

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

February 19, 2013

The meeting of the Ripley-Ohio-Dearborn Special Education Cooperative Board of Directors was held on Tuesday, February 19, 2013 at the Special Education Center. Those in attendance were: Karl Galey-Lawrenceburg, Jeff Hendrix-Sunman Dearborn, John Mehrle-South Dearborn, Lana Miller-South Ripley, Steve Patz-Rising Sun, Leanna Phillippe-JacCenDel, Tom Reale-Milan, Jim Roberts-Batesville, and Cheryl Corning-ROD.

The Board met in executive session from 9:06 a.m. until 9:27 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 Dr. Reale at 9:31 a.m.

The minutes of the January 15, 2013 meeting were presented. A motion was made by Mr. Galey and seconded by Dr. Mehrle to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

The financial report was presented. We have submitted information to DOE for reimbursement for expenses on the FY2013 budgets. Information was presented about the distribution of IPAD's that were purchased. Many of these were dispersed to the non-public schools. Discussion followed about the usage of the money set aside for the non-public schools. Ms. Corning informed the Board how the federal and state money is calculated. The technology was paid for with local funds.

Claims 115585-115672 were presented for payment. A motion was made by Dr. Mehrle and seconded by Dr. Phillippe to approve the claims for payment. Ms. Corning presented a bill from Sunman-Dearborn regarding payment for TRF/PERF, in the amount of \$89,310.47, that was not accounted for when ROD split from Sunman-Dearborn in July, 2012. A motion was made by Mr. Patz to reimburse Sunman-Dearborn for the TRF/PERF costs. Dr. Mehrle seconded the motion. Discussion followed. Motion carried with a 7-0-1 vote, with Dr. Hendrix abstaining.

Ms. Corning gave the personnel report. Brandy Foxworth, COTA has agreed to work 3 days per week instead of the 1 day per week that was reported in January. Discussion followed. A motion was made by Mr. Patz to provide Ms. Corning with the ability to determine what services are necessary to ensure that services are provided according to IEP requirements. Mr. Galey seconded the motion. Motion carried. With the increase in students from the residential facility in Lawrenceburg, there is a need for a full time severe disabilities teacher at Central Elementary. A motion was made by Dr. Roberts to approve this position. Dr. Mehrle seconded the motion. Motion carried with a vote of 7-0-1 with Mr. Galey abstaining. Dr. Reale inquired about the assistant director position. Ms. Corning has interviewed one person who has been a building principal, but not much experience with special education. There is no recommendation yet for this position.

Ms. Corning provided information about the salary schedule for the COTA position. Mr. Patz asked that more information be gathered and that a recommendation for a salary schedule be presented at our next meeting.

The preschool update was presented. The Sunman-Dearborn class is very large. We will look at providing another assistant when necessary. Other classes are also increasing. The classes are closely monitored to ensure that personnel are added when necessary.

Discussion regarding a day treatment program followed. Current projected costs would be approximately \$200,000+. This is for staff only. More information is needed. Each board member needs to discuss with their local principal how many students in grades K-5 could benefit from this program and report back to the Board.

Ms. Corning informed the Board that if the federal government does not come to an agreement on budget cuts, that it is possible our federal funds could be cut by 5%. This would impact some of our programs.

In working on the Board policies with NEOLA, information is needed on some policies. NEOLA policy on purchasing currently recommends a \$50,000 limit without Board approval. It was the consensus of the group to use the \$50,000 as the limit. Another policy on severance pay for non-certified members was discussed. Ms. Corning is to bring a recommendation to the March meeting.

Miscellaneous items presented included:

1. Is it possible for us to belong to the Wilson Center? It would help with purchasing of some bigger items. The Board felt that yes this would be possible and that they already pay for these students through their participation fee.
2. The next meeting date is March 19.
3. Ms. Corning presented information from the LRP conference regarding Section 504, Bullying and Transportation.
4. Mr. Galey informed the Board that their corrective action plan for the LRE review was approved by DOE. They are providing additional IEP training, increasing their continuum of services, working with IU on strategies for co-teaching, and providing professional development for staff.

No public comments.

A motion was made by Dr. Roberts to adjourn. Dr. Hendrix seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 11:12 a.m.