

**LASALLE/PUTNAM COUNTY EDUCATIONAL ALLIANCE FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION**  
**1009 Boyce Memorial Drive Ottawa, IL 61350**  
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**Open Meeting Minutes**

Date: December 1, 2020

Time: 9:02a.m.

Location: L.E.A.S.E. Office Board Room

Type of meeting:  Regular

Name of person taking the minutes: Colleen Stefan

Name of person presiding: Mr. Carl Carlson

Roll call indicated

Members in attendance:

1. Mr. Carl Carlson
2. Dr. Mike Cushing
3. Mrs. Kristi Eager
4. Dr. Jodi Moore
5. Mr. Mike Pillion
6. Mr. Chuck Schneider
7. Dr. Kristin School

Members absent:

1. None

Also present

1. Ms. Mary Jane Chapman, Director

**Reception of Guests and Visitors & Opportunity for Public Comment**

There were none.

**Approval of Items on Consent Agenda (Open Session Minutes from the Board meeting held on November 4, 2020, Bank Reconciliation, Bills, Financial Reports and the destruction of the May 6, 2019 and June 4, 2019 tape recorded closed session minutes.)**

Summary of discussion: Ms. Chapman shared an additional bill list.

Motion made by: Mr. Schneider

Motion:  To approve the open session minutes from the board meeting held on November 4, 2020, October 2020 Bank Reconciliation; and the October Financial Report.

Motion seconded by: Mrs. Eager

Roll Call: "Yeas" – Schneider, Eager, Carlson, Cushing, Moore, Pillion and School

"Nays" – none.

Action:  Passed

## Remaining Agenda Items

None

### Motion to Adjourn to Closed Meeting

Date: December 3, 2019

Time: 9:04 a.m.

Location: L.E.A.S.E. Office Board Room

Motion made by Mr. Schneider

And seconded by Dr. Moore

To adjourn to closed meeting to discuss:

The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the Alliance or legal counsel for the Alliance, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee or against legal counsel for the Alliance to determine its validity.

Voice Vote: "Yeas" – all

"Nays" – none.

Actions:  Passed

Time of adjournment of closed meeting and return to open meeting: 9:18 a.m.

### Motion to Return to Open Meeting

Motion made by Dr. School

And seconded by Mr. Carlson

Motion:  To return to Open Meeting

Voice vote "Yeas" – all

"Nays" – none.

Action:  Passed

### Anticipated Action Items After Closed Session

Summary of discussion: As discussed in Closed Session

Motion made by: Dr. Moore

Motion:  to approve a formal resolution to the Alliance Council for the next State-approved L.E.A.S.E. Executive Director of Special Education beginning with the FY22 school year.

WHEREAS the L.E.A.S.E. Executive Committee has now decided upon a recommended candidate for the position of L.E.A.S.E. Executive Director of Special Education, therefore be it ...

RESOLVED pending the final vote and decision of the L.E.A.S.E. Alliance Council to offer a contract to Kathy Fox to fulfill the responsibilities as the L.E.A.S.E. Executive Director of Special Education and be it further ...

RESOLVED that the Executive Director will officially begin her new duties effective July 1, 2021.

Seconded by: Mr. Schneider

Roll Call: “Yeas” – Moore, Schneider, Carlson, Cushing, Eager, Pillion and School

“Nays” – none.

Action:  Passed

### **Information Items**

#### **C.B.S. monthly report;**

Ms. Chapman announced that the C.B.S. monthly report was in the board packets. Board members were made aware that there is a new format for attendance reporting and C.B.S. is now currently using Teacher Ease. Reports will look different than previous reports because of this. Ms. Chapman also told the board that the school is now using full remote learning and that the situation will be re-evaluated again on December 4, 2020.

#### **Policy Updates;**

Ms. Chapman explained that these updates are the PRESS recommendations that apply to the cooperative. Ms. Chapman did want to highlight and discuss in more detail policy 4:80, Accounting and Audits, and told the board that the Regional Office of Education (R.O.E.) is our signing agent.

#### **Review the 2020-2021 L.E.A.S.E. “Cooperative Status/Needs Assessment Report;**

Ms. Chapman explained that there is a need for more counselors, technical assistants, additional training for paraprofessionals and additional COVID training. Ms. Chapman told the board that the report is not quite ready to send, as we need to update the December 1, child count information. The report is also set up so that each superintendent will get district specific information. The report also is an overview of different L.E.A.S.E. services.

#### **RIF Joint Committee Annual Review;**

The L.E.A.S.E. Reduction in Force Joint Committee met on November 24, 2020 and completed an independent review of the RIF document. Ms. Chapman explained that this is an annual requirement and that board members received documentation of the meeting in their board packets.

#### **Centralized Hiring by L.E.A.S.E.;**

Ms. Chapman shared that the memo is an annual requirement and will go out to all superintendents to help gather the necessary information to make employment recommendations in the spring for speech/language pathologists employed by L.E.A.S.E. for districts. Ms. Chapman stated that she is anticipating that Streater Elementary #44 will most likely offer positions to the SLPs that are currently still employed by L.E.A.S.E.

Ms. Chapman reminded the board that the deadline to reply to this memo is January 31, 2021.

#### **L.E.A.S.E., Medicaid, I.S.B.E., legal, legislative initiatives (verbal report);**

- Ms. Chapman informed the board that the L.E.A.S.E. building repairs are just about completed and she is very pleased at the outcome. There are a couple small items that need to be addressed and fixed.

### **Approval of Motion to Adjourn**

Motion to adjourn made by Mr. Schneider

Motion seconded by: Mr. Pillion

Action:  Passed

Time of adjournment: 9:28 a.m.

### **Post Meeting Action**

Date minutes approved: Jan. 5, 2021

Date minutes were available for public inspection: Jan. 5, 2021

Date minutes were posted on Alliance website: Jan. 5, 2021