

January 2008



Kettle Moraine UniServ Council

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January 15, 2008
403(b) Informational Meeting
5:00—6:30 p.m.
KMUC Office

January 21, 2008
Sign Language Class
5:30—8:00 p.m.
KMUC Office

January 22, 2008
Exec. Com. Meeting
4:30 p.m.
KMUC Office

January 28, 2008
Sign Language Class
5:30—8:00 p.m.
KMUC Office

February 11, 2008
KMUC Board Meeting
6:00 p.m.
KMUC Office

February 13, 2008
CBC/President's Meeting
6:00 p.m.
KMUC Office



*KMUC is affiliated with WEAC
and NEA*



You Don't Need a Weatherman

You don't need a weatherman to know which way the wind blows in Plymouth these days. All it takes, instead, is a quick visit to one of its school board meetings. With recent changes in its composition, the politics and policies of the Plymouth School Board have been altered more drastically than the wardrobe of *The Biggest Loser's* winner.

This transformation was never more evident than during the December 18 meeting when two School Board members invited State Senator Glenn Grothman to speak about four-year old kindergarten. Senator Grothman, an unapologetic opponent to 4K, hoped to convince the Board and the community that these programs are ineffective and a poor use of tax dollars.

Judging from the reactions of the more than 150 KMUC members, community members, and KMUC and WEAC staff in attendance, Senator Grothman failed to accomplish his mission. Senator Grothman's rhetoric only caused several in attendance to speak passionately in favor of the four-year old kindergarten program in Plymouth.

One of those speakers, Mic Shutter, is a member of the Sheboygan Education Association and a resident of Plymouth. Mic was a catalyst in first bringing a comprehensive four-year old program to Plymouth. The eloquence and passion of her comments were interrupted by the Board President when he ruled her out of order. Had she been permitted to continue, she intended to ask the Board President to step down. (The entire text of her comments was later published in the local newspaper.)

The Plymouth Education Association, led by President Noel Peterson, organized its members around this important issue. The December School Board meeting was the second in the last three months that was greeted with a standing-room crowd.



IRS Changes to 403(b)
January 15, 2008
5:00—6:30 p.m.
KMUC Office

The recent IRS changes to 403(b) regulations create new employer responsibilities. Because of these new regulations, changes must now be made to the language in Collective Bargaining Agreements and the practices of employers and employees regarding 403(b) contributions and product providers.

Since this is an important issue for all the School Districts and unions in the KMUC area, we have decided to bring in experts to help us address these matters. Superintendents, Business Managers, and local Association Presidents and lead bargainers are invited to this meeting and experts will help us on this issue.

Please call Sarah at the KMUC office, 920-565-2913 or email her at berths@weac.org with your confirmation by January 11, 2008.

Ten Things You Should Know About Your School Computer

1. Read your employer's computer use policy. Follow it and re-read it during the year. Make sure you know the policy.
2. If you have questions about your policy, ask your school district for clarification.
3. Assume you have NO privacy regarding email you send and receive on your employer's computer system. Only send emails that you would feel comfortable reading on the front page of your local newspaper.
4. A "deleted" computer file, including email, can often be accessed by an experienced IT person.
5. There is a trail on computers showing what internet sites you accessed.
6. Assume that what you see on your computer screen is what your employer gets.
7. Copyright law applies to material on the internet. Online information is available from the Library of Congress, U.S. Copyright Office: www.copyright.gov.
8. What you post on personal blogs and websites may be seen by many people, including your employer, and it could result in adverse employment action.
9. Unless your school policy provides otherwise, do not give away your password, do not let others see your password, and change your password often. Turn off and lock your computer when you leave your work area.
10. For more information about technology and computer issues in education: www.nea.org/he/techno.html

Taken from the Coulee Region United Educators Communique of November 2007

Upcoming Elections In February and April

Primary Election
February 19, 2008

Spring Election
April 1, 2008

Visit our website www.weac.org/kmuc for a list of polling places. If you will be out of town for spring break please make sure to cast an absentee ballot. This can be done by contacting your city or town clerk. Visit this website for more information:

http://elections.state.wi.us/faq_detail.asp?faqid=120