

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

March 10, 2015

The meeting of the Ripley-Ohio-Dearborn Special Education Cooperative Board of Directors was held on Tuesday, March 10, 2015 at the Special Education Center. Those in attendance were: Karl Galey-Lawrenceburg, Paul Ketcham-Milan, Rob Moorhead-South Ripley, Jim Roberts-Batesville, Branden Roeder-Rising Sun, Tim Taylor-Jac-Cen-Del, John Williams-Sunman Dearborn, and Cheryl Corning-ROD.

The Board met in executive session from 9:05 a.m. until 9:45 a.m. to discuss personnel matters as provided for by I.C. 5-14-1.5-6-1. The Board discussed only the subject matter specified during executive session

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Moorhead at 9:50 a.m.

The minutes of the February 17, 2015 meeting were presented for approval. A motion was made by Dr. Roberts and seconded by Mr. Galey to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

The financial report was presented by Ms. Corning. There were no issues that need to be discussed. A motion was made by Mr. Ketcham to approve the financial report. Mr. Roeder seconded the motion. Motion carried. Claims 117468-117542 were presented for payment. A motion was made by Mr. Galey to approve the payment of claims. Mr. Taylor seconded the motion. Motion carried. Ms. Corning asked for consent to pay the normal bills since we were meeting a week earlier than normal. Dr. Williams made a motion to give consent to pay claims that come due. Mr. Roeder seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The contract for the bus to take students to the Indiana School for the Deaf and Indiana School for the Blind will expire at the end of this school year. Ms. Corning informed the Board that this contract may only be necessary for one more year as the student who currently is transported will graduate at the end of next school year. The original contract was written through Sunman-Dearborn because they were the LEA. Dr. Roberts made a motion to extend the contract for one year with ROD. Dr. Williams seconded the motion. Discussion followed. Motion carried.

Personnel Update - Ms. Corning informed the Board that Kimm Hackworth will not be coming to work as she had accepted another position. A recommendation to hire Steve Wagner as a part time school psychologist was made. He would be available two days a week after spring break and possibly for full time employment next school year. A motion was made by Mr. Roeder to employ Steve Wagner as recommended by Ms. Corning. Mr. Taylor seconded the motion. Discussion followed regarding the resignation of Ms. Hackworth. Mr. Roeder amended his motion to employ Steve Wagner as recommended pending verification of the resignation or abandonment of employment by Ms. Hackworth. Mr. Taylor seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The preschool update was presented. The students who will be transitioning to kindergarten have been marked. Discussion followed.

Ms. Corning presented the five possible options for the ROD calendar. She recommends that the first option which is for 185 days be adopted. A motion was made by Mr. Ketcham to adopt the first option calendar of 185 days. Dr. Williams seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Ms. Corning presented the December, 2014 NEOLA policies updates as recommended by NEOLA. A motion was made by Dr. Williams that there be two readings of recommended policies and that they become policy after the second reading. Mr. Galey seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Ms. Corning discussed issues with the use of teachers and paraprofessionals that are paid for from the cooperative. She has tried to contact Susan Traynor Chastain for clarification and to determine whether our Interlocal agreement needs to be amended. Until she is able to contact her, there is no recommendation. Discussion followed.

Goals, vision and mission statements have been developed for ROD. A motion was made by Mr. Roeder to approve the first reading of the goals, mission and vision statements. Dr. Williams seconded the motion. Mr. Moorhead wanted to recognize the work that Dr. Roberts, Mr. Ketcham, Ms. Corning and the ROD staff had in developing these goals and statements. Motion carried.

Other information presented by Ms. Corning included:

1. Gordon Holmes will present to parents on April 1st at Milan Elementary School.
2. Transition Fair - will be held April 16th at South Dearborn High School
3. Hands In Autism will be at ROD on April 20 and 21. On April 22 they will visit Milan Elementary and one other school.
4. Ms. Corning would like to have space to provide extended school year services for the preschool hearing impaired students. This program would be for 2 days per week for 3 weeks. They would meet for 2 ½ hours a day. The local corporation would be responsible for providing transportation.

There were no public comments.

Mr. Moorhead asked for an update on the ROD facility. Dr. Williams stated that they were in the process of checking on the storage units. Also, doors will be installed to provide some separation between the students and staff. Ms. Corning is still trying to determine office plans for staff members.

A motion for adjournment was made by Mr. Ketcham and seconded by Dr. Roberts. Meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m.