

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

December 19, 2017

The meeting of the Ripley-Ohio-Dearborn Special Education Cooperative Board of Directors was held on Tuesday, December 19, 2017 at the South Dearborn Superintendent's Office. Those in attendance were: Andrea Spaeth - Lawrenceburg, Andrew Jackson - Sunman- Dearborn, Paul Ketcham - Batesville, John Mehrle - South Dearborn, Rob Moorhead - South Ripley, Branden Roeder - Rising Sun, Jane Rogers - Milan, Tim Taylor - Jac-Cen-Del and Alex Brewer - ROD.

The Board met in executive session from 9:00 a.m. until 9:25 a.m. to discuss matters as provided for by I.C. 5-14-1.5-6.1(b)(9). The Board discussed only the subject matter specified during executive session.

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Moorhead at 9:30 a.m.

Dr. Brewer presented the agenda for approval. Dr. Jackson made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Mr. Taylor seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Dr. Brewer recognized Sarah Cady and Sara Renow as going "Above and Beyond" in their classrooms. Both ladies attended HANDS in Autism training this past summer and have used these techniques in their classrooms with great success. Andrea Engel-Dixon was also recognized for her efforts in developing the Zones of Regulation programming that is used at North Dearborn Elementary and other schools throughout the cooperative. Mr. Moorhead, on behalf of the Board, thanked these recipients for their efforts in working with our students.

The minutes of the November 14, 2017 meeting were presented for approval. A motion was made by Mrs. Rogers to approve as presented. Dr. Mehrle seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The financial report was presented by Marcia Fullenkamp. Local non-public funds need to be spent by December 31st. Dr. Brewer has contacted the non-public school principals to see what this might be used for. The TAG money is to be distributed to staff with the December 22 check. Claims 119799-119868 were presented for payment along with the payroll vouchers. December 1 information was presented to the Board. Our numbers are up by 61 students with the biggest increase being in the area of Specific Learning Disabilities. A motion was made by Mr. Roeder to approve the financial report. Dr. Jackson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The 2018 Local Non-Public School budget was presented. There are fewer students identified, in part due to the closing of All Saints Academy, therefore the budget is less than last year. A motion was made by Mr. Roeder to approve the Non-Public budget. Mr. Ketcham seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The 2018 Preschool budget was presented by Dr. Brewer. Very detailed information was presented regarding current and projected enrollment and staffing. It should be noted that there are fewer speech only students who are being identified. All preschool expenses have been moved off of other budgets and are now on the local budget or the federal grant. The final count was down 2 students. A motion was made by Mr. Ketcham to approve the budget as presented. Mr. Taylor seconded the motion. Motion carried. Dr. Brewer noted that it could be helpful to speak with local legislators to discuss the lack of increased funding for special education preschool.

Under personnel, Dr. Brewer presented a letter of retirement from Steve Wagner effective at the end of the semester. Dr. Jackson made a motion to approve the retirement. Mr. Ketcham seconded the motion. Motion carried. Mr. Moorhead, on behalf of the board, thanked Dr. Wagner for his service.

Dr. Brewer would like to amend the contract for Rick Rieman, School Psychologist, from 116 days to 120 days. This would make him eligible for any salary increases. A motion was made by Mr. Ketcham to approve the amended contract. Mr. Roeder seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Dr. Brewer presented a contract for Angela Graff, through VocoVision. She has worked in Indiana and knows Indiana IEP procedures and Article 7 guidelines. Our current psychologist with VocoVision is working out well. Angela will work primarily on re-evaluations and initial evaluations at the secondary level. A motion was made by Mr. Ketcham to enter into another contract with VocoVision. Mr. Taylor seconded the motion. Motion carried.

With the category of Developmental Disabilities being changed to include students up until 9 years of age, Dr. Brewer wanted to start discussion as to how the new procedures should be written. Questions about evaluations, funding and teacher of record assignments will need to be answered as we move forward. These students will be funded in TIER 2. Dr. Brewer will develop a procedure/policy and bring to the Board.

Public Comments - none

A motion was made by Dr. Mehrle to adjourn. Dr. Jackson seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 10:40 a.m.