

EAST CENTRAL KANSAS COOPERATIVE IN EDUCATION

August 11, 2020 BOARD MINUTES

The regular meeting of the East Central Kansas Cooperative in Education Board of Directors was held August 11, 2020, outside of the Performing Arts Center, Baldwin City, Kansas.

Members Present: Chris Perry, Susan Schiffelbein, Mike Kelso, Lynn Reazin, Amanda Donovan, Gavin Fouts, Lorelea Hubert, Asst Director, Daniel Wray, Director, and Shelly McCart, Clerk of the Board.

Members Absent:

Additional Attendees:

Chris Perry, Board President, called the meeting to order at 7:13 p.m.

Public Comment

Opening Business

Agenda Approval

Lynn Reazin made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Susan Schiffelbein seconded. Motion passed 6-0.

Approval of the July 14, 2020 Regular Board Minutes

Mike Kelso made a motion to approve the July 14, 2020 regular board meeting minutes. Amanda Donovan seconded. Motion passed 6-0.

Approval of the Financial Reports and Disbursements/Ledger Report

Lynn Reazin made a motion to approve the financial reports as presented. Mike Kelso seconded. Motion approved 6-0.

Old Business

New Business

Mike Kelso made a motion to approve the Sunflower Music Therapy Services contract for 2020-2021. Lynn Reazin seconded. Motion passed 6-0.

Dan Wray agreed to draft language for future discussion with the Board Members regarding pay increase mid-year for paraprofessionals that obtain a bachelor's degree at the conclusion of the fall semester.

Mike Kelso made a motion to approve the Negotiated Agreement and salary schedule for the 2020-2021 school year. Susan Schiffelbein seconded. Motion approved 6-0.

The Board discussed waiving liquidated damages for certified staff on a case by case basis and offered the option of writing a letter to explain their situation in more detail if need be.

Director's Reports

- Personnel - Due to the pandemic, resignations are received daily, but continue to have applications, so hiring continues. The actual para numbers right now are down about 20%, but the needs will vary as the school year opens. In terms of teachers, we had 2 late resignations, one at Baldwin High School and another at Baldwin Junior High. Both positions have been interviewed for, and both teachers agreed to tentative contracts. However, an executive session is needed to discuss the matter of liquidated damages in one of these two cases.
- We underwent both our Single file audit and our KSDE audit this past month. The reports for either are not yet available but should be by the next board meeting.
- Budget — The final touches on the FY21 ECKCE budget are underway, which will be submitted prior to the due date of August 25. Due to some cost-saving measures, such as hiring our own PT, a windfall of SDAC settlement monies and some salary reductions, we should realize a slight increase to our cash balances moving forward.
- Negotiations – Contract negotiations were settled successfully with an overall average increase to staff of 3.4%. This was achieved with the elimination of a row on the salary schedule, a step increase, and an addition of \$300 to the base. Additionally, a reduction of the number of staff development days with a compromise to provide independent online opportunities for mandatory training in lieu of the full day in-services we have held in the past. Also, an increase in the amount of buy-back of unused discretionary days from \$40 to \$50. A motion to approve a 3.4% raise for the office staff is requested.
- Navigating Change – All three districts have submitted plans for reopening schools that we are in the process of addressing for the unique needs of our learners. Lorelea and Dan met with the school psychologists to share proposed instruments for effective recording of service delivery and other things and are refining those tools for presentation at the inservice.
- Leadership Conference – Dan and Lorelea attended the KSDE Summer Leadership Conference at the end of July. There were many informative sessions which will help to shape our pandemic response with leadership and our school building teams.
- SEAC Update – SEAC plans are on hold until it can be determined whether we offer a zoom meeting or in person with restrictions.

Mike Kelso made a motion to apply the 3.4% raise to the ECKCE office staff salaries. Lynn Reazin seconded. Motion passed 6-0.

Executive Session

Board President Chris Perry made a motion to enter executive session to discuss personnel matters with Director Wray and Assistant Director Lorelea Hubert pursuant to the non-elected personnel exception under KOMA and returning to open meeting at 7:54 p.m. Mike Kelso seconded. Motion passed 6-0.

Action on Personnel

Mike Kelso made a motion to accept the Paraprofessional and Certified resignations and hires as presented. Susan Schiffelbein seconded. Motion passed 6-0.

Lynn Reazin made a motion to adjourn. Mike Kelso seconded. Motion passed 6-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:59 p.m.

These minutes are subject to final approval at the next regularly scheduled Board meeting.

Shelly McCart,
Clerk of the Board

Action on Personnel

Resignations

Paraprofessionals:

Sara Hemphill, BPC
Christine Wichman, WES
Gary Keller, BIC
Megan Hargesheimer, WES
Angela Altic, WES
Jennifer Greenlee, BPC
Zach Greenlee, EMS
Cyndi Dorathy, BIC
Kemi Onyenagubo, BIC
Barb Emery, BJHS
Barb Schwering, Bridges
Barb Kessler, Bridges
Ali Pfannenstiel, BHS
Steve Zimmerman, EES
Joan Toot, WMS
Ashley Spring, WES
Melissa Martin, EES
Deb Howard, EES
Katie Mortenson, BPC

Certified:

Michael Atchison, BJHS

Hirings

Paraprofessionals:

Penne Baker, EES
Jillian Schultz, EES
Zoe Wohlford, EES
Tony Jones, BIC
Hannah Reno, WHS
Kayla Washee, EES
Sharon Greenway, EMS
Francisco Valenzuela, EHS
Carly Fursman, BPC

Certified:

Jeff Wilkerson, BJHS
Jeremy Dalton, BHS