

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

Date: February 2, 2021

Time: 9:02 a.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

Members in attendance:

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

Members absent: None

Also present

1. Ms. Mary Jane Chapman, Director

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

Kathy Fox, L.E.A.S.E. Lead Coordinator.

**Approval of Items on Consent Agenda (Open and Closed Session Minutes from the Board meeting held on January 5, 2021; December 2020 Bank Reconciliation; Bills, and Financial Statements,)**

Summary of discussion: One additional bill list was added to the board packet.

Motion made by: Mr. Pillion

Motion:  To approve the open and closed session minutes from the board meeting held on January 5, 2021; December 2020 Bank Reconciliation; Bills, and Financial Statements.

Motion seconded by: Mrs. Eager

Roll Call: "Yeas" – Pillion, Eager, Carlson, Cushing, Moore, Schneider and School  
"Nays" – none.

Action:  Passed

**Remaining Agenda Items**

**Agenda item: Approve the date for the 2020-2021 budget amendment hearing**

Summary of discussion: Ms. Chapman explained that presenting a motion to approve a budget amendment hearing must be done annually. The proposed formal public amended budget hearing date of May 3, 2021 is being presented to the board for approval.

Motion made by: Mr. Schneider

Motion:  To approve May 3, 2021, as the date for the 2020-2021 budget amendment hearing

Motion seconded by: Dr. School

Roll Call: "Yeas"- Schneider, School, Carlson, Cushing, Eager, Moore and Pillion  
"Nays" – none.

Action:  Passed

**Agenda item: Approve the date for the 2021-2022 budget hearing**

Summary of discussion: Ms. Chapman explained that presenting a motion to approve a budget hearing must be done annually. The proposed meeting date of the formal public budget hearing being presented for approval is June 1, 2021.

Motion made by: Dr. Moore

Motion:  To approve June 1, 2021, as the date for the 2021-2022 formal public budget Hearing

Motion seconded by: Mrs. Eager

Roll Call: "Yeas"- Moore, Eager, Carlson, Cushing, Pillion, Schneider and School  
"Nays" – none.

Action:  Passed

**Agenda item: Approve a resolution to honorably dismiss staff.**

Summary of discussion: Ms. Chapman reminded the board that last month it was discussed that a reduction in Speech/Language Pathologists services needed for Streater Elementary would mean that we would need to honorably dismiss two part-time SLPs. The two SLPs included in this honorable dismissal are Barbara Harte and Kimberly Kaschke. Ms. Chapman explained that a resolution would need to be approved.

Motion made by: Mr. Schneider

Motion:  To approve a resolution to honorably dismiss Barbara Harte and Kimberly Kaschke

Motion seconded by: Dr. Cushing

Roll Call: "Yeas"- Schneider, Cushing, Carlson, Eager, Moore, Pillion and School  
"Nays" – none.

Action:  Passed

**Motion to Adjourn to Closed Meeting**

The board determined that no closed session was needed.

## **Agenda item: Approve Executive Director Contract for Kathy Fox**

Summary of discussion: Discussion was held regarding the contract for Kathy Fox, newly named Executive Director who will replace Ms. Chapman. Mr. Carlson informed the board that Ms. Fox was satisfied with the terms of her contract. All board members received a copy of the contract. Ms. Chapman told the board that a vote to accept the contract for Ms. Fox can be done at today's meeting.

Motion made by: Mr. Pillion

Motion:  To approve the Executive Director contract for Kathy Fox

Motion seconded by: Mrs. Eager

Roll Call: "Yeas"- Pillion, Eager, Carlson, Cushing, Moore, Schneider and School  
"Nays" – none.

Action:  Passed

## **Information Items**

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

Ms. Chapman reported that the CBS report was included in the board packets. Ms. Chapman did highlight a few items. There are currently six students that are in full remote learning.

### **FOIA Request from ProPublica and the Chicago Tribune-SRO**

Ms. Chapman shared this FOIA request with the Executive Committee as required. All information emailed back (from L.E.A.S.E.) for this FOIA request was approved by our lawyer. Ms. Chapman also informed the board that C.B.S. did have a SRO contract and the bill was paid by the State's Attorney office. When the State's Attorney stopped paying the bill, we stopped the S.R.O. contract.

### **FOIA Request ProPublica and the Chicago Tribune-Arrest Records**

Ms. Chapman shared this FOIA request with the Executive Committee as required. All information emailed back (from L.E.A.S.E.) for this FOIA request was approved by our lawyer. Ms. Chapman noted that information sent was regarding student offenses.

### **Discuss Salary Spreadsheet**

Ms. Chapman informed the board that this is the final year of a three year salary resolution. The Committee will need to make salary determinations for the beginning of next year. A spreadsheet was created and distributed to committee members to be used as a tool designed to make projections of the overall financial impact on the cooperative. Other discussion on this issue was the need to look at the hiring schedules.

### **L.E.A.S.E./V.O.I.C.E./Legislative/I.S.B.E./Medicaid initiatives**

- a. Ms. Chapman informed the board that she received an email from Medicaid and the calendar and participant list is due Feb. 26th

- b. Ms. Chapman shared that the December 1<sup>st</sup> child count snapshots are available now, with Feb. 24<sup>th</sup> as last day to make changes. March 12<sup>th</sup> is date superintendents can begin to certify their data.
- c. Ms. Chapman told the board that data profiles are in IStar and that she will send them out to districts.
- d. Ms. Chapman noted that the final eleven L.E.A.S.E. staff are lined up to receive the Covid vaccine.

**Non agenda items from the Director/Executive Committee members**

There were none.

**Approval of Motion to Adjourn**

Motion to adjourn made by Mr. Schneider

Motion seconded by Dr. Moore

Action:  Passed

Time of adjournment: 9:32 a.m.

**Post Meeting Action**

Date minutes approved: March 2, 2021

Date minutes were available for public inspection: March 2, 2021

Date minutes were posted on Alliance website: March 2, 2021