

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE RIPLEY-
OHIO-DEARBORN SPECIAL EDUCATION COOPERATIVE

November 19, 2013

The meeting of the Ripley-Ohio-Dearborn Special Education Cooperative Board of Directors was held on Tuesday, November 19, 2013 at the Special Education Center. Those in attendance were: Karl Galey-Lawrenceburg, Jeff Hendrix-Sunman Dearborn, Paul Ketcham-Milan, John Mehrle-South Dearborn, Rob Moorhead-South Ripley, Steve Patz-Rising Sun, Bert Martini-JacCenDel representative, and Cheryl Corning-ROD.

The Board met in executive session from 9:10 a.m. until 11:10 a.m. to discuss personnel matters as provided for by I.C. 5-14-1.5-6-1(b)(1) & (b)(2)(A). The Board discussed only the subject matter specified during executive session

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Patz at 11:25 a.m.

The minutes of the October 3, 2013 meeting were presented for approval. A motion was made by Dr. Hendrix and seconded by Dr. Mehrle to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

The financial report was presented. A request for reimbursement will be submitted to DOE for September expenses. We have also received approval on our FY2014 federal grant application.

Claims 116242-116345 were presented for payment. A motion was made by Mr. Moorhead to approve the claims. Mr. Ketcham seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Information was presented regarding the co-op contribution to non-certified teacher assistant insurance. We will use the formula which says that the premium that the employee pays is not more than 9.5% of the poverty level. Currently the contribution is \$3,500. This amount will not meet the criteria as set by the Affordable Care Act. We need to increase the contribution by at least \$100 to meet this requirement. A motion was made by Dr. Hendrix to increase the contribution for the teacher assistants medical insurance to \$3,700. Mr. Moorhead seconded the motion. Discussion followed. Motion carried.

Ms. Corning requested approval for the hiring of Rebecca Hornberger as a certified occupational therapist; and Marjorie Fluegeman as a teacher assistant for the non-public schools. A motion was made by Mr. Galey and seconded by Dr. Hendrix to approve the hiring of these two staff members. Motion carried.

Regarding salaries for non-certified staff, Mr. Galey made a motion to provide a 2% increase for the non-certified staff. Also, to increase the salary of Karen Voltz by \$1,000 as she provides deputy treasurer duties. The job description needs to be revised to include the deputy treasurer duties. The director salary would increase by 1%. The motion was seconded by Mr. Ketcham. Motion carried.

The preschool updates were presented. Discussion followed. The class size at North Dearborn is increasing to the point that another class needs to be added or an additional assistant needs to be put into the classroom. Dr. Hendrix felt that the addition of a teacher assistant would be best at this time. The Batesville enrollment is also increasing and an additional assistant will be added to that program.

The NEOLA policies were presented for the first reading. The Board felt that as long as our policies were commensurate with current practice there was no need to make major changes. The policy on continuum of services and LRE will need to be revised.

The Employee Handbook for non-certified staff was presented for the first reading. Discussion followed. There is an issue with FMLA as we do not have 50 employees at this time and therefore would not qualify for FMLA. A suggestion was made to change the FMLA to "Approved Medical Leave". The Board would allow the director to establish guidelines to request medical leave for all employees. This should be completed with the administrative guidelines.

Other items presented by Ms. Corning include:

1. It is very important the each school provide a continuum of services on the Least Restrictive Environment (LRE).
2. The child count will be taken on November 27th due to December 1st being on a Sunday. There is a comparison file that can be used to help with this. If interested, please contact Marcia.
3. Gordon Holmes, financial planner, will be doing a presentation for parents of disabled students on December 2nd at Milan Elementary school.
4. Matt Johnson from the IIEP project will be doing IEP training at the end of January. When the date is confirmed, information will be sent to the schools to sign up for the training.

Public Comments - Steve Wagner, RODEA representative, asked for conformation about the sick days/FMLA. This would only be used for extended medical leave. He also asked for clarification about the salary of the new occupational therapist. Dr. Wagner questioned as to why we are not replacing the school psychologist who is leaving at the end of the first semester.

Meeting adjourned at 12:12 p.m.