

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

June 25, 2020

The meeting of the Ripley-Ohio-Dearborn Special Education Cooperative Board of Directors was held on Thursday, June 25, 2020 as a virtual meeting due to COVID-19. Those in attendance were: Karl Galey - Lawrenceburg, Andrew Jackson - Sunman-Dearborn, Lynn Gosser - Batesville, Eric Lows – South Dearborn, Ryan Middleton – Jac-Cen-Del, Lana Miller -South Ripley, Noel Bostic – Rising Sun, Jane Rogers - Milan and Alex Brewer - ROD.

The meeting was called to order by Karl Galey at 9:03 a.m.

Dr. Brewer presented the agenda. A motion was made by Mrs. Rogers to approve the amended agenda. Mr. Lows seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The minutes of the May 19, 2020 meeting were presented for approval. A motion was made by Mr. Middleton to approve the minutes as presented. Mr. Lows seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The financial report was presented by Marcia Fullenkamp. The federal reimbursement request was included in the packet. This fund will be fully expended as of June 30th. The Semi-Annual Certification forms were emailed to everyone. These need to be kept with the federal grant information as they will be needed for federal grant audits. Our projected cash balance at the end of June is \$1,515,000. Claims for annual renewals were received from Software Systems and Midwest Data. Claims 121864-121923 were presented for payment along with payroll vouchers. A motion was made by Mrs. Rogers to approve the financial report as presented. Mr. Lows seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Personnel Update – Dr. Brewer presented resignations for Brooke Levell, Assistant Director, and Trisha Goldsmith, Educational Consultant. Also, these people will be transferring to Sunman-Dearborn as part of the separation agreement, Judy Hagedorn, Kevin Cook, Daelle Woolwine, and Lori Trimble. Dr. Brewer wanted to thank everyone for their service to ROD and to reiterate that their work was much appreciated. He wished them luck in their new positions. A motion was made by Mr. Lows to approve the personnel changes. Mr. Middleton seconded the motion. Motion carried. Mr. Galey, on behalf of the Board, also wished these employees the best in their new positions.

Dr. Brewer informed the Board that the only change to the Interlocal Agreement is the removal of Batesville and Sunman-Dearborn. There may be a need to make changes as we move forward. A motion was made by Mrs. Rogers to approve the new agreement. Mr. Lows seconded the motion. Dr. Brewer is still waiting for a response as to if we need to have a new document signed. Motion carried.

Dr. Brewer presented all budgets for the 2020-2021 school year. The separating corporations accounted for 42% of our funding for the 2019-2020 budget. There is an increase in students eligible for special education of 4% for the 6 corporations moving forward.

1. The federal 619 grant had a flat increase.
2. The federal 611 grant had a 1.9% increase in funding. We will continue to pay the salaries for the intense academic teachers and paraprofessionals along with the intense behavioral teachers and paraprofessionals out of the federal grant until expended and then move them to the Education fund budget.
3. The Education Fund budget was reduced by 35%. This includes the ROD costs and transfer costs for positions. This reduction was due to the separation.
4. The Operation Fund shows a decrease of 18%. These areas could not be reduced even though we have fewer students, transportation, copier lease and liability insurance.
5. The Preschool Budget was decreased by 41%. This includes the transfer programs that are not covered under federal grant 619, a speech therapist, and preschool coordinator.
6. The Non-Public budget was reduced by 77%. The ROD administrative costs will change from 3.6% to 1.66%. This budget will cover staff to serve as teacher of record and teacher of service, administrative costs and evaluations.

Dr. Brewer presented three options for the Education Fund budget. Option 1 would fully fund the expected costs. Option 2 would have no increase in costs but would have some slight changes due to APC. Option 3 would have no increase in the Education Fund but shows increases in the Operations and Preschool fund to make them whole. Dr. Brewer recommended going with Option 3 due to the unknown future of state funding, a projected cash balance needs to be established, and we can use the coming year to determine if staffing is correct. Mr. Middleton made a motion to accept Option 3 of the budget. Mr. Lows seconded the motion. Mrs. Rogers was appreciative of budget options. Motion carried.

Relocation Update – Dr. Brewer thanked the staff from South Dearborn for their work in helping with the move to the temporary space. We hope to be able to move into the permanent space in a few weeks. Our phone number is the same, email is working but the fax isn't set up yet. Mr. Galey also thanked South Dearborn for their help, and also Dr. Brewer and the ROD staff for their assistance during the move. He also thanked Poole Group for getting things completed.

Planning for Re-Entry -

1. Dr. Brewer reminded the Board that in their plans, they need to list ROD employees as essential visitors.
2. It is important that information that is shared with your staff also needs to be shared with ROD staff.
3. Our office will be reaching out to students who are medically fragile as there may need to be additional accommodations that the school needs to make in order for them to return.
4. We will be holding all staff/administrative trainings virtually. These trainings may be held on an individual school/corporation basis.
5. ROD will prioritize holding case conference meetings for students who enroll in the virtual schooling option.
6. It is important to please share your re-entry plan with ROD as soon as possible.
7. CPI Teams – important to provide PPE for them including face shields.

8. ROD staff will be advised to not go to several districts in the same day. If possible, please provide a work space to cut down on travel.
Public Comments – there were no public comments.

Meeting adjourned at 10:11 a.m.