

LASALLE/PUTNAM COUNTY EDUCATIONAL ALLIANCE FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION
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Open Meeting Minutes

Date: March 2, 2021

Time: 9:03 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. Dr. Mike Cushing
3. Mrs. Kristi Eager
4. Dr. Jodi Moore (arrived at 9:08 a.m.)
5. Mr. Mike Pillion
6. Dr. Kristen School

Members absent: Mr. Chuck Schneider

Also present

1. Ms. Mary Jane Chapman, Director

Reception of Guests and Visitors & Opportunity for Public Comment

None

Approval of Items on Consent Agenda (Open and Closed Session Minutes from the Board meeting held on February 2, 2021; January 2021 Bank Reconciliation; Bills and Financial Report, and the destruction of tape recorded closed session minutes from August 6, 2019, and September 3, 2019.)

Summary of discussion: All information was included in the board packets. There was no additional bill list.

Motion made by: Mr. Michael Pillion

Motion: To approve the open and closed session minutes from the board meeting held on February 2, 2021, to approve the January 2021 bank reconciliation, the bills, financial report and the destruction of the tape recorded closed session minutes from August 6, 2019, and September 3, 2019.

Motion seconded by: Mrs. Eager

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

"Nays" – none.

Action: Passed

Remaining Agenda Items

Agenda item: Approve the renewal of our Assistive Technology Coalition Membership for 2020-2021

Summary of discussion: Infinetec provides low cost assistive technology, assistive technology evaluations, a variety of professional development opportunities and free webinars. Ms. Chapman announced that there is a no change in the fee schedule from last year for this service. Ms. Chapman recommends the renewal of the membership with Infinetec.

Motion made by: Dr. School

Motion: to approve the renewal of our Assistive Technology Coalition Membership for 2021-2022.

Motion seconded by: Dr. Cushing

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

Action: Passed

Agenda item: Possible resolution for TRS Supplemental Savings Plan

Summary of discussion: Ms. Chapman informed the board of the new TRS Supplemental Savings Plan that will be available in upcoming months. Currently L.E.A.S.E. offers a 403(b) plan, which is managed by a third party. The TRS Supplemental Savings Plan, which if implemented, would have to be managed by L.E.A.S.E. Ms. Chapman informed the board that L.E.A.S.E. is not required to offer this new savings plan and that she does not recommend participating in this plan. The board took no action on this agenda item..

Agenda item: Approve the Circuit Breaker School 2021-22 Calendar

Summary of discussion: Ms. Chapman shared the proposed 2021-2022 C.B.S. calendar. This calendar closely matches Peru Elementary, with a few exceptions and is important because they provide breakfast and lunch for our students.

Motion made by: Dr. Cushing

Motion: to approve the Circuit Breaker School 2021-22 Calendar

Motion seconded by: Mrs. Eager

Roll Call: "Yeas" – Cushing, Eager, Carlson, Eager and Pillion
"Nays" – none

Action: Passed

Dr. Jodi Moore enters meeting at 9:09 a.m.

Motion to Adjourn to Closed Meeting

Date: March 2, 2021

Time: 9:10 a.m.

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

A motion was made by Dr. Moore

Motion: To adjourn to closed meeting to discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees and

Collective bargaining matters between the Alliance and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees

Motion seconded by: Mr. Pillion

Roll Call: "Yeas" – Moore, Pillion, Carlson, Cushing, Eager and School
"Nays" – None

Action: Passed

Time of adjournment of closed meeting and return to open meeting: 9:15 a.m.

Motion to Return to Open Meeting

A motion was made by Dr. Cushing

Motion: To return to open session meeting

Motion seconded by: Mrs. Eager

Roll Call: "Yeas" – Cushing, Eager, Carlson, Moore and Pillion
"Nays" – None

Action: Passed

Agenda Item: Anticipated Action Items after Closed Session

Adopt a resolution relative to reemployment recommendations for specified L.E.A.S.E. staff for the 2021-2022 school year

Summary of discussion: As discussed in Closed Session

A motion was made by Mr. Pillion

Motion: to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS the L.E.A.S.E. central office support staff, Circuit Breaker School support staff and all professional staff have been evaluated as appropriate by both their direct supervisors and by the field and...

WHEREAS all of the above indicated employees have been rated proficient or excellent, therefore be it.....

RESOLVED to employ the tenured L.E.A.S.E. certified staff and the L.E.A.S.E. Central office and Circuit Breaker School non-certified/support staff for the 2021-2022 school year and to specifically offer a...

Second year non-tenure contract for the 2021-22 school year to: Breanne Lockas

Third year non-tenure contract for the 2021-22 school year to: Melissa Cassidy, Jacob Faltin, Carolyn Jones and Vicki Johnson

Fourth year non-tenure contract for the 2021-22 school year to: Heather Fusinetti, Susan Kubera and Kim Payton

Part-time contract not to exceed 100 days to:
Pat Hall

Motion seconded by: Dr. Cushing

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

“Nays” – none.

Action: Passed

Approve employee salaries for the upcoming year(s)

Summary of discussion: as discussed and presented by Executive Director in closed session

Motion made by: Dr. School

Motion: to approve the employee salary increases of 3% annually for each of the next three years.

Motion seconded by: Dr. Jodi Moore

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

“Nays” – none.

Action: Passed

Information Items

C.B.S. monthly report

The board packets contained Ms. Salazar’s C.B.S. report. Ms. Chapman reported that there has been a slight uptick in behavioral issues, however, the MAP data received showed growth. Ms. Chapman explained that it is very common for C.B.S. to experience a dip in benchmark scores between winter and spring and staff is working to keep kids motivated to try to avoid a negative change this year.

Finally, Ms. Chapman announced that there are still two teaching vacancies at C.B.S. and that the school recently held a tornado drill.

Report on the annually required Private/Parochial Needs Assessment

Mary Jane Chapman reported that only three responses were received from the private/parochial schools that were asked to participate, the results of the survey were reported.

Ms. Chapman explained that this is an annual requirement for IDEA grants.

FOIA Request

Ms. Chapman told the board that a FOIA request was received from the Illinois Retired Teachers Association on February 2, 2021. Included in the board packet was the response from Ms. Chapman.

L.E.A.S.E./Legal/Legislative/I.S.B.E./Medicaid initiatives

- Ms. Chapman informed the board that student count data in the PCG Medicaid Administrative Outreach system will need to be updated in order to enter first quarter financials. Ms. Chapman announced that she is hopeful that she can just enter the data for each district and if so, will correspond with each district informing them of this.
- L.E.A.S.E. is part of the pilot program in testing the new software for the TRS/Gemini project through SDS.
- Maintenance of Effort (MOE)-Information is forthcoming and usually comes out in late March.
- Grant allocation will hopefully be out in April. Districts need to start thinking about requirements for “Timely and Meaningful Consultations”, as the meeting must be held by the end May. This information is required to submit the IDEA grant.

Approval of Motion to Adjourn

Motion to adjourn made by Dr. School

Motion seconded by Mr. Pillion

Voice Vote: Yeas – all

Nays – none.

Action: Passed

Time of adjournment: 9:25 a.m.

Post Meeting Action

Date minutes approved: April 13, 2021

Date minutes were available for public inspection: April 13, 2021

Date minutes were posted on Alliance website: April 13, 2021