Julie's notes to herself. Not official notes from Jennifer Daily who is our note-taker.

AEA Government Relations & Legislative Action Task Force
Meeting Notes for Saturday, November 7, 2009

Agenda:

- **Introduction of Task Force Members and check in**
- **Review of Task Force charges and report of subgroups**
- **Legislative update: FY10 budget and education policies**
- **Work on the Legislative Agenda**
- **Next steps and future meeting date/time**

Check in

The meeting began at 4 PM. Ended 7:00 PM Those present did a quick check-in.
22 present, 2 absent
In attendance: Katie Barnes, Yuri Buus, Michael Conway, Laura Coughlin, Chris Dorman, Marisol Garcia, Matthew Gigliotti, Julie Horwin, Juanita Jamison, Erin Kirchoff, Pete Kohlhoff, Deb Larned,, Jennifer Loredo (AEA staff),, Jim Sinex, John Skarhus (co-chair), Debbie Stiltner, Joe Thomas (co-chair).

Review of Task Force charges and creation of subgroups

Charge 1: Review and make recommendations to the AEA Board of Directors regarding the content and prioritization of the AEA Legislative Agenda.

- There is no subgroup for this work. All Task Force members will work directly on the creation of the legislative agenda.

We discussed recommendations to the AEA Board of Directors. Jennifer Daily will write them up, send them out to us, and we will vote on line, "reply all" discussion format.

Difficulties this year are the budget, finding someone in the State Leg who is powerful enough to carry a bill, and finding a chair who is willing to hear a bill (especially one that is adding money to our shortfall budget.)

Charge 2: Continue to develop a legislative rubric in the 5 areas of support we expect from our legislators. In each area, AEA would identify the top 5 legislators.

- Subgroup: Eric Kurland, Katie Barnes, Deb Larned, Mike Conway, Jim Sinex, Juanita Jamison, Marisol Garcia & Julie Horwin

We will continue emailing ideas around the prototype that Julie H. developed.

Charge 3: Working with the Resolutions, Rules, Constitution & Bylaws Committee, develop a more meaningful format for presenting the AEA Legislative Platform.

- Co-chairs Joe Thomas and John Skarhus will work with the AEA's Resolutions, Constitution & Bylaws Committee on this item.
- Julie Horwin talked about adding retiree equity issue to the platform under "funding, compensation and benefits" section. It was on the leg. agenda, but when moved off, did not make it to the Platform, through typo error. The committee unanimously added it back on to the AEA Legislative Platform.

Julie's notes to herself. Not official notes from Jennifer Daily who is our note-taker.

Charge 4: Continue to explore a legislative proposal to truancy in schools. It shall define truancy as a finite number of absences in an academic year or part thereof, gather research on successful truancy interventions including mediation strategies when students reach specific levels, and result in a proposal for legislative action.

- Subgroup: Carol Quarton, Yuri Buus, Matt Gigliotti, Chris Dorman, Marion Pickens and Erin Kirchoff.

This subgroup needs the work completed by the GR&LA Task Force from last year. Jennifer to ask Carol Quarton to get the packet of information for the subgroup to review.

Legislative update: FY10 budget and education policies

Jennifer Loredo summarized the FY10 budget and special session probabilities. There was discussion on the education policy changes as they relate to teacher contracts and member rights. $500 million reduction. Cut ed. 144 million. (3% reduction) so will most likely impact soft capitol.

Another special session may go in late Nov, early Dec. to deal with the sales tax.
The only tax (sales) that is **not** a regressive tax which (impacts low income more than others) and the sles tax is the only tax that can go into effect as early as March.
Can possibly generate 160 million in revenue.

Work on the Legislative Agenda

The Task Force reviewed the 2009 legislative agenda and spent most of its time discussion the Legislative Agenda recommendations for this very tough economic year with the impact of the laws passed in the last session.

the following are the 2009 Legislative agenda bills to be written by AEA:

Point 1: Employee compensation
Goal to maintain funding at '09 level (salaries and education funding).
Potential language: The AEA will advocate to protect teacher salaries and to improve teacher salaries with the goal of attaining at least the national average.
Need to work on language to include ESP.

Point 2: English Language Learners
Keep ELL language from '09 agenda. "AEA will advocate for the necessary flexibility and the adequate funding required to meet the needs of all English Language Learners."

Point 3: **Fair** Employment rights
Keep due process language from '09 agenda.
Add education BRB language (rights restoration) as part of '10 agenda. (repeal all)

Move the Professional Standards Board concept to the AEA Platform.