

EAST CENTRAL KANSAS COOPERATIVE IN EDUCATION

October 8, 2019 BOARD MINUTES

The regular meeting of the East Central Kansas Cooperative in Education Board of Directors was held October 8, 2019 at the Cooperative Central Office, Baldwin City, Kansas.

Members present: Chris Perry, Mike Kelso, Amanda Donovan, Lynn Reazin, Daniel Wray, Director, and Shelly McCart, Clerk of the Board.

Members Absent: Susan Schiffelbein, Dawn Whalen.

Additional Attendees: none.

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

Public Comment

Sheila Vander Tuig presented information on the Bridges program and its new endeavor Candy Creations, which are candy bouquets. The Bridges program supports students ages 18-21 and focuses on vocational and independent living skills. The students assist in assembling and delivering the creations. Some fundraising was done initially to kickstart the business to purchase supplies and even a Cricut machine. Themed bouquets are available as well as customizable options. So far, the advertising has been through Social Media and the Districts' websites. The business has been successful so far-28 orders were placed just last week. They hope to continue to grow and possibly expand with spaces in retail locations within our communities.

Sheila Vander Tuig thanked the Board for their time and exited the meeting at 7:16 p.m.

Opening Business

Agenda Approval

Lynn Reazin made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Mike Kelso seconded. Motion approved 4-0.

Approval of the September 10, 2019 Regular Board Minutes

Lynn Reazin made a motion to approve the September 10, 2019 regular board meeting minutes. Mike Kelso seconded. Motion approved 4-0.

Approval of the Financial Report and Disbursements

Mike Kelso made a motion to approve the financial reports as presented. Lynn Reazin seconded. Motion approved 4-0.

Old Business

None.

New Business

CARDS/Autism Classroom Teacher-Due to frequent turnover and the many challenging aspects of the job, a retention bonus is recommended for this position to incentivize staff longevity.

Lynn Reazin made a motion to approve a retention bonus of \$1000 annually, beginning this school year, for the CARDS/Autism Room certified teacher. Chris Perry seconded. Motion approved 4-0.

Director's Reports

- Personnel-Just a couple of para positions to fill due to some recent resignations. Our PT is still waiting on a review committee to approve her license. in the interim the PT services are contracted through Quantum Health Professionals. Hopefully, there will be a resolution in the next 10 days.
The new EAP-Employee Assistance Program is in effect and information was sent to the staff on how to access it.
- Budget-Due to the decrease to categorical aid for this year and anticipated next, the preliminary estimate of assessments for the 2020-21 school year will be based upon no categorical aid increase for that school year and a 4% increase in expenditures per historical average. At our last superintendent meeting, they expressed concerns of the viability and I pledged to seek guidance and explore possible alternatives. I met with the KSDE Finance Director on 10-3 and upon exploring the last few years of budgets he confirmed that the increase is essential and that we have accommodated the districts to the point that we can no longer do so as our cash forward balances are as low as they can go. I have worked through a revision that lowers the assessment to a 3.5% increase to the budget which results in an assessment increase of between 9.8-11.9% depending on the district, but that is the lowest that I can project and do not see a narrative where that will change. I am providing this information early so that the Boards of the respective districts can plan their respective district budgets. I am happy to come to your respective board meetings to present the figures at the boards' requests.
- SEAC-The first meeting of the school year was held on September 23rd at Eudora's West Building. Grant money received will fund a Unified Sports Program, which will be celebrated at the next meeting on October 29th at the Baldwin Primary Center.

Executive Session

Board President Chris Perry made a motion to enter executive session to discuss personnel matters, with the Board Members only, pursuant to the non-elected personnel exception under KOMA, and returning to open session in the boardroom at 8:42 p.m. Mike Kelso seconded. Motion passed 4-0.

The Board reconvened into open session at 8:42 p.m.

Action on Personnel

Lynn Reazin made a motion to accept the para resignations and hires as presented. Mike Kelso

seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

Lynn Reazin made a motion to adjourn. Amanda Donovan seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 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:

Kim Jackson, WES

Aaron David Bowen, BHS

Melannie Callihan, BJHS

Rebecca Wolfe, Bridges

New Hires

Paraprofessionals:

Jenny Gottstein, EES

Jennifer Wold, BHS-PT

Hilary Holmes, WES-PT

Breyanna Helm, EES