

LASALLE/PUTNAM COUNTY EDUCATIONAL ALLIANCE FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION

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Date: May 2, 2022

Time: 9:01 a.m.

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

Type of meeting: Public Hearing on the L.E.A.S.E. 2021-2022 Amended Budget

Name of person taking the minutes: Colleen Stefan

Name of person presiding: Dr. Jodi Moore

Members in attendance:

1. Mr. Jamie Craven
2. Dr. Mike Cushing
3. Mrs. Kristi Eager
4. Mr. Ryan Linnig
5. Dr. Jodi Moore
6. Mr. Michael Pillion

Members absent:

1. Dr. Lisa Parker

Also present

Kathy Fox, Executive Director

There were no visitors.

The meeting was called to order at 9:01 a.m.

Summary of discussion: There were no visitors. There were also no questions. The preliminary budget amendment was presented at the April meeting.

There were no comments from the board on the amended 2021-2022 budget.

Approval of Motion to Adjourn

Motion to adjourn made by Dr. Mike Cushing

Motion seconded by Mr. Linnig

Roll Call: "Yeas" – Cushing, Linnig, Craven, Eager, Moore and Pillion

"Nays" - none

Action: Passed

Time of adjournment: 9:02 a.m.

Open Meeting Minutes

Date: May 2, 2022

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: Dr. Jodi Moore

Members in attendance:

1. Mr. Jamie Craven
2. Dr. Michael Cushing
3. Mrs. Kristi Eager
4. Dr. Jodi Moore
5. Mr. Ryan Linnig
5. Mr. Mike Pillion

Members absent: Dr. Lisa Parker

Also present

1. Kathy Fox, Executive Director

Reception of Guests and Visitors & Opportunity for Public Comment

There were none.

Approval of Items on Consent Agenda (Open Session Minutes and Closed Session Minutes from the Board meeting held on April 5, 2022; March 2022 Bank Reconciliation; Bills and Financial Report; There were no tape recorded closed session minutes to destroy.)

Summary of discussion: Mrs. Fox reminded board members that all information stated above was included in the board packets.

Motion made by: Mr. Linnig

Motion: To approve the open session minutes and closed session minutes from the board meeting held on April 5, 2022; March 2022 Bank Reconciliation; Bills and the Financial Report. There were no tape recorded closed session minutes to destroy.

Motion seconded by: Mrs. Eager

Roll Call: "Yeas" – Linnig, Eager, Craven, Cushing, Moore and Pillion
"Nays" – none.

Action: Passed

Remaining Agenda Items

Agenda item: Approve the L.E.A.S.E. 2021-2022 budget amendment.

Summary of discussion: This was previously discussed during the Public Hearing. An ISBE budget form has been created and will need to be signed by all board members in attendance. The budget amendment document was on public display since April 1, 2022.

Motion made by: Mr. Pillion

Motion: to approve the L.E.A.S.E. 2021-2022 budget amendment as presented.

Motion seconded by: Mr. Linnig

Roll Call: "Yeas" – Pillion, Linnig, Craven, Cushing, Eager and Moore

"Nays" – none.

Action: Passed

Agenda item: Set alternate dates for the Fall L.E.A.S.E. Alliance Council Meeting and discuss possible topics/speakers.

Summary of discussion: The board discussed possible dates and venues for the upcoming Alliance Council Meeting. Mrs. Fox told the board that everyone in attendance at last year's meeting enjoyed the meal and setting at Lodi Tap in Utica, IL. Mrs. Fox said we have already reached out to Lodi Tap and am working on trying to get the rental price cut somewhat so it is within our budget and affordable. The Board also discussed ideas for a speaker, which include possibly Kim Mahoney, who works at Embrace, or Terri Engler, our attorney Mrs. Fox suggested holding the event on either on Thursday, September 15th or Thursday, September 22, 2022.

Motion made by: Mr. Linnig

Motion: to approve September 15, 2022, as a tentative date for the Alliance Council Meeting date

Motion seconded by: Eager

Roll Call: "Yeas" – Linnig, Eager, Craven, Cushing, Moore and Pillion

"Nays" – none.

Action: Passed

Agenda item: Approve formal resolutions to recognize retiring L.E.A.S.E. and local district staff.

Summary of discussion: Mrs. Fox noted that historically, each year the Executive Committee passes formal resolutions recognizing retiring administrators and special education staff throughout the county. A list of educators retiring at the end of this school year include Cleve Threadgill, Superintendent-Ottawa Elementary #141; Matt Winchester, Executive Director at R.O.E. #35; Randy Goodbled, Principal-Serena Dist. #2; Dawn Ladzinski, Special Education Teacher-Peru Elementary #124; Julie Rolando, Special Education Teacher-Ottawa Elementary #141 and Karen Sudaj, special Education Teacher-LaSalle Elementary #122. These resolutions are then presented to the retirees who have been long-time, successful employees of their respective school districts within our Cooperative.

Motion made by: Mr. Craven

Motion: to formally approve the following resolution with many thanks for their years of dedicated service to students with disabilities within the L.E.A.S.E. Cooperative.

WHEREAS «Title» «FirstName» «LastName» has provided excellent and exemplary service to the L.E.A.S.E. Special Education Cooperative and specifically to the «School» School District, the L.E.A.S.E. Executive Committee hereby recognizes and officially adopts the following resolution in honor of «Title» «FirstName» «LastName» and the services that this dedicated local district employee has provided to students with disabilities within the L.E.A.S.E. Cooperative.

WHEREAS «Title» «FirstName» «LastName» has dedicated «hisher» career to quality services to students with disabilities within the L.E.A.S.E. Cooperative and . . .

WHEREAS «Title» «FirstName» «LastName» has decided to retire from «hisher» local school district . . .

BE IT THEREFORE FORMALLY RESOLVED that the L.E.A.S.E. Executive Committee on May 3, 2021 unanimously recognizes the outstanding accomplishments of «Title» «FirstName» «LastName» with high

honors for «hisher» excellent years of services to «hisher» students, to the «School» School District and to the entire LaSalle/Putnam County Educational Alliance for Special Education.

Affirmed with great appreciation on this 2nd day of May, 2022.

Motion seconded by: Dr. Cushing

Roll Call: “Yeas” – Craven, Cushing, Eager, Linnig and Moore

“Nays” – none.

Action: Passed

Adjourn to Closed Meeting

Date: May 2, 2022

Time: 9:10 a.m.

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

A motion was made by Mr. Pillion

Motion: 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.

Motion seconded by: Mr. Linnig

Roll Call: “Yeas” – Pillion, Linnig, Craven, Cushing, Eager and Moore

“Nays” – none.

Action: Passed

Time of adjournment of closed meeting and return to open meeting: 9:57 a.m.

Motion to Return to Open Meeting

Motion made by: Mr. Linnig

Motion: To return to Open Meeting

Motion seconded by: Mr. Pillion

Roll Call: “Yeas” – Linnig, Pillion, Craven, Cushing, Eager and Moore

“Nays” – none.

Action: Passed

Anticipated Action items

Agenda item: Approve a resolution related to the employment of staff

Summary of discussion: As discussed in Closed Session

Motion made by: Mr. Linnig

Motion: to adopt the following resolution and approve the hiring of Emma Riedesel as School Psychologist

WHEREAS a vacancy exists for a School Psychologist and . . .

WHEREAS a suitable and fully qualified applicant has now been found for this position, therefore be it ...

RESOLVED to employ Emma Riedesel for the 2022-23 school year at the salary of \$75,210.

Motion seconded by: Mr. Craven

Roll Call: "Yeas" – Linnig, Craven, Cushing, Eager, Moore and Pillion

"Nays" – none.

Action: Passed

Agenda item: Approve a resolution related to the employment of staff

Summary of discussion: As discussed in Closed Session

Motion made by: Dr. Cushing

Motion: to adopt the following resolution and approve the hiring of Niccolle Boaz as Circuit Breaker School secretary

WHEREAS a vacancy exists for a Circuit Breaker School secretary and . . .

WHEREAS a suitable and fully qualified applicant has now been found for this position, therefore be it ...

RESOLVED to employ Niccolle Boaz for the 2022-23 school year at a rate of \$19.25 per hour

Motion seconded by: Mr. Linnig

Roll Call: "Yeas" – Cushing, Linnig, Craven, Eager, Moore and Pillion

"Nays" – none.

Action: Passed

Agenda item: Approve a resolution related to the employment of staff

Summary of discussion: As discussed in Closed Session

Motion made by: Mrs. Eager

Motion: to adopt the following resolution and approve the hiring of Chris Salazar as Circuit Breaker School Maintenance Director

WHEREAS a vacancy exists for a Circuit Breaker School Maintenance Director and . . .

WHEREAS a suitable and fully qualified applicant has now been found for this position, therefore be it ...

RESOLVED to employ Chris Salazar for the 2022-23 school year at a rate of \$23 per hour

Motion seconded by: Mr. Pillion

Roll Call: "Yeas" – Eager, Pillion, Craven, Cushing, Linnig and Moore

“Nays” – none.

Action: Passed

Information Items

C.B.S. monthly report

Board members were presented the C.B.S. monthly report. This month, a couple documents were put in their board packet, while the other reports were given to them at the meeting. Mrs. Fox reported that it has been an up and down month, with one suspension due to a bussing issue. There will be six or seven new students starting for the next school year. Mrs. Fox also reported that upcoming activities include PBIS outdoors activities along with a bowling field trip.

Preliminary look at the L.E.A.S.E. FY23 budget put on public display May 6th and to be acted upon after our June 7th formal budget hearing

Mrs. Fox reminded the board that the FY23 budget was included in the board packet and that the budget is preliminary.

First reading of policy changes/update

Mrs. Fox announced policy updates that are recommended by PRESS. They are: 2:20 *Powers and Duties*; 2:220 *Meetings Procedures*; 2:260 *Uniform Grievance Procedures*; 3:40 *Director (Superintendent)*; 3:50 *Administrative Personnel Other Than the Director*; 3:60 *Administrative Responsibility of the Building Principal*; 4:60 *Purchase and Contracts*; 4:110 *Transportation*; 4:120 *Food Services*; 4:160 *Safe Work Environment*; 4:170 *Safety*; 5:10 *Equal Employment Opportunity and Minority Recruitment*; 5:20 *Workplace Harassment Prohibited* and 5:30 *Hiring Process and Criteria*;

L.E.A.S.E. assistance available for special education pupil reimbursement claims and billings

Mrs. Fox announced that the memo will be sent out to districts very soon. The memo explains that assistance will be available from L.E.A.S.E. for any districts that request it.

Update on recent L.E.A.S.E. / Legislative / Medicaid and I.S.B.E. initiative

- Equip for Equality Lawsuit update: Mrs. Fox announced that she is meeting with ISBE this coming Thursday, May 5th. Mrs. Fox stated that ISBE will be sending out a survey to districts to see if they are providing Special Education services to detainees in detention homes.

Discussion was held on this lawsuit and board members questioned how the money is being spent that went to the detention center for its special education services. Mrs. Fox also informed the board that the handbook at the detention center will be updated and made current.

- HVAC: Mrs. Fox told the board that the ARP grant through the LaSalle County Board hasn't been approved yet. Mrs. Fox told the board that she is hoping that the board vote on the approval of the grant at its next board meeting on May 12th. Mrs. Fox is hoping she will be invited to attend this meeting.

Approval of Motion to Adjourn

Motion to adjourn made by Dr. School

Motion seconded by Dr. Moore

Action: Passed

Time of adjournment: 9:33 a.m.

Post Meeting Action

Date minutes approved: June 7, 2022

Date minutes were available for public inspection: June 7, 2022

Date minutes were posted on Alliance website: June 7, 2022