

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

December 16, 2014

The meeting of the Ripley-Ohio-Dearborn Special Education Cooperative Board of Directors was held on Tuesday, December 16, 2014 at the Special Education Center. Those in attendance were: Karl Galey-Lawrenceburg, Paul Ketcham-Milan, John Mehrle-South Dearborn, Rob Moorhead-South Ripley, Bill Narwold-Jac-Cen-Del, Jim Roberts-Batesville, Branden Roeder-Rising Sun, John Williams-Sunman Dearborn, and Cheryl Corning-ROD.

The Board met in executive session from 9:04 a.m. until 10:05 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 Dr. Mehrle at 10:13 a.m.

The minutes of the November 18, 2014 meeting were presented for approval. A motion was made by Mr. Roeder and seconded by Dr. Williams to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

The financial report and claims 117238-117319 were presented for payment. Information was presented regarding federal grant reimbursement. A motion was made by Mr. Narwold to approve the financial report and the claims to be paid. Mr. Moorhead seconded the motion. Motion carried. Information was distributed from the December 1 count. Each superintendent was given information for their corporation and the cooperative (corp Q1, combined Q1, corp APC, combined APC, APC funding report - student detail, placement by grade). Overall, the count was down by 14 students for school age and 11 students in preschool. Ms. Corning pointed out that this information is what is used for determining the general fund budget.

Ms. Corning distributed information about the non-public school expenditures for 2014. No action was needed.

The preschool budget for 2015 was presented for approval. As stated earlier, the preschool number was down by 11 students. This budget is for speech therapists, preschool coordinator, and three preschool programs in the local schools. It also includes funding for private preschool placements. A motion was made by Mr. Ketcham to approve the preschool budget as presented. Mr. Moorhead seconded the motion. Discussion followed. Motion carried.

Personel report - Dr. Mehrle sad that he would like to recognize the good work that Ms. Corning and the two assistant directors have been doing. He made a recommendation that the administrators be given a 1.75% pay increase retroactive to July 1, 2014. Mr. Ketcham seconded the motion. Motion carried with two members abstaining from the vote, Dr. Williams and Mr. Roeder.

The preschool update was presented. There are a few new students coming in that have several needs. There were no questions.

Revisions have been made to the employee handbooks. Ms. Corning has added information about EEOC to both the certified and non-certified handbooks. A motion was made by Mr. Galey to approve the revised handbooks. Mr. Roeder seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Information was gathered about how other cooperatives provide reimbursement for positions and services for special education students. Requests were sent to six cooperatives and information was received from four of them. This information will be compiled and distributed.

The physical location of the cooperative was discussed. There is space available at North Dearborn Elementary as those students are moving to a different building. Moores Hill Elementary will have space available as their enrollment is down. There is also a facility in Aurora that is privately owned that has space available. Ms. Corning has asked that a subcommittee be formed to look at all options for housing the cooperative.

Ms. Corning presented dates for IEP training in January. A motion was made by Mr. Moorhead to approve the training dates and distribute them to the schools. Dr. Williams seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Other information presented by Ms. Corning were:

1. Consent to join ISBA - each corporation is already a member of ISBA. This should allow the cooperative to access their services if needed. Dr. Mehrle was going to check on this.
2. Professional Development - Ms. Corning has only received suggestions from two of the corporations. Most members would like to see the trainings held in the summer so that there is no need to get sub-teachers. South Ripley would like to see more training in the area of inclusion.
3. Ms. Corning asked to attend the LRP Conference in New Orleans. The conference is for school attorneys and will highlight Section 504 and how it compares to IDEA. She has attended in the past and gained valuable information from this conference. The cost of the conference would be about \$2,500 to include registration, transportation and hotel. Mr. Ketcham made a motion to approve the travel to the LRP Conference to learn about Section 504 and other special education issues. Mr. Moorhead seconded the motion. Discussion followed. Motion was not approved. (Vote 3 for, 4 against)

The next meeting will be held January 20<sup>th</sup>. It was suggested that the meeting be held at Moores Hill Elementary to look at the space that would be available for the cooperative .

A motion was made by Mr. Moorhead to adjourn. Mr. Ketcham seconded the motion. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.