

# K • A • T • E

## *Kansas Association of Teachers of English*

KATE Executive Board Meeting Minutes  
30 October 2008  
Marriott Hotel, Wichita, KS

### **Members present**

Andy Anderson, Bryan Anderson, Tara Azwell, Tara Baker, Ginny Beesley, Matt Bova, Ann Bradford, Janae Brady, Joy Bunch, Clark Coker, Vicki Cooper, Matt Copeland, Diana Costello, Sara Dreisbach, Lori Goodson, Mark Gordon, Annie Heidersbach, Debbie Holloway, Peggy Jewell, Linda Jones, Elaine Klincik, Kaleen Knopp, Deb Kohn, Rosanne LaBarge, Steve Maack, Phillip Marzluf, Suzanne Oertel, Mimi Rainen, Paula Ripple, John Ritchie, Robyn Seglem, William Sewell, Robin Sides, Carl Singleton, Jane Wagner, Dana Waters, Greg White, and Terri Zimmer.

### **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 6:45 by President Lori Goodson. Matt Copeland passed out copies of the agenda, treasurer's reports, minutes, and nomination form. Members introduced themselves and identified their schools.

Members congratulated Ginny Beesley on a successful conference.

William Sewell was recognized as recipient of the Outstanding Teaching Practices Award.

### **Approval of Agenda**

Carl Singleton moved to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded and passed.

### **Approval of Minutes**

The minutes of the 7 June 2008 meeting were reviewed. Andy Anderson moved to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded and passed.

### **Announcements**

Lori welcomed new Board members: Ann Bradford, Sara Dreisbach, Matt Bova, Debbie Holloway, William Sewell, and Mimi Rainen. Lori announced that the new members would meet for orientation after the installation Friday morning.

### **Reports**

**Treasurer's report:** Clark Coker reviewed the treasurer's report from June 2008, showing a balance of \$27,950.73. The conference report showed an income of \$15,200, with most bills still outstanding. Registrants numbered 182. Clark reported that the Conference will go into the red this year. He will have final numbers in February, and the Board will need to reassess conference charges and expenses at the February and June meetings.

**Membership:** Clark Coker reported that he had printed 127 membership check sheets for conference packets; Clark will use them clean up the membership list further. Currently KATE has 80 members whose dues are paid; the data base contains 451 names. Many are inactive and some active members have not paid dues. Andy moved we accept the treasurer's report and the membership report. The motion was seconded and passed.

**Marketing:** Jane Wagner reported that she has mailed brochures at a cost of \$1,056. None were sent to reading specialists this year. Fort Hays State University printed the brochures. Andy will help with marketing announcements to submit to local newspapers that teachers attended the KATE conference.

**KATE UpDate:** Elaine Klincik announced that the next *UpDate* deadline will be November 15, right before NCTE. Elaine plans to feature a Board member in each issue, using a format of five questions and a photo. Lori suggested featuring new Board members right away so everyone gets to know them. Andy Anderson reminded us that KATE's centennial is coming up in 2012. He will submit a history of Edwin Hopkins, KATE's founder. Diana Costello suggested an historical article for every issue until the centennial year.

**Kansas English:** Andy Anderson reported that the next issue of *Kansas English* will be in the mail within the month. Kami Day and Michele Eodice have resigned as editors. Matt Copeland, Andy Anderson, William Sewell, and Matt Bova have agreed to co-edit the journal. *Kansas English* will become a peer-review journal and will continue the philosophy of publishing those who have not published before. The deadline for proposals is March 1. Proposal forms are in the Conference packets and will be published on the KATE website, along with themes for the next five issues. The editors plan to set a blog on the KATE web page so readers can respond to authors. Kaleen Knopp suggested we take some of the responses on the website and transfer them to print version in *Kansas English* or in *KATE UpDate*. The editors will split the \$100 fee as past co-editors have done.

**Young Kansas Writers:** Phillip Marzluf reported that the committee charged with rethinking *Young Kansas Writers* has engaged in e-mail discussion since June. They surveyed English teachers, and survey results showed equal interest in on-line and print publication. Participants expressed interest in a competition and a way to recognize winners in categories. The committee had met just before the Board meeting and recommended

- publishing one K-12 publication
- accepting all submissions
- simplifying procedures

They suggested the final artifact be printed on lulu.com and students included in the publication be sent a print copy; printing other copies would be the students' responsibility. Submissions would be through a sponsoring teacher. Steve Maack said that lulu.com offers the option of an ISBN number so the publication can be purchased from a bookseller. Editors would need to be familiar with those formats. The committee discussed

- publishing multi-genre submissions
- bringing competition winners to KATE
- trying to involve principals
- looking for outside funding

The committee hadn't talked through details about the selection process or about editors. Lori will make a tentative announcement tomorrow that *Young Kansas Writers* will continue publishing in the future and is now in the planning stages.

**William Allen White Award:** Diana Costello said the William Allen White committee has just passed a new term limit of three years for committee members. She is beginning her term. Members read from a list of 200 books for third to eighth graders, nominated three times a year; members must have read 2/3 of the books to vote. Only authors who agree to come to Emporia if they win are put on the list. Diana agreed to train her replacement in a mentorship training the last year of her term.

**SLATE:** Steve Maack had no censorship issues to report. He reiterated Sharon Draper's charge to help new teachers. He cautioned that we be alert when the new legislative session begins and foster positive contacts with legislators. Steve reminded members that he has position statements available.

**NCTE Liaison:** Andy Anderson reminded Board members that they must be members of NCTE. He advised us to access the website, as NCTE's centennial is in 2011. The NCTE Conference will be held in Chicago, where it was started. Andy is on the NCTE history committee planning the celebration. He reminded us that what has gone on in the nation the last 100 years has been reflected in our NCTE history. The organization shapes policy for our classrooms, and we can see the effects of our involvement when we look at our history. What we do matters. Andy will attend NCTE in San Antonio and will represent KATE.

**NCTE Achievement Awards in Writing:** John Ritchie thanked Lori Goodson for helping him with entries for the NCTE Achievement Awards. John had received twenty-nine entries. He thanked Roger Caswell, Judy Beemer, Ginny Beesley, Robyn Seglem, Vicky Sherbert, and Matt Skillen for serving as judges. The students were recognized on the NCTE web site. Entry information is included in the conference registration packets. Kaleen Knopp suggested we publicize the photo of the award recipients on the steps of the Capitol with their legislative representatives. John announced an April deadline for entries, with judging to take place in the summer. The Board commended John for the hard work that had resulted in so many entries.

**Promising Young Writers:** Lori Goodson announced the February 11 deadline for submission from eighth graders for NCTE's Promising Young Writers.

**NCTE Literary Magazine Awards:** Lori reported for Judy Beemer that all information has been sent to NCTE, but no winners have yet been announced. Lori encouraged members to start literary magazines at their schools and offered her help.

**KATE Conference 2008:** Lori commended Ginny Beesley on the success of her conference. Ginny said it has been gratifying to have so many people helping and thanked everyone. The conference went over budget, in part because of Sharon Draper's fee. Clark said the biggest change in expenses was the Marriott costs. Ginny reported that KATE was charged last year's food prices even though the Marriott had raised their prices before the conference date. The Board discussed changing the conference site in light of rising costs at the Marriott. Clark reported that a projector costs \$250 for one hour, and wireless costs are \$200 per session. Kaleen Knopp suggested we retain our booking for 2009. Ginny pointed out that it is an advantage to work with people who are aware of our needs and know what we want. KATE's long-standing relationship with the Marriott is a value. Andy agreed, reporting that the conference he organized in Kansas City changed four times while he was planning it. Kaleen Knopp, Ginny Beesley, Andy Anderson, Phillip Marzluf, Lori Goodson, and Matt Copeland will serve on a committee to explore moving the conference to another location.

**Award Nominations:** Lori reminded Board members of awards nomination forms in our conference packets and additional forms that were passed out before the meeting.

**Board Election Results:** Andy Anderson thanked the new members who had accepted Board positions. New members will be inducted at the Friday opening session. Deb Kohn withdrew her name as Second Vice-President; Phillip Marzluf agreed to accept the position. Andy Anderson moved that we accept by acclamation Phillip Marzluf's nomination. The motion was seconded and passed.

**Nominations:** Matt Copeland pointed out that nomination forms were in the packets and were passed out to the Board members. He asked that we nominate more than one person for Second Vice-president and more than ten persons for Board member positions. He emphasized that e-mail ballots are acceptable.

**Conference 2009:** Kaleen Knopp, Conference Chair 2009, announced that KATE is booked at the Marriott for October 22-23, 2009. The Conference theme will be "The Global Classroom: Language Arts and the Millennial Student." Kaleen reminded members of proposal forms in the conference packets and on the KATE website. She has slated Beverly Chin, who will be sponsored by the publishers. Kaleen

asked for ideas from middle and high school teachers for authors to invite. Kaleen would like to put together a list serve to share technology that presenters bring with them to next year's conference.

**Old Business:** Kaleen Knopp moved we award \$500 to Janae Brady for travel expenses to NCTE to accept the Leadership Development Award. Matt Copeland made a friendly amendment that we ask for receipts to be reimbursed up to \$500. Kaleen accepted the friendly amendment. Motion was seconded. Andy Anderson called for the question. The motion passed.

Matt Copeland moved that we reimburse Andy Anderson, who will represent KATE at the NCTE business meeting, up to \$500 for any travel receipts he chooses to submit. The motion was seconded and passed.

Clark Coker asked that the February agenda include a discussion to set policy for awarding travel and conference attendance expenses.

**New Business:** Linda Jones moved we accept Matt Copeland, Andy Anderson, William Sewell, and Matt Bova as co-editors of *Kansas English*. The motion was seconded and passed.

Linda Jones said she is willing to help edit *Young Kansas Writers*, but she doesn't have the technology skills to handle the position as we are revising it. Robyn Seglem reported on how the publication could be handled technologically. The document must be put into publishing format before submitting it to lulu.com. Robyn volunteered to help someone with the technology. Linda cited her location as a problem for working with other editors. Matt Copeland reported that submissions for *Kansas English* will be handled with a g-mail account that all four editors have access to. Linda cautioned that the submission deadline for *Young Kansas Writers* is March 1 and material usually comes in at once. Phillip Marzluf pointed out that issues remain to be worked out and that we are unlikely to be ready to publish before Spring 2010. Elaine Klincik moved that Annie Heidersbach, Robin Sides, and Robyn Seglem be accepted as editors of *Young Kansas Writers*. The motion was seconded and passed. Paula Ripple suggested that a budget be determined since the publication had strained KATE financially in the past. Matt Copeland moved that the editors bring a proposal to the February meeting for a publication budget and timeline. The motion was seconded and passed.

Ginny Beesley announced that the February meeting would be held in Abilene at the Eisenhower Library on February 7 (inclement weather date February 21). Lori suggested we have committee meetings following the February meeting. Andy Anderson suggested committees meet before the Board meeting so the Board can act on any recommendations. Ginny will notify members when the committees will meet in February.

**Adjournment:** Jane Wagner moved the meeting adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 9:00.

Dana Waters, secretary