

EAST CENTRAL INDIANA SPECIAL SERVICES

GOVERNING BOARD MEETING

East Central Special Services

107 Layman Street

Liberty, IN 47353

Minutes from the June 7, 2021 Meeting

Members present: Dr. George Philhower, Dr. Matthew Hicks, Ms. Tammy Chavis, Mr. Aron Borowiak, Ms. Mort Maurer, and Mrs. Liza Bates.

1. Call to Order

Dr. Philhower called the meeting to order at 9:30 A.M.

2. Approval of Minutes

Dr. Hicks made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Ms. Chavis seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

3. Approval of Agenda

Mr. Borowiak made a motion to amend the agenda by renaming item 8A to COVID Related Stipends and to add item 10C, Special Education Administrator Rubric. Ms. Chavis seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

4. Presentation by Greg Easley, RMD Patti

Mr. Easley shared information with the board about the current insurance renewal from Liberty Mutual. He also shared that regulations require 50% of the cooperative's participating districts to have insurance coverage through the same provider in order for the cooperative to also be insured by that company.

5. Financial Report

Mrs. Bates shared the financial packet with the board. There has been no information on FY 2022 grant allocations thus far. FY2021 Maintenance of Effort information is not available from IDOE either. IDOE has indicated that there will be stimulus funding coming through the IDEA grants and that they estimate this money to be about 20% of the typical grant amounts.

Mrs. Bates shared that, in state monies, Adjusted Pupil Count allocations will be increased by 5% this coming year and another 5% the following year.

6. Director's Report

Mrs. Bates shared that, with the exception of one meeting that will be held this summer, all annual case conferences due through the end of August have been held and paperwork submitted. All evaluations for the 2020-2021 school year have been completed and conferenced in a timely manner. Transition IEPs will be audited this summer by IDOE. Documentation has been collected for staff on emergency

permits. Special education teachers with licenses expiring in 2021 were contacted to remind them to renew and submit a copy of their new license to Mrs. Bates. Mrs. Bates reviewed her summer activities with the board and tentatively planned back to school meeting dates for each corporation.

7. Coordinator's Report

Ms. Maurer shared that she is a member of a Wayne County coalition for early childhood/preschool. She provided each board member a copy of a flyer that is being posted throughout Wayne County regarding early childhood/preschool screenings.

8. Unfinished Business

A. COVID-Related Stipends for East Central Staff

Mr. Borowiak shared that Union County is providing teachers and administrators a \$1,000 stipend and non-certified staff a \$500 stipend for additional tasks performed due to COVID. Dr. Hicks made a motion to approve COVID-related stipends out of IDEA funds for East Central staff in the same amounts as specified for Union County staff. Mr. Borowiak seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

9. New Business

A. 2021-2022 Governing Board Officers

Dr. Hicks made a motion to approve the rotation schedule to include corporation names rather than superintendent names. The rotation order will be: Union County, Northeastern, Franklin County, then Western Wayne. Mr. Borowiak seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

2021-2022 Officers - President - Mr. Borowiak (Union County), Vice President - Dr. Hicks (Northeastern), Secretary - Ms. Chavis (Franklin County)

B. 2021-2022 Governing Board Meeting Schedule

Mr. Borowiak made a motion to approve the proposed 2021-2022 meeting schedule, with meetings being held on the second Friday of the month. In addition, two executive sessions, one in December and another in May, will be held to discuss job performance/evaluation. Dr. Hicks seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

C. East Central Insurance Renewal

Mr. Borowiak made a motion to approve the East Central insurance renewal from Liberty Mutual with payments being made quarterly to allow the cooperative to investigate other alternatives should any of the participating corporations change insurance companies. Ms. Chavis seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

10. Discussion Items

A. Degree Reimbursement Plan - High Needs Positions

Mrs. Bates asked for the board to consider extending the degree reimbursement plan for the blind/low vision position to other high need areas such as speech and school psychology. The board discussed this and other options that could be utilized to recruit and retain special education staff.

B. Special Education Program Evaluation

Mrs. Bates suggested the board consider using ARPA funds to complete a program evaluation of the cooperative and the participating corporation's special education services. Mrs. Bates will look into this further and bring information back to the board on this topic.

C. Special Education Administrator Rubrics

Mr. Borowiak indicated that Mrs. Bates had shared a number of special education administrator rubrics with the board. Mrs. Bates will develop a draft rubric to present to the board at the next meeting.

11. Board Comments

No comments.

12. Adjournment

Dr. Hicks moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:54 A.M., seconded by Mr. Borowiak. The motion carried 4-0.

Next Meeting: July 9, 2021, 9:30 AM, East Central



Chairperson