

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

March 20, 2018

The meeting of the Ripley-Ohio-Dearborn Special Education Cooperative Board of Directors was held on Tuesday, March 20, 2018 at the South Dearborn Superintendent's Office. Those in attendance were: Karly Galey - Lawrenceburg, Andrew Jackson - Sunman-Dearborn, Paul Ketcham - Batesville, John Mehrle - South Dearborn, Rob Moorhead - South Ripley, Branden Roeder - Rising Sun, Jane Rogers - Milan, and Alex Brewer - ROD. Tim Taylor - Jac-Cen-Del was absent.

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

Dr. Brewer presented an amended agenda. He added under Action Items, change Board meeting start time. A motion was made by Dr. Mehrle to approve the amended agenda. Dr. Jackson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The minutes of the February 20, 2018 meeting were presented. A motion was made by Mrs. Rogers to approve the minutes as presented. Dr. Jackson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The Financial report was presented by Marcia Fullenkamp. The FY2017 619 grant requires a modification due to increase in certified staff, and benefits. The mileage and supplies lines were reduced. This modification has been sent to DOE. The federal reimbursement requests were distributed. Claims 120030-120102 were presented for payment. A motion was made by Mr. Galey to approve the financial report. Mr. Roeder seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Personnel Update - Dr. Brewer presented a letter of resignation from Christy Harris. Mr. Ketcham made a motion to approve the resignation. Mrs. Rogers seconded the motion. Motion carried. Dr. Brewer presented an intent to employ for Dareen Seipel to replace Christy Harris as the Evaluation Assistant. This position would be through the end of this school year. A motion was made by Mr. Roeder to accept this recommendation. Mr. Galey seconded the motion. Motion carried. Dr. Brewer presented an intent to employ for Chantel Seale as a Certified Occupational therapist. This will be a full time position beginning the 2018-2019 school year. A motion was made by Mr. Jackson to approve the hiring of Ms. Seale. Mr. Ketcham seconded the motion. Motion carried. Dr. Brewer recommended employing Kara Docter as a part-time Certified Occupational therapist. She will be working 4 days a week until the end of the school year and then 2 days a week for the 2018-2019 school year. A motion was made by Mrs. Rogers to approve this recommendation. Mr. Galey seconded the motion. Motion carried. Dr. Brewer asked for permission to hire substitute COTA's to fulfill the needs left by two therapists. The Board granted him permission to hire subs.

Dr. Brewer explained that the contract on the storage units is up at the end of April. There is a large amount of files stored in the units that will need to be shredded. Bids have been received from three companies with one company asking to resubmit their bid. A motion was

made by Mr. Galey to proceed with the destruction of files using the company that provided the lowest bid. Mr. Ketcham seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Mr. Moorhead suggested that we return to our original meeting start time of 9:00 a.m. A motion was made by Dr. Jackson to make the Board meeting start time 9:00 a.m. Mr. Roeder seconded the motion. The executive session time could be adjusted accordingly. Motion carried.

NEOLA policies for VOL 29, No 2, and VOL 30, No 1 were presented for the first reading. Discussion followed regarding certain policies.

The preschool update was presented. Students transitioning to Kindergarten were flagged. Class sizes are still quite large. Looking at next year, Dr. Brewer would like to look at getting more students into the school based preschool programs. Discussion followed as to what reimbursement would be for these students. Much of that would depend on the length of time they attend and who is serving as teacher of record. The Board would like more information at the next meeting regarding these items.

Dr. Brewer introduced the possibility of having some flexibility in the ROD workday. Currently, the day is 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. By giving some flexibility to schedules, it would allow better access to teachers as some schools have different start and end times. Staff would still have an 8 hour day but their start/stop times could vary. It is felt that the majority of the staff would continue as they are but that sometimes it would be necessary to adjust the schedule. Dr. Brewer would like to pilot this change starting April 2<sup>nd</sup> through the end of the school year to see how it would work. If there are no issues, it could be implemented permanently next school year. Discussion followed.

Dr. Brewer is looking at future program needs and the possible need of adding 5 teacher positions in the coming years. In looking at the student numbers and what ROD reimburses the corporations for, it may be beneficial to look at changing how the cooperative is funded. One possibility is moving all classroom teachers off of the ROD budget. We would still have the ROD staff and all necessary paraprofessionals. More information will be gathered to help in making this decision.

Dr. Brewer is looking at possibilities for the HANDS contract. His recommendation is to keep the three model programs and to have HANDS personnel help with collaboration/support as needs arise in other schools. Currently Chris Dittmer, behavior consultant is going into schools and providing support for students and staff as needed. This would continue along with more support from HANDS. More information is needed before a contract is prepared.

Summer trainings could be conducted by HANDS and/or Orton Gillingham. With the passing of the dyslexia legislation, Orton-Gillingham would be very beneficial to pursue.

Public Comments - Chris Dittmer wanted the Board to know that the collaboration between ROD and HANDS is working well. She does feel that there are some schools that are not supportive in the process. She asks that each Superintendent help to promote the program.

A motion was made by Dr. Jackson to adjourn, Dr. Mehrle seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 11:21 a.m.