

Lower Merion Education Association
General Membership Meeting
Aug 29, 2023

NOTE: These minutes will also available online at www.lmeaonline.org.

Meeting called to order at 9:58 am.

Benefit Update: E. Demkin shared an update on the changes for Express Scripts to Capital Rx. There have been a few issues and we will be moving away from Walmart to Optum-**just for mail order/specialty** pharmacies. There will be communication to home addresses starting this week for those impacted by these changes. Please read the emails from E. Demkin. For additional information please check the Benefits Overview posted on the district website.

Officers' Reports:

President: Aimee Avellino

- Officer Introductions
- We are approaching the next bargaining window. We will officially begin the process on January 10, 2024. CNC has been meeting monthly to prepare. There will be a survey shared this fall because your voice is important in our planning process. Please be sure to read the Blasts and the Apple Core for updates on the bargaining process.
- Be sure to visit the LMEA website: www.lmeaonline.org. Updates are ongoing and this is a valuable source of information for all members. Meeting minutes, contract information, Apple Core newsletters and more are available!
- The Blast, our means of emailing information to members, will be revamped this fall. The system needs an update due to retirements, resignations, location changes, etc that has happened since The Blast was set up several years ago. Be on the lookout for information on the easy process to be used to update our listserv so that you can receive pertinent information from the LMEA leadership team. Please be sure to share your **PERSONAL** email, not your district email address.
- Your time is valuable and we need to find work-life harmony...you shouldn't have to volunteer. We have contract language that says you are to be paid for work beyond the contracted hours.
- Reach out for info on leaves, sabbaticals and accommodations.
- Please review district policy and procedures. It isn't ok to say "I didn't know."
- Fall dates to be aware of 10/10/23 is the deadline to apply for salary advancement. 9/30/23 is when the window opens up to apply for tuition reimbursement.

Vice President: Kelly Cenicola

- Thank you to the building reps! They are our eyes and ears. All issues should be discussed at the building level first and the reps are there to support you through that process. They will be reaching out to staff in the next few weeks to share their contact information.

Vice President Support: Kyle O'Brien

- Welcome back! I am happy to be in this new position and am looking forward to serving the membership. I am located at Rock Hill Road and the door is always open to help members in any way.

First Vice President: Andy Thomas

- Welcome back! There are policies in place to protect members. The district has a civility policy and we are also protected by Weingarten Rights. If, at any time, you are in a position that might be of a disciplinary nature, you have the right to request representation. Please reach out to your building reps or to any of the officers for assistance.

Unfinished Business: None

New Business: None

Meeting Adjourned 10:16 am

Respectfully submitted
Karen Salladino, Secretary, Professional