

REGION III SPECIAL EDUCATION COOPERATIVE**EXECUTIVE MEETING****January 15, 2025****CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Kevin Bowman, Chairperson at 10:08 am. Roll Call was as follows:

Present: Dr. Jill Griffin, Mrs. Nancy Werden, Mr. Rob Miller, Dr. Todd Dugan, Dr. Kevin Bowman, Dr. Pat Anderson

Not in attendance:

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS: No visitors were present.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Mrs. Lenger informed the board that the third parent night of the school year will be held on February 12th at Bethalto East from 6:30-8:00 pm. It will focus on using positive reinforcement at home. The training will be open for all cooperating district's parents and staff. She mentioned the flyer will go out soon and child care will be provided.

Mrs. Lenger shared the CPI Tidbits newsletter with the board and will share it with the coordinators. She stated this is the time of year when everyone needs a refresher on CPI, handling behaviors, and staying positive.

Mrs. Lenger informed the board that the cooperative held an Adopt-A-Family Event again this year. She stated that 16 of our families were assisted with 29 children receiving gifts. She mentioned we received cash donations from Jun Construction and the Big Sisters Program at EAWRHS. She stated the effort and coordination of her staff to make this event a success was very heartwarming.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT**Financial**

Mrs. Lenger provided the budget update. The percentage of funds expended in each area of the budget was reported. She is monitoring the CLIP program supply budget. Unemployment is in the CLIP budget and there are currently no claims.

Personnel

Mrs. Lenger informed the board that she is still looking to fill 1 COTA. She stated she has offered the position to two applicants, however, they have declined because of the salary. She mentioned that she is receiving plenty of applications, but even with recognizing years of experience in a pediatric setting, we are struggling to fill the position. She is continuing with interviews this week. Mrs. Lenger also mentioned she has a paraprofessional who will be going out on maternity leave that she will need to cover and she will be working on that soon.

Current Programs

Mrs. Lenger provided the board with an update on the programs. She stated there are currently 48 students within all the programs. She mentioned a few students have gone back to the district and 1 student from Allie Kesler's classroom has moved out of the district.

FOR DISCUSSION AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**FY 25 IDEA Excess Cost Application**

Mrs. Lenger discussed the FY 25 IDEA Excess Cost Application being due on January 15th. She informed the board that they extended the due date to March 15th.

Press Policy Update 117: Second Reading

Mrs. Lenger shared with the board the second reading of Press Policy Update 117. No one had any questions.

Maintenance Grant Approval

Mrs. Lenger informed the board that the Maintenance Grant was approved with the exception of the landscaping work. She informed the board she would get the updated numbers out to them.

Separate Public Special Education Day School Application

Mrs. Lenger informed the board she submitted the Separate Public Education Day School Application for the cooperative and is hoping the Journeys building will qualify for reimbursement. She stated this is the legislation that was passed to equalize the separate public day school and private day school reimbursement. She mentioned Journeys was listed on their sample list, however, the information indicated this doesn't mean they will qualify for reimbursement. Mrs. Lenger stated her only concern is they are not exclusively special ed. since they educate administratively placed students. She also stated that if they qualify for reimbursement it would include the Journey to Success Program too.

CLOSED SESSION

Dr. Pat Anderson moved to enter into a closed session at 10:23 a.m. Mr. Rob Miller seconded the motion. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes, 6-0. Motion carried. Dr. Todd Dugan moved to come out of the closed session at 10:35 a.m. Mrs. Nancy Werden seconded the motion. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes, 6-0. Motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA/ACTION ITEMS

Dr. Pat Anderson moved to approve the consent agenda including the bills, closed session minutes, and regular board minutes. Dr. Jill Griffin seconded. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes, 6-0.

Dr. Todd Dugan moved to approve Press Policy 117 update. Mrs. Nancy Werden seconded the motion. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes, 6-0.

Dr. Pat Anderson moved to approve the Treasurer's Bond, effective February 16, 2025. Mrs. Nancy Werden seconded the motion. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes, 6-0.

Dr. Jill Griffin moved to approve the closed board meeting minutes from July 2024 to December 2024 stay closed. Dr. Pat Anderson seconded the motion. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes, 6-0.

ADJOURNMENT

Dr. Todd Dugan moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:37 am. 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, February 19, 2025, at 10:00 am.

Respectfully Submitted,

Katie Wieckhorst, Administrative Assistant

Dr. Kevin Bowman, Chairperson