

EAST CENTRAL KANSAS COOPERATIVE IN EDUCATION
June 13, 2023, BOARD MINUTES

The regular meeting of the East Central Kansas Cooperative in Education Board of Directors was held June 13, 2023, at the ECKCE Office, 600 High Street, Baldwin City, Kansas.

Members Present: Chris Perry, Tony Brown, Becky Plate, Amanda Donovan, Dawn Whalen, Daniel Wray, Director, Lorelea Hubert, Asst Director, and Shelly McCart, Clerk of the Board.

Additional Attendees: Rebecca Killen, Holly Brecheisen, Tasha Flaherty, Kari Mack.

Board President Chris Perry called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Public Comment

Opening Business

Agenda Approval

Becky Plate made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Dawn Whalen seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

Approval of Minutes

Dawn Whalen made a motion to approve the May 9, 2023, regular meeting minutes. Amanda Donovan seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

Approval of the Financial Reports and Disbursements/Ledger Report

Becky Plate made a motion to approve the financial reports as presented. Dawn Whalen seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

Old Business

Strategic Plan Update

Lorelea shared documents that show the progress as of June 2023 and reviewed some key points that are still being worked on.

Becky Plate made a motion to increase the Level 3 paraprofessional pay \$.25/hour for 2023-24 school year, effective August 1, 2023. Tony Brown seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

Becky Plate made a motion to approve the Styer Fitzgerald Life Skills Curriculum purchase up to \$17,000 as presented. Dawn Whalen seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

New Business

Handbook revisions:

In section I. Human Resources, subsection O.-Leave Policy, strikethrough "special sick" in paragraph i. so that the verbiage matches that of the Negotiated Agreement.

In section III. Evaluation/Reevaluation, subsection D and E-remove the highlighting from the paragraphs.

Chris Perry made a motion to approve the ECKCE 2023-24 Procedural Handbook inclusive of the edits discussed. Becky Plate seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

Informational Items

Director's Report

- Personnel – We have filled most of the positions for which we had vacancies, except for our behavior specialist position and a solitary vacancy in Baldwin.
- Assurances – The application for IDEA VI-B was submitted prior to the deadline, as were the indicator 14 lists. I have decided to opt in for the calls, as there are 26 surveys and I believe we will get a much higher return. Those surveys will be done in July.
- Insurance Rates – Still waiting, however, workers compensation insurance rates tripled this year due to some rather hefty claims. While this was not figured in the budget, we had some savings in other areas to make up for the \$36K premium.
- IDEA VI-B Preliminary Budget – Approved and ready to allocate.
- IDEA File Review – Lists for the Cohort 3 audit were posted on June 8 and have been pulled pending the opening of data reporting on July 1. Wellsville is the only member in cohort 3, but I anticipate the collection to go smoothly and to be 100% self-reported compliant, pending an additional random file review.
- Legislative Update – Despite poor support from the legislature, there was a modest increase to special education funding which resulted in a slight increase to categorical aid which came out on June 2. The amount for the year is \$31,915 and the projection for next year is \$30,800.
- Negotiations – We had our first session, and the second session is scheduled for Monday the 19th.
- SEAC Update – We have plans for a meeting just prior to the school year to set the schedule for the upcoming year.

Board Member Input

Executive Session

Action on Personnel

Chris Perry made a motion to accept the Personnel Report as presented. Amanda Donovan seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

Chris Perry made a motion to adjourn. Amanda Donovan seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:27 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

Certified:

January Lare, Behavior Specialist

Hirings/Changes

Certified:

James Persinger, Asst. Director

Christy Boyer, WEBS & Secondary SW, Eudora

Joshua Reynolds, Transition Coordinator

Ashley Taylor, Bridges

Marcus Childs, EES IR 4th

Chelsey Schwendemann, Baldwin SW

Jennifer Stogsdill, EES IR 5th

Xixi Cao, BIC IR 5th

Paxton Rienbolt, WES IR K-1

Jennifer Lewis, BHS Lifeskills 9-12