

REGION III SPECIAL EDUCATION COOPERATIVE**EXECUTIVE MEETING****April 17, 2024****CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Rob Miller, Chairperson at 10:07am. Roll was as follows:

Present: Dr. Jill Griffin, Mr. Monty Aldrich, Mr. Rob Miller, Mr. Todd Dugan, Dr. Kevin Bowman, Dr. Pat Anderson

Not in attendance:

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS: No visitors attended the meeting.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**Region Recognition**

Mrs. Lenger shared with the board that she recognized her team at Lewis & Clark Elementary school. The team members recognized were Allie Kesler, Leah Crook, Jessica Perry and Nicky Clowers. She stated the team has been dealing with some challenging situations recently and they have remained positive and done a great job collecting data and problem solving. Mrs. Lenger also stated she recognized Kara Williams, OT, for moving her team forward with sharing her wealth of knowledge and making sure that the classroom teacher is a part of the OT team supporting the students.

CPI Tidbits

Mrs. Lenger shared with the board the CPI Tidbits Newsletter to share with their staff members. She stated the handout is on reflecting on their training and situations they have been placed in and working to improve on their skills.

Journeys Graduates

Mrs. Lenger shared with the board that there are two students who will be graduating this year from Journeys. She mentioned that one of those students has already completed his course work and the other will be finishing up in the next day or two. She stated that both of the students will be participating in their home districts graduation ceremony, one being from EAWR High School and the other from Civic Memorial High School.

TMC Meeting

Mrs. Lenger informed the board that she will be holding her Timely and Meaningful Consultation meeting on May 6, 2024 and the Region III office at 3pm. She stated she has been in contact with the coordinators about sending out letters to parents of homeschooled students and/or parochial schools to inform them about the meeting. She mentioned to the board she has not received anything from the state about projected allocation of funds for this year. Mrs. Lenger shared with the board last year's allocations by district which were Bethalto-\$26,213, Bunker Hill-\$0, East Alton-\$1800, EA/WRHS-\$5925, Southwestern-\$10,455, and WR/Hartford-\$0.

Maroon and Gold Engraving, ISVI School Business

Mrs. Lenger shared with the board that when she had been working with Jun Construction on the signage for Journeys school she had Kristy Duckels, VI teacher, look over them to make sure they were correct. Kristy found mistakes in the braille and the company Jun Construction used for the signs refused to correct them the way they needed to be. She stated that Kristy informed her that ISVI has a school business making the signs. Mrs. Lenger informed the board she ordered the signs through ISVI and they were easy to work with. She mentioned that Kristy has been paying attention when out in district buildings to make sure their signage is correct and everything looks correct.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Financial

Mrs. Lenger provided the budget update. The percentage of funds expended in each area of the budget is reported. She stated that nearly all budgeted amounts for Professional Development have been expended. She informed the board that our administrative budget is at 92%.

Personnel

Mrs. Lenger stated she is starting to look at needs for the 24-25 school year. She mentioned she just offered a teaching position for the transition room to a paraprofessional who is graduating. She informed the board that the current Interpreter is moving to Pre-K. She also informed the board she still has a need for one teacher for next year.

Current Programs

Mrs. Lenger provided an enrollment update. She mentioned that she continues to get referrals from the districts. She stated that East Alton had a student move in their district from Indiana who was placed in a behavior program similar to ours. She also stated that Journeys has a referral from WR/Hartford with the intake meeting next week.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Registered Behavior Technician Program

Mrs. Lenger stated that she spoke with Heather Lane, Director at Niles School District. She stated that Niles has been implementing this program since 2017. She mentioned they are a very large district and employ 9 BCBA's and pay their BCBA's off the certified staff salary schedule. She stated all of their BCBA's have at least a Master's degree. Niles School District runs a Registered Behavior Technician Program at least once a year depending on how many paraprofessionals they have interested in the program. The paraprofessionals have to have at least one year experience with the district before applying to be in the program. The training is 40 hours and runs 12 weeks. The paraprofessionals in the program stay after the students leave for 2 hours a day and Niles does not pay them for the training, however the district pays for the exam fees and certification cost. Once the paraprofessional completes the certification the district pays them a stipend of \$1.00 more per hour. The district pays them through a stipend because if the paraprofessional decides not to renew the certification, which is a yearly process, then the district doesn't have to adjust the paraprofessionals contract. Dr. Griffin wanted to clarify that the Niles school district does not pay the paraprofessional for the training. Mrs. Lenger stated that is correct, unless some of the training is during the paraprofessionals normal work day. The BCBA's then provide supervision to the paraprofessionals 5% of the time doing behavior therapy responsibilities. She stated that Heather Lane was a wealth of knowledge and offered to share documents with her. Dr. Griffin asked if Mrs. Lenger had posted for the BCBA position yet. Mrs. Lenger stated she had posted to multiple sites including Indeed with hopes of reaching more applicants. Dr. Griffin suggested reaching out to local Universities to post on their job boards.

Press Policy Update:First Reading

Mrs. Lenger shared with the board Policy 114 and asked if anyone had any questions or concerns. The board did not have any comments on the proposed changes.

2:140 Communications To and From the Governing & Executive Boards-Review

2:260 Uniform Grievance Procedure-updated to incorporate a title change to 2:265

2:265 Title IX Grievance Procedure-title change

4:20 Fund Balances-review

4:110 Transportation-review

4:190 Targeted School Violence Prevention Program-Updated in response to Threat Assessment in Virginia Public Schools:Model Policies, Procedures, and Guidelines, 5th Ed.

5:10 Equal Employment Opportunity and Minority Recruitment-Legal References are Updated

5:20 Workplace Harassment Prohibited-Title is Updated to delete the term sexual harassment

5:100 Staff Development Program-Rewritten to streamline the school in-service training into eight categories

5:35 Compliance with the Fair Labor Standards Act-for review

5:40 Communicable and Chronic Infectious Disease-for review

5:300 Schedules and Employment Year-legal references updated
 7:10 Equal Educational Opportunities-legal references updated
 7:20 Harassment of Students Prohibited-updated in response to 105 ILCS 5/27-23.7 adding protected categories to the prohibition on bullying and a title change to 2:265
 7:180 Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment-updated in response to 105 ILCS 5/27-23.7 requires districts to report verified allegations of bullying to ISBE and requires notification of parents within 24 hours

CONSENT AGENDA/ACTION ITEMS

Dr. Kevin Bowman moved to approve the consent agenda including the regular board minutes and monthly bills. Dr. Pat Anderson seconded the motion. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes,6-0.

Mrs. Lenger stated there were a few changes in the language. The changes were the amount of insurance coverage, naming the classroom location as Bethalto East Primary School room A105, and the renewal/extension of the lease process. Dr. Pat Anderson moved to approve the Bethalto classroom lease agreement with noted changes. Mr. Todd Dugan seconded the motion. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes, 6-0.

Dr. Pat Anderson moved to approve Journeys School calendar for the 24-25 school year. Dr. Kevin Bowman seconded the motion. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes, 6-0.

Dr. Pat Anderson moved to approve employment of the ESY staff, Certified staff-Margaret Fitzgerald, Allie Kesler and Julie McDonald, Non-certified staff-Laura Kimbro, William McLemore, Jamie Fosnock, Amanda Dey, Sierra LaTempt, Sarah Link and Shawnerly Davidson. Dr. Jill Griffin seconded the motion. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes, 6-0.

Dr. Pat Anderson moved to approve the board meeting dates for the 24-25 school year with the presented changes. Dr. Jill Griffin seconded the motion. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes, 6-0.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr.Todd Dugan moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:56am. Dr. Pat Anderson seconded. Motion carried with Members Voting, Aye-6, Nay-0.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting for the Region III Executive Board will be held on Wednesday, May 15, 2024 at 10:00 am.

Respectfully Submitted,

Katie Wieckhorst, Administrative Assistant

Mr. Rob Miller, Chairperson