



WEA Academy
Board of Directors Meeting
Web Conference Minutes
March 21, 2009

I. Call to Order/Roll Call (9:35 am)

Present: Hannon (President), Schroeder (Treasurer), Call (Secretary), Riesen, Costello, Heideman, Fischer (WEAC) Absent: Brown, Jones-Miller, Johnson

II. Review Mission Statement and Ground Rules

III. Approval of Agenda

Motion by Schroeder, second by Riesen, to approve. Agenda approved.

IV. Approval of Minutes from January, 2009 Meeting

Motion by Costello, second by Schroeder, to approve minutes.

V. Treasurer's Report (Jim)

Motion by Costello, second by Riesen, to approve. Report approved.

VI. President's Report (Julie)

VII. WEAC Board Liaison Report (Barbara)

As Brown is absent, Costello reports about legislative action. the joint finance committee has begun hearings about maintaining educational funding. Federal aid will maintain current position but no additional funds will be available. We are focusing on keeping QEO repeal in budget. Reminder that the April 7 election for Superintendent of Public Instruction is critical.

VIII. Director's Report

a. RTI Summit

Traveled to Green Bay for RTI summit. It was a groundwork piece for getting information on RTI; how to begin and what is needed. WEAC attendees met and discussed. There will be an RTI component to next WEAC Board of Director's meeting.

b. ed2go

These courses are already being offered through technical schools. The contract with WEAA has been cancelled but there are discussions now with Ed2Go about courses that would not overlap with technical schools. It may be some time before this is put into effect. Caution seems to be the board consensus at this time.

c. Pathwise Training

Shirley Hall of New Jersey facilitated a training session in February. There was a strong cadre of participants.



IX. Old Business

a. I Can Do It

Paula Voelker, Affiliate Relations, said the program exists but there is little demand. She would train Academy board this summer should we be interested. This is most likely a one-day training. Riesen has participated in this training. We could market this as a face-to-face training offered for districts by the WEA Academy. We, interested board members and other WEAC members, would serve as trainers. Ray really likes the idea of using WEAC retired as trainers. Target audience seems to be tech school instructors and K-12 teachers. Curriculum can be modified as needed.

b. Teachscape

This is the 6th online provider we have reviewed. The review shows a very strong performance. It was very high quality. The only issue was how collaborative it could be. This is a self-paced course so it is difficult to mandate collaboration. We can demand a time limit that coincides with the Stritch timeline.

Motion by Schroeder, second by Riesen, to contract with Teachscape. Approved.

c. WEA Academy Website

Ready to go. The extension is putting together a catalogue. It will be launched in 3-4 weeks.

d. PR Items

i. Long Sleeve Polos

The Staton is the choice for the board. Navy blue. Short sleeve – John will select and purchase.

ii. USB Drives

Flip like the QEI

iii. Water Bottles

Have been ordered

iv. Hats

Have been ordered

v. Sweatshirts

Arrived yesterday

X. Sub-Committee Reports

a. Data Collection (Linda, Ray, and Kay)

Johnson wasn't sure that we'd have the opportunity to put the survey out at the RA. We can still put the survey together and have it ready to go. There was an old survey from 2000 that can be modified. Riesen and Heideman briefly viewed it and it looked ok but haven't gone over it in detail. The RA may have shifted to legislative action. We still have a report in the documents. We will have an academy booth in the RA. Guy is volunteering to ask President Bell directly on Tuesday morning about the survey and if it's not the place, where would she recommend it happen? If not, what are our options at the RA?

b. Bylaws and Policy (Jim and Julie)

There were questions about the proposed changes. The subcommittee will be meeting to discuss and find answers to those questions by the June meeting.



XI. New Business

a. Teachers Network

This is an online provider that Cris Anderson, our June speaker, works with in Milwaukee. There are online classes. Riesen, Schroeder and three general members will be reviewing and coming back with information.

b. WEA Academy Resource Library

How can we make texts available to members? Fischer discussed with Gearing how to use website to check out text. Gearing agreed to use her funding to purchase more and to make this a reality. Schroeder asked if a PDF library would be available too. Fischer will check into it. We could also check subscriptions for PDF libraries that are in existence.