

# MinneTESOL Executive Board Spring 2024 Meeting Agenda



See meeting minutes in green.

Present: Kate Clements, Holly Krech Thomas, Michael Bowlus, Nick Reishus, Alonso Jaque-Pino, Kristina Robertson, Patti Lagos; late: Myrna Abrego

- **Individual/asynchronous documents & info for review**

- a) [January Minutes for approval](#)

Moved: Patti

Seconded: Alonso

Unanimous approval

- b) Updates (Kate)

- i) Housekeeping (as of 5/15/24)

- (1) Banking update -- Checking: \$31,869/6440.88/39,734 Savings: \$35,182/35,151.57/\$45,113

- Kate and Nick will work on investing money in a 3 month CD
      - Nick will also work on doing a "CD ladder" so money is invested and available on a rolling basis
      - Plan to put all of the savings in investment; will need money in the fall for the conference, but right now don't have a lot of bills—just some reimbursements

- (2) Membership (2024/2023/2022) 579 ACTIVE/674/862

- (a) Adult: 87/65/86 College: 86/67/98 Elem: 458/327/436

- Middle: 190/171/193 Retired: 13/9/7 Secondary: 303/206/213

- TE: 111/86/101

- current numbers (in blue) seem to be going up;

- (a) Standing Committees

- (i) Advocacy: 159/135/159 BIPOC: 8/ 0 SLIFE: 144/122/148  
Early Learning: 65/52/56 Journal 24

- ii) Other updates

- (1) Annual report & annual dues submitted to TESOL

- (2) TEIS participating in/sponsoring CARLA LTE conference

- Merissa hasn't been responsive (standing committee) re. advocacy summit in July
      - \$4500 set aside in budget for lottery of attendance (3 members) from advocacy committee form that is sent out
      - May 30 is deadline
      - Alonso and Patti are interested
      - Kristina will contact with Marissa to send out the Google Form of interest in the Advocacy Summit

- **Synchronous online meeting - Saturday, May 18 • 9 am -12 pm• virtual**

- <https://umn.zoom.us/j/99329403265>

- a) Check-in and welcome (all) (20 min)

- b) [Approval of January Minutes](#) (2 min)

- c) Journal update (Suzanne/Holly) (10 min)

- Spring issue coming out at the end of May
  - We're reaching out to affiliates and people who presented at the conference, and we've gotten about half the submissions from members and half from affiliates around the globe

- We realized that MinneTESOL has a relatively unique treasure in the journal, and it should be highlighted (which we hope to do more by inviting presenters at the conference, but could do in other ways)



a) 2024 MELEd updates (Amy, Myrna) (40 min)

i) Prices for exhibitors (Patti)

- Patti has created a flyer:  
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1MqCAS9diKLXtkfbVwC-pOAxNKyR5L5wg/view?usp=sharing>
- Executive board: please give feedback on the flyer! This is Patti's first year doing these things, so she is kind of flying blind
- Myrna: at a recent conference, going to a buyer session was much better because the vendors were asking for feedback
- Alonso: a vendor sponsors the parking fees
- the MELEd schedule clearly indicated that the session was an exhibitor session, but people don't necessarily know that a session is an exhibitor session
- Michael: hold tables for MDE
- Patti: has a list of tables that vendors/groups have had in the past; will share the document with Michel and others

i) Call for award nominations; please distribute

ii) Need for raters (& proposals)

- Awards weren't sent out until August or September; call for proposals was sent out this past week
- Kristina: talked with Qurina about social media eliciting
- June 30: proposal deadline (need 60-75!)
- before June 30: need to have raters
- Kristina will check with Amy S about raters and time frame details
- Nick: the call is in the newsletter, but not on the website yet
- Kate: has a list of changes for the website, and will ask for a button for the proposal submissions

i) Update on Keynotes (Amy and/or Michael)

- Michael: Anton Troyer too expensive (\$7000 fee; MDE has a \$5000 cap); will look at Lilian Duran and Elsa Cardenas Hagan; looking at Anton for Saturday
  - a) Kate: maybe MinneTESOL can pick up the extra \$2000 for Anton's fee?
  - b) Myrna: but Anton isn't really representative of English learning, but more cultural
  - c) Kate: one of the keynotes at TESOL was about following your passion and had nothing to do with language learning
  - d) Kristina: anyone in the read arena that could be appropriate?
- Amy Y has suggested a couple other people that Michael and Myrna will try to move forward
- should have firmed this up months ago, so will get harder and harder to get national names, but we're not in bad shape yet
- a keynote on literacy would be great!
- Michael: Good resources available from:  
<https://www.thereadingleague.org/compass/english-learners-emergent-bilinguals-and-the-science-of-reading/>; Council for Effective Reading instruction partnered with Compass

a) 2025 (& beyond) MELEd

i) Prices from RC will rise ([see email](#)) - should we stay or should we go?

- St. Cloud?
- But if we change location, people would probably come to only one day of the conference
- October and November are good months, but avoid MEA weekend (also WIDA is on MEA weekend)
- set up would be hard
- maybe also take a look at suburbs of Twin Cities? not a lot of places have a ballroom big enough; some places require lunch, which drives up the price



- need a place that has: ballroom, 15-20 break out rooms, parking, no required lunch
  - Holly: but a required lunch is not necessarily a disadvantage
  - Kate: still a lot of people pay out of pocket (though the majority have PD funds that pay for the conference), but we don't collect information about who is paying for the conference/membership
  - Michael: Potential for collaboration and room to grow because of increase in English Learners and new-to-country students
  - need to have Qurina and Amy Y part of this conversation because they travel around the state to conferences
- a) Google Suite Update (Kate) (10 min)
- i) Google Business Suite - how is it working for you?
- Kate: it's great!
  - a ton of MELEd and MinneTESOL files stored on U of M server, but U of M has been cracking down on files housed on U of M, but won't allow transferring files without downloading them; Kate will work on transferring files this summer
  - Kristina (past president) doesn't have access: Mryna, Alonso, Kristina, Micheal need to be added; Kate will add them using their preferred email addresses
  - for LATER: Kristina says we still need this
    - a) send to [marketing@minnetesol.org](mailto:marketing@minnetesol.org), the social media email address
    - b) looking to push out anything our group does (events coming up, highlighting things people are doing)"
    - c) Alonso: send out a Google Form to member to collect information about what people are doing
- d) Upcoming Events (20-30 min)
- i) [Spring events: Advocacy Summit \(Merissa\)](#)
    - (1) 2 attendees, 1 with partial scholarship
  - we talked about this at the beginning
  - the \$1500 is for getting to and from the Advocacy Action Days for 2 days; part of the days is visiting politicians
  - <https://www.tesol.org/advocacy/events/advocacy-action-days/>
  - in the past, we've had a 2-year cycle--go one year with coaching, go second year and coach someone new
    - i) Summer events:
      - (1) State Fair (Any day b/w Sept. 1-4 requested; will find out schedule later
        - (a) Need more "swag" for this - what should we get?
    - will be getting schedule sometime soon
    - magnet clips are great
    - pens
    - coffee mugs
    - NO DATES (so things can be used multiple years)
    - get a better prize for answering trivia or playing a game, spinning a wheel
  - (1) LAN [ABE Institute](#) (Kate) August 14-15 virtual this year.
  - seems to be having a personality crisis
  - we've sponsored it in the past, but seem to have little interest in having a "virtual" table
- a) Schedule next EB meeting in September
- in person--3 hours
  - library in the suburbs? (can't be booked this far in advance; soonest would be 3 months out, so June 21) U of M? Shoreview Community Center? or some other community center?
  - September 21, 9-1 (either 9-12 or 10-1)