

EAST CENTRAL INDIANA SPECIAL SERVICES

GOVERNING BOARD MEETING

East Central Special Services

107 Layman Street

Liberty, IN 47353

Minutes from the November 16, 2021 Meeting

Members present: Ms. Tammy Chavis, Dr. Matthew Hicks (9:45 A.M.), Mr. Aron Borowiak, Mr. Andy Stover, Ms. Mort Maurer, and Mrs. Liza Bates.

1. Call to Order

Mr. Borowiak called the meeting to order at 9:32 A.M.

2. Approval of Minutes

Ms. Chavis made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Mr. Stover seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

3. Approval of Agenda

Mrs. Bates indicated the need to amend the agenda to include item 8C, Personnel - Classified and Administrative Pay Increases. Mr. Stover made a motion to approve the revised agenda. Ms. Chavis seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

4. Financial Report

Mrs. Bates shared information about the closing of the FY IDEA 2021 grants and opening of the FY 2022 IDEA grants. Mrs. Bates recently submitted the FY 2022 American Rescue Plan (ARP) IDEA grant applications to IDOE.

5. Director's Report

Mrs. Bates shared information about a legal update with the board. She also provided a handout to the board about the Indiana Special Education Assisted Licensure program (I-SEAL) that recently came out from IDOE. This program provides financial support to teachers working toward mild intervention licensure as well as provides test prep assistance for the PRAXIS exam.

Mrs. Bates shared that the cooperative is collaborating with district personnel for the December 1 child count.

Behavior is an area of concern across the four participating districts. The next few new teacher training sessions will be focusing on this as well as a book study group this spring. Schools may

also call upon Mrs. Bates or Ms. Maurer to help support them with specific behavioral challenges.

6. Coordinator's Report

Ms. Maurer shared that preschool numbers are increasing. She is working on placing students, especially those turning five years of age, prior to the December 1 child count.

7. Old Business

A. Personnel - Liza Bates, Blind/Low Vision Educational Costs Reimbursement Loan Agreement

Mrs. Bates and Mr. Borowiak shared the proposed language from Church Church Hittle and Antrim. Mr. Stover made a motion to approve the proposed Blind/Low Vision Educational Costs Reimbursement Loan Agreement with Liza Bates. Dr. Hicks seconded the motion. Motion passed, 4-0.

8. New Business

A. Personnel - Arika Lathery, Supplemental Contract

Mrs. Bates and Mr. Borowiak shared that they wished to provide Arika Lathery with a pay increase equivalent to that received by Union County teachers. Arika transitioned from the role of a Union County special education teacher to that of a diagnostician with East Central at the start of this school year. Discussion ensued regarding whether or not a supplemental contract is needed or if she could just be advanced on the salary schedule due to this change from a Union County to an East Central role. Mr. Stover recommended that Mr. Borowiak seek legal counsel regarding this situation. Dr. Hicks made a motion to provide Arika with a pay increase equivalent to that received by Union County teachers per the process recommended to Mr. Borowiak by legal counsel. Motion passed, 4-0.

B. CPI Training Plan

Mrs. Bates shared that the CPI training plan developed by the board earlier this year needs to be revisited. Franklin County has elected to have two staff members become CPI trainers for their district. Per the current plan, East Central has funded CPI training for participants from all four districts. Discussion ensued on how to provide this financial support for CPI training across all four districts equitably given this change for Franklin County. This discussion was tabled to allow Mrs. Bates the opportunity to talk with the East Central Educational Service Center director regarding possible funding options.

B. Personnel - Classified and Administrative Pay Increases

Mr. Borowiak shared that classified and administrative staff in Union County received a 2% pay increase. Mrs. Bates recommended that East Central classified and administrative staff receive the same. Dr. Hicks made a motion to provide East Central classified and administrative staff a 2% retroactive pay increase equivalent to what Union County certified and administrative staff received. Motion carried, 4-0.

9. Discussion Items

A. East Central Joint Agreement

Mrs. Bates and the board continued the review of the joint agreement in preparation for the special education program evaluation to be completed next semester.

10. Board Comments

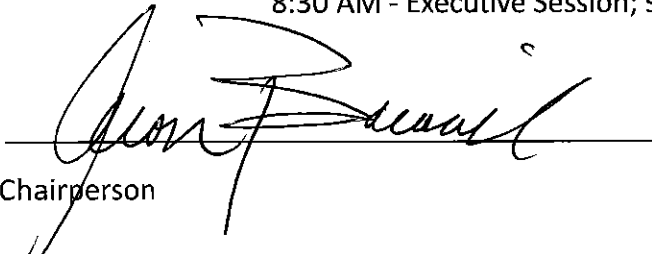
Dr. Hicks asked for clarification regarding insurance carriers for each of the participating corporations. Board members were reminded that two of the participating corporations must utilize the same insurance company in order for the cooperative to be offered coverage. It is important for all four superintendents to communicate when considering changing from one insurance company to another to ensure that the cooperative's insurance coverage is not impacted.

11. Adjournment

Mr. Stover moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:06 A.M., seconded by Dr. Hicks. The motion carried 4-0.

Next Meeting: December 16, 2021, East Central office

8:30 AM - Executive Session; 9:30 AM - Board Meeting



Chairperson