



Minnetesol Fall Executive Board Meeting
September 20, 2025 • 9:00am - 12:00pm
Ridgedale Library, Minnetonka, MN

Minutes in green.

Present: Kate Clemments, Qurina Slayhi, Holly Krech Thomas, Suzanne Gilchrist Mccurdy, Shannon Tanghe, Myrna Abrego, Patti Lagos, Nick Reishus, Mandy Erlandson, Allison Stephens

Welcome (10 min) - Share updates and approve meeting minutes	1
Finance & Membership Updates (10 min) - Kate	1
Fall Conference Updates for 2025 (90 min) (Myrna, Shannon, Kate)	2
Summer Summary (15 min) (Kate, Qurina, others)	2
Journal update (5 min) (Suzanne/Holly)	2
New Business (10 min) (Kate, others)	2

Welcome (10 min) - Share updates and approve meeting minutes

- Review, vote on [May minutes](#)

Motion: Qurina

Second: Nick

Approved

Finance & Membership Updates (10 min) - Kate

- **Bank account balances (2025/2024/2023/2022)**
 - Checking: \$**38,715**/32,701/**10,291**/**29,111**
 - \$25,390K transferred into checking from WF CD
 - Still need to pay deposit for RC (\$8600K),
 - Savings: \$**10,185**/30,183/**35,126**/**45,115**
Savings is lower than past years; \$ was put in interest bearing CD
- **Budget**
 - Summary: spent \$6903 on Advocacy Summit (\$6000 proposed); \$2000 for TESOL (\$4500 budgeted; 1 person not yet reimbursed)
 - IS leaders using \$ for non-MELED events - AIS, CIS, TE

Kate: explained the balances and budget increases; coffee is \$96/gallon; Rivercenter is the only place the can host the conference

- **Membership #s : **606**/593/**459**/**431** active, **315**/319/**243**/**473** renewal overdue**
 - **Interest Sections**

AIS:71/85/ 66/88	College: 65/83/70/99	Elementary: 466/456/337/ 438	Middle: 173/190/173/194
Retired: 13/13/9/8	Secondary: 324/301/210/216	Teacher Ed: 97/112/90/102	

- **Standing Committees**

Advocacy: 125/154/142/160	SLIFE: 125/ 146/127/153	Early Learning: 60/63/57/ 57	BIPOC: 15/7	Journal: 39/30/1
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Kate: membership is tracked with Wild Apricot still; other info is tracked through Hoova

Discussion: maybe have new interest groups like Science of Reading and a check-in

Qurina—maybe IS leaders could be invited to September sessions? VP1 could be in charge? Go in handbook?

Myrna—have a meeting to plan (in May?); have a slide or announcement at the beginning of the MELEd

Patti: this year is a pilot year; have a virtual meeting for a follow-up (in May?); Mandy can make an announcement

Fall Conference Updates for 2025 (90 min) (Myrna, Shannon, Kate, Patti)

- Bags and folders - Kate

Kate: delivered to my house or Ally's; Patti will ask about the free swag from vendors; stickers and bags from Custom Ink

- Proposal Review Committee Takeaways - (Qurina)

Qurina: we are behind schedule; I will be sending an email this week;

Shannon: I'll send an email to the standing committee leads

- Keynote update
 - Hosting keynote dinner?

Kate: Michael is leaving MDE

Myrna: MDE can only pay \$5000 for keynotes; we'll have a bigger name on Friday (Gabriela Uro) and someone local (Natalia); if those speakers say no, then...Michelle Benegas?; dinner at Smorgie's on Friday?

Qurina: will call Smorgie's to see if we need a reservation

- Awards - HBA, Mary Diaz

Myrna: will send out call for awards

- Changes for 2025 (Shannon, Myrna, Kate)
 - Scholarships: Awarded preemptively
 - Need to post scholarships on website
 - Conference app (Whova)

Kate: award winners will get a

Patti: Shawna at Rivercenter will look into what we have used in the past; not going to have a deli cart

- Same as 2024 (Shannon, Myrna, Kate)
 - Parking and lunch NOT covered in registration price

Myrna: complaints are few about our not covering

- Updates on subcommittees, volunteers (Ally)
 - Conference registration for board members

Kate: all board members get free registration, but need to volunteer for board booth (Patti will send a link)

Qurina: what about lunches?

Kate: there is a list for lunches

- Exhibitors (Patti)

Patti: increases in prices; some balked at \$50 price for community partners' tables, but were OK with it; 3 Gold sponsors so far; maybe have a room for presenters; have a prayer room for free but put curtains to make more private or an open room is okay (12 to 1:30; 3:00 to ...); talked to Qurina about it?

Summer Summary (15 min) (Kate, Qurina, others)

- **State Fair**
 - Magnets at State Fair were a hit!
- **Other**
 - Non-profit corporation status renewed with MN Secretary of State in August

Ally: it was fun! It was good to have board members

Journal update (5 min) (Suzanne/Holly)

Suzanne: 8 manuscripts are under review

Patti: end of conference survey question about sessions?

New Business (10 min) (Kate, others)

- Who will be leaving their EB role? 2025 elections

Holly: Megan Reissy is up for Secretary

Qurina will make the announcement in the newsletter for open positions

- Shifting social media away from FB and Insta? This leaves us with Bluesky and LinkedIn.

Qurina: we intend to pull away from FB and Instagram because they are Meta; not using Later so Ally and Qurina

Kate: can get into LinkedIn; added Qurina and Ally as superadmins

- Travel Policy

Nick: Policy needs to be very specific; draft language will be ready to be voted on for the December meeting

- Schedule next meeting in December, January
 - In person or not? Or hy-flex (ditto for January big meeting)

Qurina: I like December meeting virtual, in-person for January; will check Brooklyn Park room; otherwise, Kate's office at the St. Paul campus for the U of M?

December 6 9-11 meeting—optional for incoming people

January 24 9-2 meeting—not for those going off the board

Motion: Qurina moved to end meeting

Second: Patti seconded

All voted to adjourn meeting