

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

February 21, 2017

The meeting of the Ripley-Ohio-Dearborn Special Education Cooperative Board of Directors was held on Tuesday, February 21, 2017 at the Milan Superintendent's Office. Those in attendance were: Karl Galey - 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 9:23 a.m. to discuss matters as provided for by I.C. 5-14-1.5-6.1(b)(7). The Board discussed only the subject matter specified during executive session.

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Moorhead at 9:25 a.m.

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

The minutes of the January 11, 2017 meeting were presented. A motion was made by Dr. Mehrle to accept the minutes as presented. Mr. Galey seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The finance report was presented by Marcia Fullenkamp. The cash balance has increased due to receiving the second participating shares payment for the general and capital projects fund and the first payment of the preschool and non-public school funds. It was noted that there will be no federal reimbursement this month because the Board is meeting later in the month. The request must be submitted before the 15th of the month to receive the money in the same month. Claims 119124-119197, along with the payroll vouchers, were presented for payment. The cooperative has purchased a stronger firewall that protects from outside hack attempts/security breaches. It will also provide a secure VPN tunnel for software vendors and future access to the network from outside the office. A motion was made by Mr. Roeder to approve the finance report. Mr. Taylor seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Dr. Brewer presented the Board with a proposed calendar for the 2017-2018 school year. This calendar closely aligns to the school calendars. There is a statement at the bottom of the calendar that would allow staff members to work if some schools are in session. A motion was made by Mr. Taylor to approve the calendar as presented. Mr. Ketcham seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Dr. Brewer attended the ICASE spring meeting in early February and learned that there have been several ADA complaints regarding website accessibility. He shared a tool that can be used to test the accessibility of local websites. ROD will be developing a technology plan that will affect local schools as equipment is placed into the schools for student use. We will be asking for some membership from the local schools.

The preschool update was presented. Several programs are growing. Dr. Brewer distributed a memo that would go to local schools regarding speech referrals after kindergarten round-up. Currently if a student appears to need speech services, the local school would refer them to ROD for evaluation. It would be beneficial to wait until the student enters school and then screen them to determine if evaluation is necessary. There can be some growth in the +/- six months from the time of round-up until the student enters school.

Dr. Naomi Swiezy gave a presentation about the HANDS programs at Milan Elementary, Aurora Elementary and East Central High. She discussed classroom layout, staff choreography, and data collection. She feels that the rooms are ready to have observations by other schools. Dr. Brewer shared the contract for the 2017-2018 school year. This includes summer training and adding a class at North Dearborn Elementary. Discussion followed regarding compensation of staff that attend the training. The contract will be presented at the March meeting for vote.

Dr. Brewer discussed with the Board that in the current NEOLA policies, there is a section for Students. He believes this needs to be revised at minimum since each corporation has their own policies for Students. A recommendation was made that Dr. Brewer discuss with legal counsel how to proceed with this section of policy.

There were no public comments.

A motion was made by Dr. Mehrle to adjourn. Dr. Jackson seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 11:50 a.m.