

EAST CENTRAL KANSAS COOPERATIVE IN EDUCATION

January 12, 2021 BOARD MINUTES

The regular meeting of the East Central Kansas Cooperative in Education Board of Directors was held January 12, 2021, via zoom.

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

Members Absent:

Additional Attendees:

Chris Perry, Board President, called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

Public Comment

Opening Business

Agenda Approval

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

Approval of the December 8, 2020 Regular Board Minutes and the December 15, 2020 Special Meeting Minutes

Susan Schiffelbein made a motion to approve the December 8, 2020 regular board meeting minutes and the December 15, 2020 special meeting minutes. Amanda Donovan seconded. Motion passed 6-0.

Approval of the Financial Reports and Disbursements/Ledger Report

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

Old Business

New Business

Election of Officers-Mike Kelso made a motion to table the election of officers until the February meeting. Susan Schiffelbein seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

Director's Reports

- Personnel - Still down about 20% paraprofessionals from last year but receiving applications and filling some openings.
Continuing to search for a replacement for the EC teacher in Eudora, most of the candidates are not available until the fall of 2021.
The Autism Specialist in Eudora resigned, effective at the end of this school year.

Analysis of how that role will be filled will be done for next school year.

Director Dan Wray will be participating in a couple of virtual career fairs hoping to recruit some candidates.

All employees due for their evaluations have had their conferences and received summaries.

FFCRA-The Act expired on 12/31/20 but the Interlocal's plan is to continue to grant leave to employees when they are quarantined or symptomatic without utilizing their discretionary leave. Documentation will still be required.

- Budget - There will be additional ESSER stimulus funds coming to the districts with special education being a portion of those, so there may be some relief for the upcoming school year. Preliminary budget planning has begun to determine an approximate assessment target for next year, but there are still many uncertainties about revenue projections. Medicaid revenues are down a bit, just as all are across the state due to the inability to provide all services due to the pandemic, but as that represents a sliver of the budget, the greater impact will be in terms of categorical aid and the assessment needed for next year. The decrease of staff statewide due to the paraprofessional shortage will no doubt impact the categorical aid estimate that was set to be \$500 lower per FTE this year, so an increase to that projection is anticipated, but the fewer number of FTE that are claimed will reflect an overall decrease in revenue. The cost savings for the fewer personnel along with the savings in other areas due to the remote learning model may lessen the impact for the 21-22 budget, but we still are not getting close to our statutorily required excess cost amount of 92%. In fact, projections put it at an historical low of less than 70% for this year.
- Navigating Change - Continuing to respond to individual district's platforms and adjusting along the way. Recent shutdowns have seen the implementation of those plans.
- MOE - Maintenance of Effort application has opened and due to close on February 5th. Director Dan Wray has received all 3 member districts' information as of today and will be finalizing it soon.
- Negotiations - The annual letter is due to the NEA by March 31st.
- SEAC - Plans are to hold a virtual meeting in February.

Board Appreciation Month - Director Dan Wray presented the Board Members an ECKCE drink tumbler filled with candy and a Starbucks gift card and recognized them for their service and dedication.

The Board Members and Director Dan Wray also recognized Eudora High School's Life Skills teacher, Ruo Chen (Charlie) Shen, for receiving the Horizon Award from KSDE.

Executive Session

Action on Personnel

Mike Kelso made a motion to accept the Paraprofessional and Certified hires as presented.

Susan Schiffelbein seconded. Motion passed 6-0.

Dawn Whalen made a motion to adjourn. Lynn Reazin seconded. Motion passed 6-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

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

Shelly McCart,
Clerk of the Board

Unofficial

Action on Personnel

Resignations

Certified:

Abbey Vieux-Revell, Eudora Autism Specialist

Hirings

Paraprofessionals:

Mara Oleson, EES

Unofficial