REGION III SPECIAL EDUCATION COOPERATIVE

EXECUTIVE MEETING

August 21, 2024

CALL TO ORDER
The meeting was called to order by Dr. Kevin Bowman, Board Member at 10:03am. Roll was as follows:

Present: Dr. Kevin Bowman, Dr. Pat Anderson, Mrs. Nancy Werden, Mr. Rob Miller

Not in attendance: Dr. Jill Griffin, Mr. Todd Dugan

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS: No visitors attended the meeting.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Mrs. Lenger informed the board that Region III held their Beginning of Year Meeting at Riverbend Family Ministries on a district institute day. She stated that the CPI Refresher was held on this day and there was also a guest speaker, Tara Hurst, who focused on self care for the staff. Mrs. Lenger wanted to thank RFM for letting Region III use their meeting space.

Mr. Miller asked the board if it is mandated to hold training for teachers on trauma before the beginning of the school year on an institute day. Mrs. Lenger stated that if you use CPI, then there are certain guidelines you must follow for additional trauma training, one being an extra 5 hours of training on specific areas provided by the state, but she wasn't aware that the training had to be held before the start of the school year. The board agreed to investigate the requirements for training and make sure their districts were following them.

Mrs. Lenger shared with the board that some of the Region III staff participated in the Oiler Nation Celebration back to school bash. She mentioned that they handed out popcorn and sensory stickers to the students and parents. She stated her staff was very impressed with the turnout.

Mrs. Lenger shared the name of the new transition program with the board, which is Journey to Success. She stated there are three students in the program. The students are shopping on Mondays for supplies they need for the week. She also mentioned the students will be volunteering at the Salvation Army on Tuesdays where they will stock and organize food and hygiene items, light cleaning in the gym and food service area, and helping clients with grocery pick up.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT
Financial
FY25 Budget First Reading
Mrs. Lenger provided the first reading of the budget for FY25, which is in three parts, tuition, administrative and professional development. She stated that there are 5 teachers, 3 long term teacher substitutes and 12 paraprofessionals in the CLIP program. Journeys program consists of 3 teachers, 4 paraprofessionals and Kim Hood is also the Program Facilitator and is paid a stipend, BCBA, Audiologist, SLP, OT, PT and COTA and PTA. Dr. Bowman asked if Region III used the regular budget form. Mrs. Lenger answered yes and stated that Region III receives a flat amount of evidence based funding. She stated the Administrative Fee had a small increase of 1.14% from FY24 because of moving some of the EBF money into tuition cost. She stated that there is $36,000 EBF in the administrative budget and the Cooperative received an outreach adjustment of $15,000 to offset costs. The in-service budget is $34,093 for the year. The inservice costs are funded by the IDEA grant.

Mrs. Lenger asked the board if they were participating in the Madison County Institute Day on October 11. She mentioned that our BCBA and our OT have put in a proposal to present.

Mrs. Lenger shared with the board the estimated bills for all programs for the FY25 year. She stated if the cooperative assists an outside district, then they are charged an extra fee which then decreases the cooperating districts' bills. Mr. Miller asked the board how tuition is set for an outside student attending their district. Dr. Bowman stated the amount of tuition is based on the per cap amount.

Personnel
Mrs. Lenger stated we currently have one part-time COTA position open and have a need for a full-time LPN for a one on one with a student. The student is currently homebound. Dr. Bowman suggested paying the parent as the nurse, so the student can attend school. Mrs. Lenger also stated that she has an interview today for the COTA position.

Current Programs
Mrs. Lenger provided a list of programs and their locations with the number of students in each program. The kindergarten classroom housed at Bethalto East has 3 students from Bethalto. There are 2 classrooms at Lewis & Clark Elementary: One classroom consists primarily of students with autism and houses 5 students. The other classroom is an ACT room with 4 students. The ACT classroom at Lewis & Clark Jr. High consists of 4 students and the autism room at East Alton Middle School consists of 5 students. The Life Skills classroom at East Alton Wood River High School consists of 9 students. Our new transition room, Journey to Success, consists of 3 students and there are three classrooms at Journeys School with 4 students in one room, 5 in another room and 6 in the third room.

Mr. Miller asked Mrs. Lenger how the high school cafeteria staff was doing with providing breakfast and lunch. She stated everything was going well and Sylvia is great to work with. She also stated the amount of food provided has increased switching from the elementary school to the high school. She informed the board that the gentlemen running the lunches resigned after the first week of school, but she has a replacement for him.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT
Administrator and Teacher Salary and Benefits Report SY2024
Ms. Lenger shared with the board the administrator and Teacher Salary and Benefits Report and informed them it was on the Region III website.

Health Insurance Renewal, Blue Cross/Blue Shield
Mrs. Lenger shared with the board the new renewal rate on average was 2.3 percent. The initial proposed rate increase was 5.3 percent, but our broker worked with BCBS to get us a lower rate increase.

Policy Update 115, First Reading
Mrs. Lenger shared with the board policy 115 for review and the corrected language in 4:80.

Resignation Letters
Mrs. Lenger informed the board she received two resignation letters, one from William McLemore, a paraprofessional who had been with the cooperative for four years and another from Jennifer Courtoise, a part-time COTA.

Registered Behavior Technician Training Program
Mrs. Lenger informed the board that the Registered Behavior Technician Training Program is ready to be implemented. She shared with the board the handout that will be given to staff who are interested in the program. Mrs. Lenger stated she held a coordinator's meeting last Friday, and Genevieve Schuh, BCBA, discussed the program with them and the coordinator's decided to have Genevieve discuss the program to the staff in their districts who are interested in going through the training. Mrs. Lenger also stated that Bethalto School District also wanted Genevieve to discuss the program with their union. Mrs. Lenger requires that all staff must be employed

with the district/cooperative for one year before they are able to take the training. The training consists of 40 hours of online training at the staff members' own cost of $87 dollars. Then once the training is completed there are competency assessments that must be completed with the BCBA with a $50 application cost paid by the district/cooperative as well as a $45 exam fee paid by the district/cooperative. They then have to have ongoing monthly supervision for 5 percent of the time they are using behavioral strategies, by the BCBA.

CONSENT AGENDA/ACTION ITEMS

Mr. Rob Miller 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,4-0.

Mr. Rob Miller moved to approve the employment of Non-Certified Staff (Paraprofessionals) Linelle Vieregge, Erica Sechrest, Amber Deford and Kim Colvin. Mrs. Nancy Werden seconded the motion. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes, 4-0.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Rob Miller moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:46am. Dr. Pat Anderson seconded. Motion carried with Members Voting, Aye-4, Nay-0.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting for the Region III Executive Board will be held on Wednesday, September 18, 2024, at 5:00 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Katie Wieckhorst

Katie Wieckhorst, Administrative Assistant

Kevin E. Bowman

Dr. Kevin Bowman, Chairperson

REGION III SPECIAL EDUCATION COOPERATIVE
PUBLIC HEARING MEETING
SEPTEMBER 18, 2024

CALL TO ORDER
The meeting was called to order by Dr. Kevin Bowman, Chairperson, at 5:05 pm. Roll call was as follows:

Present: Mrs. Nancy Werden, Mr. Rob Miller, Dr. Todd Dugan, Dr. Kevin Bowman, and Dr. Patrick Anderson

Not Present: Dr. Jill Griffin

Visitors: Mrs. Donna Loy, Southwestern Board Member

PUBLIC COMMENT
There were no visitors with public comment.

FINANCIAL
Mrs. Lenger presented the FY 2025 Region III Special Education Budget.

ADJOURNMENT
Dr. Patrick Anderson moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:09 pm. Mrs. Nancy Werden Seconded. Motion carried with Members Voting, Aye-5, Nay-0.

Respectfully submitted,
K Wieckhorst
Katie Wieckhorst, Board Secretary
Ken E. Bowman
Dr. Kevin Bowman, Chairperson

REGION III SPECIAL EDUCATION COOPERATIVE

EXECUTIVE MEETING

September 18, 2024

CALL TO ORDER
The meeting was called to order by Dr. Kevin Bowman, Chairperson at 5:10 pm. Roll Call was as follows:

Present: Dr. Jill Griffin(arrived at 5:21 pm), Mrs. Nancy Werden, Mr. Rob Miller, Dr. Todd Dugan, Dr. Kevin Bowman, Dr. Patrick Anderson

Not in attendance:

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS: Mrs. Donna Loy, Southwestern Board Member

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS
Mrs. Lenger informed the board that she will provide Parent Training/Support Events throughout the school year. The first event will be held at Lewis and Clark Elementary School on October 15, 2024, focusing on Toilet Training Children with Disabilities. She stated it would be open to all interested families in our cooperating districts. She plans to provide babysitting. Mrs. Lenger mentioned they are working on having an Art Gallery and Pictures with Santa in December, a training on Using Positive Reinforcement at Home in February, and an Informational Mixer for Parents on Community Events and Activities in April.

Mrs. Lenger shared the CPI Tidbits newsletter with the board. She mentioned that the group of individuals who created the tidbits disbanded, but she will continue sharing the tidbits from the past year.

Mrs. Lenger provided the board with an update on the Journey to Success Program. The students are shopping on Mondays for supplies they need for the week. She stated that the students are volunteering at the Salvation Army on Tuesdays where they stock and organize food and hygiene items, provide light cleaning in the gym and food service area, and help clients with grocery pick up. She also mentioned Gloria, from the Salvation Army, is providing the students with feedback on how they are doing and ways they can do things more efficiently, which is a great life skills lesson. On Fridays, they are cooking in their classroom or the big kitchen at the church. Mr. Miller asked how many students were in the program and how things were going. Mrs. Lenger informed the board there are currently 3 students and everything is going great. She said the teacher just made contact with a representative from Impact, which is an organization that has a job skills program that will come into the schools and provide training.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT
Current Programs
Mrs. Lenger provided the board with an update on the programs. She stated there are currently 49 students within all the programs with students moving in and out. She also stated districts are reevaluating students and moving them back to the district. She mentioned there are currently 2 referrals.

Personnel
Mrs. Lenger informed the board that we are completely staffed. She mentioned that the social worker, Ashley Weant, whom we share with Bunker Hill has been working hard to fulfill the needs of our students and their families. She provides direct services to 20 students every week. On Tuesdays, she oversees the students who volunteer in the kitchen for the luncheon provided by the church for people in our community.

FOR DISCUSSION AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Press Policy Update: Second Reading

2:125 Governing & Executive Board Member Compensation; Expenses
2:160 Cooperative Attorney
4:15 Identity Protection
4:70 Resource Conservation
4:80 Accounting and Audits
5:130 Responsibilities Concerning Internal Information
5:180 Temporary Illness or Temporary Incapacity
5:200 Terms and Conditions of Employment and Dismissal
5:290 Employment Termination and Suspensions
6:110 Programs for Students At Risk of Academic Failure and/or Dropping Out of School and Graduation Incentives Program
7:170 Vandalism

FY 25 Budget, 2nd Reading

Mrs. Lenger shared the budget with the board for the second reading.

RBT Training Program

Mrs. Lenger stated that Genevieve, BCBA, has met with some of the districts to explain the program and will be meeting with the others soon. She stated all districts have submitted names of paraprofessionals who will be going through the training program. Mrs. Lenger stated that BUSHUE informed her to discuss payment options with their attorneys. The breakdown of the cost for the RBT training program is $87 for the 40 hours of training, $50 to register, and $45 for the test.

Maintenance Grant FY25

Mrs. Lenger shared with the board that the FY25 maintenance grant is now open. She stated she is accepting bids on repainting the office, resurfacing and repair work to the parking lot, carpet cleaning, and having 3 doors at Journeys rekeyed.

CONSENT AGENDA/ACTION ITEMS

Mr. Rob Miller moved to approve the consent agenda including the bills and regular board minutes. Dr. Patrick Anderson seconded. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes, 6-0.

Dr. Jill Griffin moved to approve the closed board meeting minutes from January 2024 to June 2024 stay closed. Dr. Todd Dugan seconded the motion. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes, 6-0.

Dr. Jill Griffin moved to approve Press Policy 115 as presented. Dr. Patrick Anderson seconded the motion. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes, 6-0.

Mrs. Nancy Werden moved to approve the employment of Matthew Atwood, COTA at .8 FTE. Mr. Rob Miller seconded. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes, 6-0. Motion carried.

Dr. Patrick Anderson moved to approve the Journeys E-Learning Plan for FY25-FY27. Mrs. Nancy Werden seconded the motion. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes, 6-0.

Dr. Jill Griffin moved to approve the Region III FY25 Budget. Dr. Todd Dugan seconded. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes, 6-0.

ADJOURNMENT

Dr. Patrick Anderson moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:36 pm Dr. Kevin Bowman 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, October 16, 2024 , at 10:00 am.

Respectfully Submitted,

K Wieckhorst

Katie Wieckhorst, Administrative Assistant

Kevin E. Bowman

Dr. Kevin Bowman, Chairperson

REGION III SPECIAL EDUCATION COOPERATIVE
GOVERNING BOARD MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 18, 2024

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Kevin Bowman, Chairperson at 6:06 pm. Roll Call was as follows:

Present:
Mr. Kevin Bowman, Southwestern District 9
Donna Loy, Southwestern District 9
Dr. Patrick Anderson, Wood River Hartford District 15
Amy Allen, Wood River Hartford District 15
Dr. Jill Griffin, Bethalto District 8
Todd Meiser, Bethalto District 8
Mrs. Nancy Werden, East Alton District 13
Margaret Foiles, East Alton District 13
Mr. Rob Miller, East Alton Wood River District 14
Mike Redman, East Alton Wood River District 14
Dr.Todd Dugan, Bunker Hill District 8
Julie Fulton, Bunker Hill District 8

Not Present:

Ms. Amy Allen moved to approve the August 2024-June 2024 minutes and past actions of the Region III Special Education Executive Board as presented. Ms. Margaret Foiles seconded the motion. Roll call was taken with members voting Yes 6-0. Motion carried.

Mrs. Lenger presented the FY25 Budget. There were no questions. Ms. Donna Loy made a motion to approve the FY25 Budget as presented. Mr. Mike Redman seconded the motion. Roll Call was taken with members voting Yes 6-0. Motion carried.

Mr. Todd Meiser moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:12 pm. Ms. Margaret Foiles seconded. Motion carried with members voting Aye 6, Nay-0.

Respectfully submitted,

K Wieckhorst

Katie Wieckhorst, Board Secretary

Kevin E. Bowman

Dr. Kevin Bowman, Chairperson

REGION III SPECIAL EDUCATION COOPERATIVE

EXECUTIVE MEETING

October 16, 2024

CALL TO ORDER
The meeting was called to order by Dr. Kevin Bowman, Chairperson at 10:04 am. Roll Call was as follows:

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

Not in attendance: Dr. Todd Dugan

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS:

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS
Mrs. Lenger informed the board that they provided their first Parent Training/Support Event on Toilet Training for Students with Disabilities last night at Lewis and Clark Elementary School. There were five families in attendance and it was very successful. She plans to hold this training again later in the year. Mrs. Lenger stated the next event will be an Art Gallery and Pictures with Santa in December, a training on Using Positive Reinforcement at Home in February, and an Informational Mixer for Parents on Community Events and Activities in April.

Mrs. Lenger shared the CPI Tidbits newsletter with the board and informed them she is sharing them with the coordinators.

Mrs. Lenger provided the board with an update on the Journey to Success Program. She informed the board that the class is starting a business making gift tags for various holidays beginning with Christmas. They plan to use the money they raise to help support their community outings and cooking lessons they complete in the classroom. She stated she would share the order form with them once they are complete.

Mrs. Lenger discussed participation in a networking group with other cooperative directors in the state led by Angela Zajac, Director of Eisenhower Cooperative in Crestwood, Illinois. This group will meet remotely 4 times a year with the first meeting tomorrow.

Mrs. Lenger shared with the board that Klaudia Taul is organizing an Adopt-A-Family again this year. Last year the program supported 13 families with gifts for the holidays.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT
Financial
Mrs. Lenger provided the budget update. The percentage of funds expended in each area of the budget was reported.

Personnel
Mrs. Lenger informed the board that we are completely staffed. She mentioned she is contemplating hiring a paraprofessional since the program at Bethalto East went from 3 students to 6 students in a week. She mentioned there are 5 new paraprofessionals this year and they are working through training with them. She stated that the teachers who oversee these paraprofessionals fill out a form bi-weekly to support growth and identify areas of continued training.

Current Programs
Mrs. Lenger provided the board with an update on the programs. She mentioned that a former Wood River Hartford student transferred to Brussels, but stated since Brussels doesn't have special education services she agreed to

service him in the same program. She stated there are currently 51 students within all the programs. She also stated districts are reevaluating students and moving them back to the district when appropriate.

FOR DISCUSSION AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

RBT Training Program

Mrs. Lenger stated that there are currently 11 individuals signed up for the RBT Training. The breakdown of the 11 individuals who are signed up are 7 individuals from Region III, Bunker Hill has 1, Southwestern has 2, and East Alton Wood River High School has 1.

Auditor's Report

Mrs. Lenger shared with the board that Donna from Dennis Rose's office was in last week and is working on finishing up the audit. She stated that Donna is still waiting on a few letters from outside districts that Region III provides Audiology services to, so she has requested an extension.

Press Policy Update 116: First Reading

Mrs. Lenger asked the board if the Title IX training has to be in person or online. Dr. Griffin understood it had to be in person, but Mr. Miller stated they just completed theirs online. She also asked the board's thoughts on who should serve as the Coordinators vs who should be the complaint managers. Mr. Miller stated that he would have the superintendent /director in the complaint manager position.

LEA Determination Letters

Mrs. Lenger shared with the board that all the districts met the LEA requirements this year.

CONSENT AGENDA/ACTION ITEMS

Dr. Pat Anderson moved to approve the consent agenda including the bills, regular board minutes, Public Hearing Minutes, and Governing Board Meeting Minutes. Dr. Jill Griffin seconded. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes, 5-0.

ADJOURNMENT

Dr. Patrick Anderson moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:30 am Dr. Kevin Bowman seconded. Motion carried with Members Voting, Aye-5, Nay-0.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting for the Region III Executive Board will be held on Wednesday, November 20, 2024, at 10:00 am.

Respectfully Submitted,

K Wieckhorst

Katie Wieckhorst, Administrative Assistant

Kevin E. Bowman

Dr. Kevin Bowman, Chairperson

REGION III SPECIAL EDUCATION COOPERATIVE

EXECUTIVE MEETING

November 20, 2024

CALL TO ORDER
The meeting was called to order by Dr. Kevin Bowman, Chairperson at 10:19 am. Roll Call was as follows:

Present: Dr. Kevin Bowman, Dr. Pat Anderson, Mrs. Nancy Werden, Dr. Todd Dugan

Not in attendance: Dr. Jill Griffin, Mr. Rob Miller

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS: Donna Haget, CPA with Dennis Rose and Associates, P.C.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS
Mrs. Lenger informed the board that the second parent night will be on December 17th at East Alton Middle School in the Cafeteria from 5:30-7:00 pm. It will showcase artwork submitted by students in our programs. Mrs. Lenger wanted to thank Ryan McGowen, Principal at East Alton Middle School, for allowing us to use his building for this event.

Mrs. Lenger shared the CPI Tidbits newsletter with the board and informed them she is sharing them with the coordinators.

Mrs. Lenger provided the board with an update on the Journey to Success Program. She informed the board that the class has started a business making gift tags for various holidays beginning with Christmas. She stated they received some donations to help purchase the items needed for making the gift tags.

Mrs. Lenger informed the board that the RIF Committee met on Thursday, November 14, 2024, to discuss the procedures for the sequence of honorable dismissal list and didn't make any changes. She stated they set the date for submission as March 14, 2025, and if anyone was on the list then certified staff would be notified on April 8, 2025.

Mrs. Lenger shared with the board that the Coordinators would be attending the IAASE Conference in February. She mentioned they are renting a house through VRBO to save on the cost of lodging.

Mrs. Lenger shared positive news with the board stating Kim Hood's classroom was at the Salvation Army for PE. There were also students from Marquette High School who were there to volunteer. They had stopped to watch her students play a basketball game and Kim asked them if they wanted to participate with our students. Kim Hood mentioned it was a positive interaction and was very pleased with all the students involved.

AUDIT REPORT
Mrs. Donna Haget summarized the Fiscal Year 24 Audit. She stated the budget was unbalanced because of the $100,000.00 cost of improvements to the Journeys location, but this was not considered a finding. Mrs. Lenger did inform the board that a cooperative is not required to complete a deficit spending plan. There were no questions.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT
Financial
Mrs. Lenger provided the budget update. The percentage of funds expended in each area of the budget was reported. She mentioned she is keeping an eye on supply budgets. She stated we have had several broken devices this year, so she is purchasing better cases to protect staff computers.

School Maintenance Grant
Mrs. Lenger informed the board she is collecting bids on the following projects: parking lot resurfacing, replacing two bushes in the landscaping, painting the office, and having the social worker's office area at Journeys enclosed for privacy. The bid from Jun Construction for enclosing the social worker's area is $6700.00 and the total cost for all proposed work is $23605.00. She is asking for approval to complete the application.

Personnel
Mrs. Lenger informed the board that we were completely staffed, but she had a COTA resign this morning. She mentioned she would start looking for a replacement. She informed the board she is on the lookout for someone to handle our IT for next year. She mentioned we budget for around 100 hours of support. Dr. Todd Dugan mentioned they use Computight and Dr. Anderson mentioned Acropolis. Nancy Werden mentioned contacting SIUE to see if they have any students in their IT program who would be interested.

Current Programs
Mrs. Lenger provided the board with an update on the programs. She stated there are currently 54 students within all the programs with the potential of one more from Bethalto. She also stated there is one student who will be graduating in December from East Alton Wood River High School. She informed the board that they have been able to move students back to the district when appropriate.

FOR DISCUSSION AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT
RBT Training Program
Mrs. Lenger stated that there are currently 19 individuals signed up for the RBT Training and it is up and running. The breakdown of the 19 individuals who are signed up are 8 individuals from Bethalto, 7 individuals from Region III, Bunker Hill has 1, Southwestern has 2, and East Alton Wood River High School has 1.

Press Policy Update 116: Second Reading
Mrs. Lenger informed the board that her staff completed the Title IX training on October 25, 2024. She received a link to the new PUNS training. She shared the PUNS Training link with the coordinators. She also informed the board that one person in each district building should be trained and the individual's name needs to be displayed on their website.

CONSENT AGENDA/ACTION ITEMS
Dr. Todd Dugan moved to approve the consent agenda including the bills and regular board minutes. Dr. Pat Anderson seconded. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes, 4-0.

Dr. Pat Anderson moved to approve the FY24 Annual Financial Report. Dr. Todd Dugan seconded. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes, 4-0.

Mrs. Nancy Werden moved to approve the Press Policy Update 116. Dr. Todd Dugan seconded the motion. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes, 4-0.

Dr. Pat Anderson moved to approve the hiring of Lori McLain, Paraprofessional. Dr. Kevin Bowman seconded the motion. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes, 4-0.

Dr. Todd Dugan moved to approve the Maintenance Grant as presented. Dr. Pat Anderson seconded the motion. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes, 4-0.

ADJOURNMENT
Dr. Patrick Anderson moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:40 am Mrs. Nancy Werden seconded. Motion carried with Members Voting, Aye-4, Nay-0.

NEXT MEETING
The next meeting for the Region III Executive Board will be held on Wednesday, December 18, 2024, at 10:00 am.

Respectfully Submitted,

Katie Wieckhorst, Administrative Assistant

Dr. Kevin Bowman, Chairperson

REGION III SPECIAL EDUCATION COOPERATIVE

EXECUTIVE MEETING

December 18, 2024

CALL TO ORDER
The meeting was called to order by Dr. Kevin Bowman, Chairperson at 10:12 am. Roll Call was as follows:

Present: Dr. Kevin Bowman, Dr. Jill Griffin, Mrs. Nancy Werden, Mr. Rob Miller, Dr. Todd Dugan(arrived at 10:15)

Not in attendance: Dr. Pat Anderson

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS:

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS
Mrs. Lenger informed the board that the second parent night of the school year was held on December 17th at East Alton Middle School from 5:30-7:00 pm. It showcased artwork submitted by students in our programs. She mentioned Santa was there for the kids to have their pictures taken. One parent had posted on social media that it had been several years since she had been able to get her boys' pictures taken with Santa and she was grateful that Region III had coordinated this event. Mrs. Lenger stated there was lots of participation from staff and parents. She thanked Ryan McGowen, Principal at East Alton Middle School, for allowing us to use his building for this event. She informed the board the next parent training meeting will be on using positive reinforcement at home and will be open for all our cooperating districts' families to attend.

Mrs. Lenger shared the CPI Tidbits newsletter with the board and she also shared them with the coordinators.

Mrs. Lenger mentioned that last week Journeys had its 54th graduate. The student was from East Alton Wood River High School and has some goals in mind for the future. The graduate had several family members in attendance for the ceremony at Journeys. The student graduated a semester early and is trying to get hired at World Wide Technology.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT
Financial
Mrs. Lenger provided the budget update. The percentage of funds expended in each area of the budget was reported. She mentioned she is keeping an eye on the supply budget for CLIP. She stated we have had several broken devices this year, so she has purchased better cases to protect staff computers.

Personnel
Mrs. Lenger informed the board that we are doing well other than needing substitutes and on item 6.0 she will inform the board of two resignations she has received.

Current Programs
Mrs. Lenger provided the board with an update on the programs. She stated there are currently 52 students within all the programs with a few students who will be going back to district in January. She also stated there is one student from Bunker Hill who will begin attending the life skills classroom at East Alton Wood River High School.

FOR DISCUSSION AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT
RBT Training Program
Mrs. Lenger stated that the RBT Training is up and running and Genevieve has been out in the programs supporting the paraprofessionals. Dr. Griffin asked if the program would continue next year and Mrs. Lenger informed her it would. Mrs. Lenger stated that she has more paraprofessionals who are interested. She also stated

they would have to consider the number of participants once they complete their training because of the required supervision time by the BCBA. Dr. Griffin asked what the maximum number of paraprofessionals she could supervise and Mrs. Lenger stated twenty. Mrs. Lenger also stated she has had a few paraprofessionals who were initially interested but decided not to pursue the certification at this time. Mr. Miller asked how Genevieve was doing with running the program. Mrs. Lenger stated it has been a little challenging for her moving from a clinical setting to a school setting but she is working on how to approach people and handle different situations. She is aware of this and comes to Mrs. Lenger for suggestions on how to handle certain situations.

Press Policy Update 117: First Reading
Mrs. Lenger informed the board that section 5.90 pertaining to abused and neglected child reporting is being removed from the policy.

Acknowledgement of Resignations
Mrs. Lenger informed the board that Matthew Atwood, COTA, took a position at a private school due to an increase in salary. Tammy Carroll, also a COTA, took a position at William BeDell.

CLOSED SESSION
Dr. Kevin Bowman moved to enter into closed session at 10:28 a.m. Dr. Todd Dugan seconded the motion. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes, 5-0. Motion carried. Dr. Todd Dugan moved to come out of closed session at 10:49 a.m. Mrs. Nancy Werden seconded the motion. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes, 5-0. Motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA/ACTION ITEMS
Dr. Jill Griffin moved to approve the consent agenda including the bills and regular board minutes. Dr. Kevin Bowman seconded. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes, 5-0.

Dr. Todd Dugan moved to approve the hiring of Kamal Bhooshan, Paraprofessional. Dr. Jill Griffin seconded the motion. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes, 5-0.

Dr. Jill Griffin moved to approve the Memorandum of Agreement for recognizing years of experience in a pediatric setting for COTAs and PTAs. Mrs. Lenger stated this would impact our current PTA and the COTA she is asking for hiring approval today. Dr. Todd Dugan seconded the motion. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes, 5-0.

Dr. Jill Griffin moved to approve the hiring of Abbigail Zangori, COTA. Dr. Kevin Bowman seconded the motion. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes, 5-0.

ADJOURNMENT
Dr. Todd Dugan moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:51 am Mrs. Nancy Werden seconded. Motion carried with Members Voting, Aye-5, Nay-0.

NEXT MEETING
The next meeting for the Region III Executive Board will be held on Wednesday, January 15, 2025, at 10:00 am.

Respectfully Submitted,

K. Wieckhorst

Katie Wieckhorst, Administrative Assistant

Kevin E Bowman

Dr. Kevin Bowman, Chairperson

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,

K. Wieckhorst

Katie Wieckhorst, Administrative Assistant

Ken E. Bowman

Dr. Kevin Bowman, Chairperson

REGION III SPECIAL EDUCATION COOPERATIVE
EXECUTIVE MEETING
February 21, 2025

CALL TO ORDER
The meeting was called to order by Dr. Kevin Bowman, Chairperson at 10:02 am. Roll Call was as follows:

Present: Dr. Jill Griffin, Mr. Rob Miller, Dr. Kevin Bowman, Dr. Pat Anderson

Not in attendance: Mrs. Nancy Werden, Dr. Todd Dugan

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS: No visitors were present.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS
Mrs. Lenger informed the board that the third parent night of the school year, postponed due to weather, has been rescheduled for March 5th at Bethalto East from 6:30-8:00 PM. The event will focus on using positive reinforcement at home, with Ashley Weant, Social Worker, and Genevieve Schuh, BCBA, presenting. She also noted that the next parent training session will take place in April at East Alton Wood River High School.

Mrs. Lenger shared the CPI Tidbits newsletter with the board and has shared it with the coordinators. She stated that this is the time of year when everyone needs a refresher on CPI, handling behaviors, and staying positive. She mentioned that Kim Hood presented a refresher to our staff in January. The training was focused on situations the staff has faced during this school year.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT
Financial
Mrs. Lenger provided the budget update, reporting the percentage of funds expended in each area of the budget. She told the board that the heat has been on and off at Journeys, but the classrooms have space heaters. She stated that Jen Mechanical has ordered the part for the boiler and hopes to have it fixed soon. No one had any questions.

Personnel
Mrs. Lenger informed the board that she is fully staffed but is still in need of substitutes. She mentioned she is moving staff around to cover positions. She stated that Jenna Massey has helped by flip-flopping days to offer support in classrooms while providing services. Dr. Griffin stated she has permanent substitutes on staff in each building, and that has helped in her district. Mrs. Lenger stated she has one permanent substitute on staff, but they are used daily to cover absences. Dr. Griffin asked the board if anyone has a CNA on staff. She mentioned that some of the other local districts are using them to help support the nurses, but also use them as paraprofessionals when needed. The board stated that they do not have a CNA on staff.

Current Programs
Mrs. Lenger provided the board with an update on the programs. She stated there are currently 51.5 students within all the programs. She mentioned there is a student from East Alton in Maggie Fitzgerald's room who is attending for reading and math instruction only. She stated there are 4 possible students who may have a need for placement in our programs.
She shared with the board the number of students projected for the next school year. She stated that the Bethalto East program would start with 4 students. The Lewis & Clark Elementary program classrooms would consist of 4 students in one classroom and 3 students in the other. The Lewis & Clark Jr. High program would start with 4 students. The East Alton Middle School program would start with 7 students, with the possibility of splitting this room. The transition classroom will start with 7 students, and the Journeys program will have a total of 13 students between the 3 classrooms to begin the school year. Dr. Griffin asked Mrs. Lenger when she finds out from the districts the number of students they plan on placing in Region programs for next school year. Mrs. Lenger stated she is currently working with the coordinators and stated this number includes new students and

anticipates moving 6 students back to districts and 2 to private facilities. She mentioned that one of those students moving to a private facility would be attending the Illinois School for the Deaf in Jacksonville. She stated she is pleased with the number of students moving back to the district for the next school year, which is 15-17%.

FOR DISCUSSION AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

FY 25 IDEA Excess Cost Application

Mrs. Lenger reminded the board that the FY 25 IDEA Excess Cost Application is due on March 15th, which was extended from its original due date. She informed the board she included the link to the website and let them know if they need any help to let her know.

Seniority List

Mrs. Lenger shared with the board the Region III Seniority List that was shared with the Union.

Director's Evaluation

Mrs. Lenger mentioned to the board that it was time to review her evaluation. The board decided to discuss the director's evaluation in a closed session.

CLOSED SESSION

Dr. Jill Griffin moved to enter into a closed session at 10:19 a.m. Mr. Rob Miller seconded the motion. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes, 4-0. Motion carried. Mr. Rob Miller moved to come out of the closed session at 10:34 a.m. Dr. Jill Griffin seconded the motion. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes, 4-0. Motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA/ACTION ITEMS

Dr. Jill Griffin moved to approve the consent agenda, including the bills, closed session minutes, and regular board minutes. Mr. Rob Miller seconded. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes, 4-0.

Mrs. Lenger stated that McKenzie Dixon used to work for us, and she is happy to have her back. Dr. Jill Griffin moved to approve the hiring of McKenzie Dixon, COTA. Dr. Pat Anderson seconded the motion. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes, 4-0.

Mrs. Lenger stated she is filling a position at Journeys and that she moved to a different program because their numbers were down. She mentioned she has placed several students at Journeys and is now in need of another paraprofessional. She informed the board that Isabel is the sister to Alyssa Montano, who is currently a paraprofessional with us. Dr. Pat Anderson moved to approve the hiring of Isabel Montano, Paraprofessional. Dr. Kevin Bowman seconded the motion. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes, 4-0.

Mrs. Lenger informed the board that Kim Green is a former employee and will fill a position in the transition program. Dr. Jill Griffin moved to approve the hiring of Kim Green, Paraprofessional. Mr. Rob Miller seconded the motion. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes, 4-0.

ADJOURNMENT

Dr. Pat Anderson moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:37 am. Dr. Jill Griffin seconded. Motion carried with Members Voting, Aye-4, Nay-0.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting for the Region III Executive Board will be held on Wednesday, March 12, 2025, at 10:00 am.

Respectfully submitted,

KWieckhorst

Katie Wieckhorst, Administrative Assistant

Kevin E. Bowman

Dr. Kevin Bowman, Chairperson

REGION III SPECIAL EDUCATION COOPERATIVE
EXECUTIVE MEETING
March 12, 2025

CALL TO ORDER
The meeting was called to order by Dr. Kevin Bowman, Chairperson, at 10:12 am. Roll Call was as follows:

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

Not in attendance: Dr. Todd Dugan

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS: No visitors were present.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS
Mrs. Lenger informed the board that the third Parent Night of the school year was held on March 5th at Bethalto East from 6:30 to 8:00 PM. Although four families RSVP'd, only one family attended. Mrs. Lenger noted that the low attendance was likely due to inclement weather that evening. She shared that, after a discussion with her team, they plan to avoid scheduling training sessions during the winter months in the future.. Mrs. Lenger reported that the family who did attend found the session valuable, expressing appreciation for the understanding shown toward their child. The parent also mentioned that it was a great time to talk with others who understand their child. The next parent training night is scheduled for April at East Alton Wood River High School and will focus on summer information and student activities. Mrs. Lenger stated she would be sharing the flyer with districts soon.

Mrs. Lenger shared the CPI Tidbits newsletter with the Board and has shared it with the coordinators.

Mrs. Lenger shared with the Board information on translation services. She stated that Region III signed contracts with two different companies that offer translation services after Bethalto needed someone for a complete evaluation and testing of a Hispanic student. She mentioned we have an on-demand number we can call if there is a situation with a student and they need a translator for the parents. Mrs. Lenger informed the board that she had shared this information with the coordinators and their secretaries. She asked the board if they would like the information to be shared with them as well, and they stated yes.

Mrs. Lenger reminded the Board that the Child Count Certification is due on March 28th, and the IDEA Excess Cost Application is due March 15th.

Mrs. Lenger informed the board that the Bethalto Special Olympics will be held Saturday, March 29th, and Region III will have a table and will be passing out sensory stickers and information about sensory integration.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT
Financial
Mrs. Lenger provided the budget update, reporting the percentage of funds expended in each area of the budget. She stated they are keeping an eye on the supply budget for Journeys since they offer incentives to the students, and that can become costly.
Mrs. Lenger informed the board that on Monday, she received the approval for Journeys being a Separate Public Special Education Day School. She stated she had some questions regarding the approval and had some discussions with Dr. Bowman before the meeting. She stated one of her concerns is that the school has to serve only special education students, and Journeys is an ALOP and does serve a few Administratively Placed students. One of her thoughts was to separate the ALOP program and the Separate Public Special Education Day School program. Dr. Bowman asked if this opened Journeys up to outside districts to be able to send students since they were approved. Mrs. Lenger stated she would follow up with ISBE. Mrs. Lenger stated that if they continue with the Separate Public Special Education Day School program, the next step would be to submit expenditures and

establish a daily rate. She stated that she attended a session on this program at the IAASE Conference, and it was a full house.
Mr. Miller asked Mrs. Lenger to share with the board the award she was presented with at the IAASE Conference. Mrs. Lenger stated that she was presented with a Leadership Award for IAASE Region 5. She mentioned that she was very surprised and was nominated by the special education coordinators in our cooperative.

Personnel
Mrs. Lenger informed the board that she is preparing for the next school year. She stated she has an anticipated teacher opening and has a few interviews scheduled, but now she isn't certain that teacher is leaving.

Current Programs
Mrs. Lenger stated there were no new changes since the last board meeting. There are currently 52.5 students in all programs.

FOR DISCUSSION AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT
Governing Board Meeting Date FY 26
Mrs. Lenger informed the Board that the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) is encouraging Joint Agreements to adopt their budgets by September 1st. Currently, Region III typically adopts its budget by mid-September and submits it to ISBE by October 1st. Mrs. Lenger noted that she has never received any formal communication from the state or been questioned regarding the current timeline. However, she believes moving the adoption earlier would be beneficial to the participating districts. To accommodate the earlier timeline, Mrs. Lenger stated that the first reading of the budget would need to take place in June, with final approval during the Governing Board Meeting in August. The Board discussed possible dates for the Governing Board Meeting and tentatively scheduled it for **August 27, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.**, with the regular Board meeting to be held on **August 20, 2025**.

CONSENT AGENDA/ACTION ITEMS
Dr. Jill Griffin moved to approve the consent agenda, including the bills, closed session minutes, and regular board minutes. Dr. Pat Anderson seconded. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes, 5-0.

Mrs. Nancy Werden moved to approve the 1 year classroom lease agreement with Bethalto School District. Dr.Kevin Bowman seconded the motion. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes, 5-0.

Dr. Kevin Bowman moved to approve the preparation of the budget for FY26. Dr. Jill Griffin seconded the motion. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes, 5-0.

ADJOURNMENT
Dr. Pat Anderson moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:31 am. Mrs. Nancy Werden seconded. Motion carried with Members Voting, Aye-5, Nay-0.

NEXT MEETING
The next meeting for the Region III Executive Board will be held on Wednesday, April 16, 2025, at 10:00 am.

Respectfully submitted,
Katie Wieckhorst, Administrative Assistant

Dr. Kevin Bowman, Chairperson

REGION III SPECIAL EDUCATION COOPERATIVE
EXECUTIVE MEETING
April 16, 2025

CALL TO ORDER
The meeting was called to order by Dr. Kevin Bowman, Chairperson, at 10:12 am. Roll Call was as follows:

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

Not in attendance: Mr. Rob Miller

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS: No visitors were present.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS
Mrs. Lenger informed the board that she recognized Kim Hood with a Region Recognition for taking the lead while she was on vacation. She stated Kim did a great job making decisions and handling situations. She also recognized Amber Deford, paraprofessional at EAWRHS, who came to us from Beverly Farms this year. She is a quiet person at first, but a great advocate for our students. She did a wonderful job handling a student who was escalated. She has a great insight into how to handle behaviors.

Mrs. Lenger mentioned that Journeys has one student from the Bethalto school district who will be graduating. They will be having a small party for the student in a few weeks.

Mrs. Lenger informed the board that we had four parent nights this year. She hoped they would have been better attended, but they are taking that information and learning from it. Next year, they are considering recorded presentations and having it on demand on our website. We will continue to do the Oiler Nation celebration at the beginning of the year, and the art gallery with Santa, which was well attended and a great success. She mentioned a lot of our students don't get to visit with Santa, so we will continue with that next year. We participated at the Bethalto Special Olympics this year by handing out information on sensory integration to parents and will plan on attending again next year. Mrs. Lenger mentioned she was surprised at the number of parents who stopped and asked questions on sensory integration.

Mrs. Lenger shared the CPI Tidbits newsletter with the Board and the coordinators. She stated that behavior is an ongoing challenge, so it is important to provide reminders to staff throughout the year. Mrs. Lenger informed the board that the Timely and Meaningful Consultation Meeting will be on May 9th at 1 pm at the Region III board room. She stated that all the coordinators have letters out to parents within the districts.

Mrs. Lenger shared with the Board that the ISBE Special Education Cyclical Monitoring started this year. All districts have been placed in a cohort and know what year they will be monitored. She mentioned she attended a session at the IAASE conference with the director from O'Fallon High School, who went through the process this year and walked everyone through the process. Mrs. Lenger discussed that information with the coordinators last month, and they plan to start with the IEP file review that is required. She informed the board that all of our districts will be required to review 10 IEPs, except Bethalto, which will review 15. She stated it is based on the number of IEP students the district has and that the state will provide the districts with a list of the IEPs to review. Mrs. Lenger mentioned they are going to start the process now, even though our cycle isn't until 26/27, so everyone is prepared. She stated they will then go through the other portions of the monitoring tool to make sure they have everything in place.

Dr. Jill Griffin shared her idea of having Genevieve Schuh, BCBA, host a parent night and offer food/giveaways to get more parents to attend. Dr. Bowmen stated it would be best to offer the training during a family night already occurring within a district. Mrs. Lenger informed the board that she is having Genevieve meet with Region III

teachers at the end of July, reviewing FBAs and BIPs. Dr. Griffin asked if Mrs. Lenger would open it for all the cooperating districts and Mrs. Lenger agreed.

FOR DISCUSSION AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Board Meeting Dates FY 26

Mrs. Lenger shared with the board the meeting dates for FY 26. She mentioned that at the last board meeting, they discussed having the Governing Board Meeting on a different date than the board meeting date in August. The board reviewed the dates and checked them against their calendars for the upcoming year.

Resignation Letter

Mrs. Lenger informed the board she received a resignation letter from Abbigail Zangori, COTA, who accepted a position working year-round. She stated to the board that she is filling her position with a current COTA who is part-time who agreed to go full-time. She mentioned she will be posting an opening for a COTA 2-3 days a week.

CLOSED SESSION

Dr. Pat Anderson moved to enter into a closed session at 10:40 a.m. Dr. Todd Dugan seconded the motion. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes, 5-0. Motion carried. Dr. Jill Griffin moved to come out of the closed session at 11:12 a.m. Dr. Pat Anderson seconded the motion. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes, 5-0. Motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA/ACTION ITEMS

Dr. Pat Anderson moved to approve the consent agenda, including the bills and regular board minutes. Dr. Todd Dugan seconded. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes, 5-0.

Dr. Jill Griffin moved to approve the employment of Brittany Rabe, Klaudia Taul, Nichole Clowers, and Melissa Fields as Certified Teachers for the 25-26 school year. Dr. Pat Anderson seconded the motion. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes, 5-0.

Dr. Jill Griffin moved to approve the employment of COTA, Alyson Dixon, from a 0.6 FTE to a 1.0 FTE for the 25-26 school year. Dr. Pat Anderson seconded the motion. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes, 5-0.

Dr. Kevin Bowman moved to approve Journeys School calendar for the 25-26 school year. Dr. Todd Dugan seconded the motion. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes, 5-0.

Dr. Kevin Bowman moved to approve the board meeting dates for the 25-26 school year. Dr. Jill Griffin seconded the motion. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes, 5-0.

ADJOURNMENT

Dr. Todd Dugan moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:18 am. Dr. Pat Anderson seconded. Motion carried with Members Voting, Aye-5, Nay-0.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting for the Region III Executive Board will be held on Wednesday, May 14, 2025, at 10:00 am.

Respectfully submitted,

K Wieckhorst

Katie Wieckhorst, Administrative Assistant

Kevin E. Bowman

Dr. Kevin Bowman, Chairperson

REGION III SPECIAL EDUCATION COOPERATIVE

EXECUTIVE MEETING

May 14, 2025

CALL TO ORDER
The meeting was called to order by Dr. Kevin Bowman, Chairperson, at 10:19 am. Roll was as follows:

Present: Dr. Kevin Bowman, Dr. Pat Anderson, Dr. Jill Griffin, Mrs. Nancy Werden

Not in attendance: Mr. Rob Miller, Dr. Todd Dugan

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS: No visitors attended the meeting.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS
Region Royalty Awards
Mrs. Lenger shared with the Board that she implemented a new staff recognition initiative this year titled the *Region Royalty Award*. Staff were encouraged to nominate their peers based on leadership, positivity, dedication, and overall excellence. Mrs. Lenger noted that it was uplifting to read the thoughtful comments submitted by staff about one another. Even if a nominee was not selected as a top winner, they received an email with all the kind words and feedback shared by their peers.

The top recipients of the Region Royalty Award were:

- **Kim Hood** – She is such a good support for all of Region III. She is always willing to talk through difficulties and offer support where needed. She is so positive when thinking about students and their needs, even in difficult situations.
- **Klaudia Taul** – Very impressed with her dedication to both students and staff. She is proactive and wants to have a plan in place that will reach out for help and recommendations for students with challenging behaviors. She is very positive and never complains
- **Jenna Massey** – Jenna always offers support to staff and students. She is a strong advocate for those she works with, and she is willing to work with students, even if they are not her direct clients. She is very positive and helpful.

Mrs. Lenger informed the Board that a staff gathering was held at Grip n Sip on the first day of Teacher Appreciation Week, where dinner was provided and the Region Royalty Awards were formally presented.

ESY
Mrs. Lenger provided the Board with an update on the upcoming Extended School Year (ESY) programs. She reported that the elementary ESY program will be held at Bethalto East from June 4 through July 2, operating Monday through Friday. She noted that she and Jen Weber will be sharing administrative responsibilities for the program. The high school ESY program will take place at East Alton-Wood River High School from May 28 through July 2, operating Monday through Thursday. Mrs. Lenger shared that 26 students have qualified for ESY services this year. Registration forms are currently being collected, and 12 students have registered so far. Staff will begin contacting families this week to follow up on remaining forms. In response to a question from Dr. Griffin regarding whether this number of students is typical for ESY, Mrs. Lenger confirmed that it is. She explained that the program generally includes three classrooms at the elementary level and one classroom at the high school, with approximately 6 to 7 students per classroom. Mrs. Lenger also mentioned that securing paraprofessionals for ESY continues to be a challenge, but she is hopeful that recent contract changes will improve participation and staffing in future years.

CPI Tidbits
Mrs. Lenger shared with the board the CPI Tidbits Newsletter to share with their staff members.

Timely and Meaningful Consultation
Mrs. Lenger informed the Board that the annual Timely and Meaningful Consultation (TMC) Meeting was held on May 9 at 1:00 PM. She noted that a few homeschool parents were in attendance and described the meeting as very positive. In response to a question from Dr. Bowman about whether this was the first time parents had attended, Mrs. Lenger stated that participants have attended periodically over the years, though not every year. Dr. Griffin inquired about the types of questions asked by the parents, and Mrs. Lenger shared that they were primarily interested in understanding what types of services were available to them. Mrs. Lenger explained that districts have the authority to determine how the federal funds are allocated, and while parochial schools may submit requests regarding how they would like the funds used, the districts ultimately retain the right to approve or deny those requests. She added that Region III districts are typically very accommodating and work to support the needs of students and families.

Vision and Hearing Screenings
Mrs. Lenger stated that our districts take turns going out to the Journeys program to provide vision and hearing screenings, and it is Wood River Hartford's turn for the upcoming school year.

FBAs/BIPs Training
Mrs. Lenger reminded the board about the staff training on FBAs and BIPs scheduled for July 29 at Riverbend Family Ministries and stated she had shared the flyer with the district coordinators.

IMRF Estimated 2026 Annual Contribution Rate
Mrs. Lenger provided the 2026 IMRF contribution rate.

FY 23 Annual Cost Settlement
Mrs. Lenger shared with the board the dollar amounts they would be receiving from the FY 23 Annual Cost Settlement. She asked the board if they had received the funds yet, but they were unsure. Katie Wieckhorst shared with the board the documentation supporting the amounts the districts would be receiving.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT
Financial
Mrs. Lenger provided the Board with a budget update, including a report on the percentage of funds expended in each area of the budget. She informed the Board that new computers are being purchased for Melinda and Katie, as their current devices will no longer be supported. Mrs. Lenger also shared that Jay Stemmley, who currently provides IT support for Region III, will be officially retiring at the end of this year. She noted that Jay has typically been used for 100 hours or less per year. To ensure continued IT support, the plan is to hire David Pearce from Bethalto as his replacement.

Personnel
Mrs. Lenger stated she didn't have anything new to report on personnel.

Current Programs
Mrs. Lenger provided the Board with an updated list of programs and reported that there are currently 51 students enrolled, including 1 student who attends part-time at East Alton. She shared that 46 students are projected to begin in Region III programs at the start of the next school year. In response to a question from Dr. Griffin about whether that number is high, Mrs. Lenger stated that it is a little higher than usual. She mentioned that teacher placements have not yet been finalized due to a few uncertainties. She has hired a new teacher with the intention of splitting the middle school classroom, but depending on how things develop, she may need to assign the new teacher to an existing classroom instead. Final decisions on teacher placement will be made in the coming weeks. Mrs. Lenger also reported that the Journeys program will begin the next school year with fewer students than in previous years. Kim Hood will start with 2 students and will also be focusing more on administrative

responsibilities. She noted that throughout this past year, Journeys experienced frequent changes in student enrollment and never reached full capacity. Additionally, Mrs. Lenger shared that Kim Hood mentioned the church hosting the Journeys program has a new pastor, who attended a meeting about potentially purchasing another building for program expansion. Mrs. Lenger clarified to the Board that she has not had any discussions with church leadership regarding expansion and does not believe there is a need to expand at this time.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Press Policy Update 118:First Reading

Mrs. Lenger shared with the board Policy 118 and asked if the resource person for students who are parents or expected parents or victims of domestic or sexual violence needs to be in each building, or can they travel between buildings. The board stated it was okay for them to travel between buildings. Mrs. Lenger asked the board if they had started working on the AI plan. Dr. Bowman stated they had a plan in their handbook. Mrs. Lenger stated she would take a look at his handbook. Dr. Griffin mentioned that she was bringing in a trainer to understand how AI is useful at the end of June and invited Mrs. Lenger to attend.

2:270, 7:255, 2:265, 2:260, 4:15, 4:80, 5:10, 5:20, 5:60, 5:100, 6:235, 7:10, 7:20, 7:70, 7:180, 7:185, 7:190, 7:250, 7:270, 7:310, 7:315, 7:340

Chairman of the Board, FY 26

Mrs. Lenger stated that the next Chairman of the Board is usually appointed in alphabetical order; however, Dr. Griffin nominated Mr. Rob Miller for FY 26, and Dr. Pat Anderson seconded. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes, 4-0.

CLOSED SESSION

Dr. Kevin Bowman moved to enter into a closed session at 10:49 a.m. Dr. Pat Anderson seconded the motion. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes, 4-0. Motion carried. Mrs. Nancy Werden moved to come out of the closed session at 11:00 a.m. Dr. Pat Anderson seconded the motion. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes, 4-0. Motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA/ACTION ITEMS

Dr. Jill Griffin moved to approve the consent agenda, including the regular board minutes, closed session minutes, and monthly bills. Dr. Kevin Bowman seconded the motion. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes, 4-0.

Dr. Jill Griffin moved to approve employment of the ESY certified staff, Certified staff-Allie Kesler, Brittany Rabe, Klaudia Taul, Quill Miller-Teachers, and Jenna Massey-SLP. Mrs. Nancy Werden seconded the motion. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes, 4-0.

Dr. Jill Griffin moved to approve employment of the ESY non-certified staff, Leah Crook, Amber Deford, Lori McClain, Sierra Powell, Tammy Pickerill, and Breeanna Hensley-paraprofessionals. McKenzie Dixon-COTA and Shawnery Davidson-PTA. Mrs. Nancy Werden seconded the motion. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes, 4-0.

Dr. Kevin Bowman made a motion to table the hourly rate increase for the Physical Therapist until the next meeting. Dr. Jill Griffin seconded the motion. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes, 4-0.

Dr. Jill Griffin made a motion to table salary increases for the administrative staff. Mrs. Nancy Werden seconded the motion. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes, 4-0.

Dr. Pat Anderson made a motion to table the salary increase and to review and approve the Director's contract. Dr. Jill Griffin seconded the motion. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes, 4-0.

Dr. Jill Griffin moved to approve the non-renewal/termination of non-certified staff. Dr. Pat Anderson seconded the motion. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes, 4-0.

ADJOURNMENT
Dr. Pat Anderson moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:06 am. Mrs. Nancy Werden seconded. Motion carried with Members Voting, Aye-4, Nay-0.

NEXT MEETING
The next meeting for the Region III Executive Board will be held on Wednesday, June 18, 2025, at 10:00 am.

Respectfully Submitted,

K. Wieckhorst

Katie Wieckhorst, Administrative Assistant

Kevin E. Bowman

Dr. Kevin Bowman, Chairperson

REGION III SPECIAL EDUCATION COOPERATIVE
EXECUTIVE SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
MAY 27, 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

Not in attendance: Dr. Pat Anderson

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS: No visitors were present.

CLOSED SESSION
Mrs. Nancy Werden moved to enter into a closed session at 10:13 a.m. Mr. Rob Miller seconded the motion. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes, 5-0. Motion carried. Dr. Todd Dugan moved to come out of the closed session at 10:29 a.m. Dr. Jill Griffin seconded the motion. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes, 5-0. Motion carried.

ACTION ITEMS
Dr. Jill Griffin moved to approve the new CBA with Region III Special Education Association IEA/NEA. Mrs. Nancy Werden seconded. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes, 5-0.

Dr. Jill Griffin moved to approve the hourly pay increase from $58 to $65 for Lisa Luer, Physical Therapist. Mr. Rob Miller seconded the motion. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes, 5-0.

Dr. Griffin moved to approve a 4% salary increase for Kara Williams, Occupational Therapist. Mrs. Nancy Werden seconded the motion. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes, 5-0.

Dr. Jill Griffin moved to approve a 5.5% increase for Melinda Kroeger, Bookkeeper. Mrs. Nancy Werden seconded the motion. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes, 5-0.

Dr. Griffin moved to approve a 5.5% increase for Katie Wieckhorst, Administrative Assistant. Mrs. Nancy Werden seconded the motion. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes, 5-0.

Mr. Rob Miller moved to approve an administrative 5-year contract with a yearly salary of $80,000. Mrs. Nancy Werden seconded the motion. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes, 5-0.

Dr. Jill Griffin moved to approve the Director's contract with a lump sum of 175 sick days and a 3% increase in salary for 5 years. Mrs. Nancy Werden seconded the motion. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes, 5-0.

ADJOURNMENT
Dr. Todd Dugan moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:33 am. Mrs. Nancy Werden seconded. Motion carried with Members Voting, Aye-5, Nay-0.

NEXT MEETING
The next meeting for the Region III Executive Board will be held on Wednesday, June 18, 2025, at 10:00 am.

Respectfully submitted,

K Wieckhorst
Katie Wieckhorst, Administrative Assistant

Kevin E Bowman
Dr. Kevin Bowman, Chairperson

REGION III SPECIAL EDUCATION COOPERATIVE
EXECUTIVE MEETING
June 18, 2025

CALL TO ORDER
The meeting was called to order by Dr. Kevin Bowman, Board Member at 10:07am. Roll was as follows:

Present: Dr. Kevin Bowman, Dr. Pat Anderson, Mr. Rob Miller, Dr. Todd Dugan

Not in attendance: Dr. Jill Griffin, Mrs. Nancy Werden

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS: No visitors attended the meeting.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS
Staff Training
Mrs. Lenger informed the Board that a staff training is scheduled for July 29th at Riverbend Family Ministries. The training will focus on Functional Behavioral Assessments (FBAs) and Behavior Intervention Plans (BIPs). She noted that she has shared the training details with the coordinators and asked them to distribute the information to their staff members.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT
Financial
Mrs. Lenger provided the Board with an update on the budget. She reported on the percentage of funds expended in each area through the end of June. Mrs. Lenger noted that Melinda is currently working on the final tuition billing, which will be issued soon. She informed the Board of a $51,574.70 overage in the CLIP salary budget line, which resulted from the hiring of additional paraprofessionals necessary to support both students and staff. In addition, Mrs. Lenger reported minor overages in the VI (Visual Impairment) travel expense and the BCBA (Board Certified Behavior Analyst) travel expense lines. She explained that travel costs related to VI services provided to students in outside districts who requested assessments would be billed to those districts accordingly.

Current Programs/Personnel
Mrs. Lenger informed the Board that there are currently 48 students scheduled to begin the 2025–2026 school year in a Region III program. She also noted that she received two additional referrals this week, which may increase the total enrollment.
Mrs. Lenger stated that she is anticipating a resignation from one of the current teachers. In addition, she reported the need to hire two more paraprofessionals to adequately support student needs for the upcoming school year.

Annual Report on Restraint and Time Out
Mrs. Lenger presented the Board with the annual Restraint and Time Out Report for FY25. During the discussion, Dr. Todd Dugan inquired whether this would be the final year districts are required to report on restraint and time out. Mrs. Lenger responded that all districts were required to submit a formal plan and that she is continuing to report the tracking of the district's restraint and time out occurrences, including the duration of each incident. She reported a total of 3 incidents of time out, along with an additional 4 incidents of isolated time out due to instances of student aggression. There were also 2 incidents of restraint, each lasting approximately one minute. Mrs. Lenger noted that the number of incidents this year is elevated compared to the previous year, which she attributed to an increase in the number of more aggressive students. However, she commended the staff for their effective use of de-escalation techniques, which continue to be a priority in managing challenging behaviors.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT
Press Policy Update 118:Second Reading
Mrs. Lenger asked the Board if there were any questions regarding PRESS Policy 118. The Board had no questions or comments. 2:270, 7:255, 2:265, 2:260, 4:15, 4:80, 5:10, 5:20, 5:60, 5:100, 6:235, 7:10, 7:20, 7:70, 7:180, 7:185, 7:190, 7:250, 7:270, 7:310, 7:315, 7:340

Budget, FY 26, First Reading

Mrs. Lenger informed the Board that, although the first reading of the budget typically occurs in August, she is adjusting the timeline to align with ISBE requirements. As a result, the second reading of the budget will now take place in August. She noted that there is still potential for minor adjustments, as Melinda is in the process of finalizing the current fiscal year's numbers.

Regarding the CLIP program, Mrs. Lenger reported that there will be seven classrooms and twelve paraprofessionals, with the possibility of needing additional staff to meet student needs. She explained that the full-time substitute teacher salary will be split between the CLIP and Journeys programs this year, unlike last year when it was billed entirely to CLIP. Additionally, she noted that the Journey to Success program will now be accounted for separately, as it is eligible for a new state reimbursement.

All other staffing positions will remain the same. Mrs. Lenger shared that there are currently two Speech-Language Pathologists (SLPs): One SLP is billed out to East Alton and Bethalto and the second SLP provides services to all students enrolled in Region III programs, as well as students at East Alton-Wood River High School.

Mrs. Lenger reported the total tuition budget as $2,381,548.06. The administration budget was adjusted downward due to the absence of an overage from the prior year and the receipt of the Administrative Outreach adjustment of $26,831.00, which is an increase of $10,000 from the previous year. She also noted that the Evidence-Based Funding (EBF) remained at $24,000. The inservice budget remained unchanged, and not all funds were expended. The overall FY26 budget stands at $2,733,356.62, though Mrs. Lenger reiterated that minor adjustments may still occur as final figures from the current fiscal year are completed.

Resignation Letters

Mrs. Lenger informed the Board that she received resignation letters from Jessica Perry, a paraprofessional, and Jessica Miller, a certified teacher in the transition room for the Journey to Success program. Mrs. Lenger shared that Jessica Perry has experienced ongoing medical issues throughout the year, which have created significant stress, leading to her decision to resign. She also requested Board approval to hire Alyssa Montano to fill the certified teaching position vacated by Jessica Miller. Mrs. Lenger noted that Ms. Montano previously served as a paraprofessional and has recently completed her teaching degree.

CONSENT AGENDA/ACTION ITEMS

Dr. Todd Dugan moved to approve the consent agenda including the regular board minutes, closed session meeting minutes, special board meeting minutes, and monthly bills. Dr. Pat Anderson seconded the motion. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes,4-0.

Dr. Pat Anderson moved to approve employment of certified staff, Alyssa Montano. Mr. Rob Miller seconded the motion. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes, 4-0.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Rob Miller moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:21am. Dr. Pat Anderson seconded. Motion carried with Members Voting, Aye-4, Nay-0.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting for the Region III Executive Board will be held on Wednesday, August 20, 2025 at 10:00 am.

Respectfully Submitted,

K. Wieckhorst

Katie Wieckhorst, Administrative Assistant

Mr. Rob Miller, Chairperson