last year. Billings district career center engineering program through a grant which will allow students to explore engineering while in high school. The region is also excited about the focus on STEM/STEAM areas. Craig Beals at the high school is starting a STEM club to have his club members explore STEM but also bring their expertise to the elementary schools.

4. Advisory Board Reports

Science Matters (Formerly known as Building a Presence for Science) – Walt W.

The EBlasts will come out the first of each month and will include both national and local announcements. Get your announcements about programs and happenings to Walt before the 1st of each month. Remember that the recipients may not be NSTA or MSTA members as the

Blast goes out to many educators in the state, but also many other stakeholders in science education. On the national front NSTA has pledged partial support in the form of a staff member being assigned to science matters. As part of this support the website is being updated and improved with many useful resources. The Learning Center at NSTA is another great resource with useful information and resources for anyone who wants to access it, and even more available for NSTA members. Walt offered for him and John to present a ppt on the learning center at the October Board meeting as it has "Got everything". John told us that for many science methods courses at the college level the Learning Center is "THE textbook". This would also be a great sectional at MEA-MFT next year.

Chemistry – Nathan Talafuse (on the road an unable to attend).

Biology – Kim Poppam - not present.

Earth Science – Jessi Anderson

She reminded us about Tuesday's Twitter with mtedchat for educators in Montana to gather and collaborate. She mentioned how the attendance has been great and the discussions have been great. Join her at tristicurious to follow her. There will be an Earth Science Share-athon at MEA-MFT in Missoula see the schedule for time and day. She has also submitted a proposal to present at the NSTA Conference on "gamification in stem" and should hear soon about approval. She has also attended an Ed Camp in Helena and there will be another in Bozeman soon. She also talked about the ntegrate conference in Bozeman this summer.

Physics – Daniel Baker – not present.

Elementary – Judy Boyle

There will be a Lunch Sectional at MEA for Elementary teachers both days of Convention.

MPRES Teacher training opportunity, with D2L program including the opportunity to get 2 Graduate credits and the grant will pay for the credits, additionally there will be travel expenses for the 4 meetings (Billings and Butte). The program brings NGSS content to teachers here in Montana and brings the practice and process of the framework to the classroom. "It has done great things for students, influenced math and reading teaching as well." Email Judy or John to find out more about getting involved. Walt will also have info on the program in the next eblast.

Judy expressed concern that as a member she was not receiving a reminder that her membership was needing renewal. John suggested that we could look into emailing members as their membership was needing renewal.

Tom asked about ways to get more elementary teachers involved in MSTA as at the national level and in other states the number of elementary teachers involved has increased or is higher. Judy reminded us of the session at MEA and the connection between ELA and math scores and science teaching. John suggested an article for the next newsletter.

Middle school – Jean Jones - not present

Post-Secondary – David Miller – not present

Newsletter Editor's Report/Website – John Graves

The website has been updated, and the 2014 Math and Science presidential award winners will be put on the website as soon as the announcement is made. The 2013 Awardees are Dan Bartsch, Daniel Baker, April Senger, and Jan Mader.

List serve material sent out as needed. With a lot of the recipients not being members of MSTA, so there are more potential members that are receiving the information for the organization.

ECET2 Leadership conference in Billings a few weeks ago was well attended and was funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and the Montana Professional Teaching Foundation. The program involved speakers, meetings, and workshops. Presidential awardees were also in attendance and had their own meetings.

Old Business

ECybermission – Walt Woolbaugh

The ECybermission is an online science fair type activity where teams of students research a problem and publish their results. There were several Montana Teachers involved this last year but not all of them signed up with MSTA as the sponsoring organization, but next year will also be an opportunity to sign up. MSTA received a check for \$200 for our involvement in the program.

New Business

NSTA Congress – Tom Cabbage

This year's congress was held in Washington D.C. and involved a trip to Capitol Hill and meetings with senators and congressmen. I was able to talk with all three of the Montana delegates and was able to talk about NCLB and NGSS as well as continued support for science education issues and funding for programs at the national level.

Meetings with other delegates from around the US were very good and also there were several sessions on managing your local association and membership. The Georgia Science Teachers Association session on membership database and the Wild Apricot program for convention planning and communication with board and members was interesting, but with 1200 members the organization was not as good of an example for MSTA. The discussion about getting more memberships was helpful, and explaining the benefits of membership and making some aspects of the organization website accessible only to members were shared as great selling points. There were also speakers on legislation and national trends in Science education. NGSS for instance has been adopted by only 11 states, but 29% of all students in the U. S. are under NGSS currently. NGSS@NSTA site was presented along with the NSTA Learning Center. MSP or Math Science Partnership moneys from the U.S. Dept. of Education were discussed, and state organizations mentioned using the funds for scholarships to attend conferences, and other partnerships with math organizations. Thank you to John and Beth for encouraging me to attend and MSTA for help with funding.

MEA-MFT in Missoula

Hampton Inn has rooms reserved so make your reservations under the MSTA rooms and rate soon.

Encourage all of the members of the board about the Wednesday night meeting and to encourage their colleagues to come to the Convention in Missoula. Judy offered to hand out information at the workshops she is attending soon.

Board Elections – Reminder many positions will need nominations and to talk with colleagues about serving and encourage them to get involved in the organization.

Awards will be given at our lunch meeting at MEA this year, so get your nominations in as soon as possible, see the website for a list of the awards the organization has to offer.

John – Remember we are reinstating the Stacy Michelleto Award to new career teachers to attend a conference. The award is \$500. Get nominations to us as soon as possible.

Walt – volunteered to set up a sign up for the MSTA booth the 2nd week in September.

Will need many board members involved to help with hospitality room set up, getting door prizes for the meeting, and other tasks. Judy volunteered to help out. John suggested we have a member of the organization from Missoula help with planning and getting things organized.

Fall Board meeting will be Wednesday at 7 PM either at the Hampton Inn or a classroom at Sentinel HS, those not able to be present would like to be on a phone conference as the meeting is very important.

Meeting adjourned until the October meeting.