

CANTON PROFESSIONAL EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION

Paul Palomba, President

BUILDING LEADERSHIP REPRESENTATIVE MEETING

December 9, 2024

I. CALL TO ORDER

President Paul Palomba called the meeting of the Executive Leadership Team and Building Leadership Representative Assembly of the Canton Professional Educators Association to order on December 9, 2024 at 4:31 p.m. Randy Bifolchi motioned to accept the agenda with flexibility and Sharen Lindberg seconded the motion. Motion approved.

II. SECRETARY’S REPORT

The following ELT members were in attendance:

Randy Bifolchi	Karen Brank	Juliann Doerschuk	Jen Eberle	Darren Furno
Amanda Gillespie	Manny Halkias	Jennifer Henderson	Sharen Lindberg	Andrea McSherry
Paul Palomba	Geneva Parker	Tina Riley	Jen Schott	Yvonne Scott
Tracey Smith	Lynne Watson	Karen Zutali		

The following ELT members were not in attendance (*Denotes reported excused absence.): *Cheryl Bissmeyer, *Brian Mishak, *Sandy Rosetta, Ruth Allison, Michael Rossetti.

The secretary's report stands as submitted.

III. CORRESPONDENCE – Thank you from the Edward Sedmock family for the plant; thank you from Eileen Clugston for the \$500 tuition reimbursement.

IV. TREASURER’S REPORT

Treasurer Darren Furno reported out on the Treasurer’s Report for December 2023-2024. On the income side he noted that line 2100 shows the first of the operating grant from the OEA service agreement. On the expense side he noted counterbalancing the service agreement was the first payment of dues have been made. The treasurer's report stands as submitted.

V. PRESIDENT’S REPORT

1. Mike Harkness–Vice President of the Akron Education Association and STRS Board Member via phone call: Paul explained the call's purpose regarding STRS retirement funds, investing funds for pension, and voting for qualified candidates. Mr. Harkness took questions from the BLRs. His email is mharkness@akronteach.org. He asked for CPEA's support and endorsement. After the call BLR discussion followed. Joel Gleason from Clearview is also running for the position.
2. MOU Propositions: Paul spoke about proposing an evaluation MOU regarding full evaluation cycles. He also discussed that a second possible MOU is being considered due to the fact that the language about personal planning is vague and needs rewritten (Harter and Crenshaw have had issues with the current language).
3. Legislative Updates: Paul shared that tomorrow Bill 295 which uses performance indicators, value added, and gap closing will most likely be voted into legislation. He explained the options the bill provides to schools that fall in the bottom 5% for three years. Additionally, Bill 407, the accountability bill, was gutted and it will not provide accountability for non-public schools. Discussion followed. He discussed Bill 104 designed for CCP with the attached bathroom bill (previously Bill 184) has been signed. He explained Bill 445, the religious freedom bill, allows religious organizations to come in for religious education—even during the the school day. Discussion followed. He shared that Bill 339 ESA (Educational Savings Account) for the instances where voucher amount is higher than the tuition, the overage goes into a special account for the student for college. Via Greg Soper, Paul shared that HB 46 would make CPEA illegal. There can be no tax dollars used for union business or negotiations—effectively taking away bargaining rights. Discussion followed. Also discussed briefly was HB 8, Parental bill of rights.

VI. VICE-PRESIDENT’S REPORT

1. Night At The Races: Lynne passed a sign-up sheet to the BLRs. Manny will speak to those interested work the betting windows.
2. All children have been sponsored for Operation Sunshine.
3. Raffle for sign made by STEAMM students: May Alayamini won.
4. Membership Appreciation Drawing (\$25 Amazon gift card): **PK3:** DeAnn Meilinger, Harter; Maygen Bales, Fairmount **4-6:** Derek Frye, Clarendon; Rhonda Kates, Admin **MS:** Wendy Silver, STEAMM; Sarah Thistlewaite, Crenshaw **HS:** Lynn Rudd, Admin; Natalie Harjar-Disalvo, McKinley Main

VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. GRIEVANCE – Lynne reported that there are no Grievances at this time.

2. MEMBERSHIP – no report.
3. LEGISLATIVE – no report
4. NEGOTIATIONS – no report
5. SCHOLARSHIP – no report
6. PUBLIC RELATIONS/WEBSITE– no report
7. TEACHER WELFARE – Paul encouraged looking at list of available activities at the Bulldog Activity Center. Sharen thanked those involved in coordinating the Children's Christmas Party.
8. CONSTITUTION/ELECTIONS – no report
9. PACE – no report
10. LPDC/INSERVICE – no report
11. RETIRED – no report
12. UNISERV – no report
13. BUILDING AND FACILITIES – no report
14. MAC COMMITTEE – no report
15. AUDIT COMMITTEE – no report
16. ECOEA –Juliann shared that the Winter Workshop will be on Zoom. In the spring there will be the ECOEA Quinn scholarships. Applications are due March 1, 2025. The legislative dinner is February 28, 2025.
17. GRANTS – Amanda Gillespie
18. NIGHT OUT – Sharen and Andrea reported out regarding the basket raffle; the need for gift cards;

VIII. OLD BUSINESS:

IX. NEW BUSINESS:

X. FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER:

OEA Aspiring Educators will pay for OEA/NEA memberships will be paid. Flyers are available. OEA Member Ambassadors have a survey for mid-career educators. ONE conference is January 25-26, 2025 in Columbus.

Special Education Workgroup to look at class size, workload, student placement, and services. Let Michelle Martin Jones if there are concerns that she can take to the work group.

Scott DiMauro approximately 71% of OEA members voted the recommended candidates.

December 14, 2025 McKinley HS will host an NFL Speech and Debate Tournament. Help is needed.

- XI. ADJOURNMENT:** Randy Bilfolchi motioned to adjourn. Juliann Doerschuk seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 5:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
 Karen Zutali
 CPEA Secretary