

**EAST CENTRAL KANSAS COOPERATIVE IN EDUCATION
July 11, 2023, BOARD MINUTES**

The regular meeting of the East Central Kansas Cooperative in Education Board of Directors was held July 11, 2023, at the ECKCE Office, 600 High Street, Baldwin City, Kansas.

Members Present: Chris Perry, Tony Brown, Becky Plate, Dawn Whalen, Lynn Reazin, Daniel Wray, Director, and Shelly McCart, Clerk of the Board.

Board President Chris Perry called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Public Comment

Opening Business

Approve Agenda as Presented

Motion: Dawn Whalen

Second: Lynn Reazin

Motion approved 5-0

Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes- June 13, 2023

Motion: Dawn Whalen

Second: Tony Brown

Motion approved 5-0

Approval of the Financial Reports and Disbursements/Ledger Report as Presented

Motion: Tony Brown

Second: Becky Plate

Motion approved 5-0

Old Business

Strategic Plan Update

Not many updates during summer; Jim Persinger, the new Assistant Director, is on board and excited about the SEL component of the Strategic Plan.

New Business

Approve the FY24 Sunflower Music Therapy Contract as presented

Motion: Chris Perry

Second: Lynn Reazin

Motion approved 5-0

Official Meeting Date, Time, and Place

Pursuant to K.S.A. 72-1138, the Board of the East Central Kansas Cooperative in Education, Interlocal #614, Douglas County Kansas by resolution duly adopted at this regular meeting held July 11, 2023, the following schedule for the regular Board of Directors meetings held during the 2023-24 school year:

Hour commencing the meeting

Day of the week the meeting will be held

Week of the month the meeting will be held

Meeting Place

7:00 p.m.

Tuesday

**Second*

***Interlocal Central Office, Baldwin*

ECKCE Meeting Dates FY24

Jul 11, 2023

Aug 8, 2023

Sept 12, 2023

**Oct 10, 2023 - Eudora (Location TBD)

Nov 14, 2023

**Dec 12, 2023 - Wellsville (Location TBD)

Jan 9, 2024

Feb 13, 2024

*Mar 19, 2024 (date change due to Spring Break)

Apr 9, 2024

May 14, 2024

Jun 11, 2024

The Board reserves the right to adjourn any regular meeting to another time and/or place.

Approve the ECKCE Regular Board Meeting Dates, Time, and Locations as noted

Motion: Dawn Whalen

Second: Becky Plate

Motion approved 5-0

Appointments and Designations:

KPERS Agent and Plan 125 Representative

Kim Bergan

Health Insurance Designate

Kim Bergan

Board Clerk

Shelly McCart

Deputy Clerk

Kim Bergan

Treasurer

Tristan Normile

Official Depositories

Baldwin State Bank

Kansas State Bank

Board President Chris Perry's signature currently on file at the bank

Appointments and Designations as Presented

Motion: Lynn Reazin

Second: Becky Plate

Motion approved 5-0

Adopt the Waiver of Fixed Assets Portion of GAAP-Generally Accepted Accounting

Motion: Chris Perry

Second: Lynn Reazin

Motion approved 5-0

Informational Items

The Handbook statute numbers have been checked and updated.

Director's Report

- Personnel – We received a late resignation from our speech pathologist in Eudora for Early Childhood. I am working with the team there to reconfigure assignments and expand some contracts to cover the existing needs. The only other open positions are at the IC for 3rd grade resource teacher and a Behavior Specialist.
- New Assistant Director – We have had some good discussions about the upcoming year and are planning on solidifying all our PD plans for 23-24 prior to attending the State leadership conference in Wichita on July 25-27.
- ESY – We successfully finished the June session and continues in July.
- Supplemental pay schedule for classified specialists – I am submitting for your approval a pay schedule to address classified personnel who do not fall under the traditional para categories. This would include our psychologist paras, our speech language assistants, and our Occupational and Physical therapist assistants. With the shortages of these traditional therapists, I would like to make certain that we have a consistent way to address these needs.
- Indicator 14 calls – Working on those this week.
- Insurance Rates – The McInnes Group is working to bring down our para rates, which are rising by 18% due to our premium to claim ratio, but the certified will only have a fraction of a percentage point.
- TIP Grant – Has been submitted and waiting for approval ahead of the deadline.
- IDEA File Review – I have begun the review process on Wellsville IEPs targeted for compliance and should finish those by the month's end ahead of the August 15 deadline. I anticipate the collection to go smoothly and to be 100% self-reported compliant, pending an additional random file review.
- Budget update – The software for the Interlocal budget submission was released last week. Due to increases in Medicaid revenue and the anticipated categorical aid projections, we should be in a stable position.
- Strategic Planning – Continue to make progress toward our identified objectives and have begun to order curricula in the areas of focus.
- Negotiations – The final session resulted in a tentative agreement for potential ratification at the August 8 meeting.
- SEAC – Plans for a meeting just prior to the school year to set the schedule for the upcoming year.

Supplemental Pay Scale for Specialty Paras

To provide equity and transparency to the pay scale for specialty paras, a separate notation to reflect that those hired as Psychologist paras be paid at a rate of \$3.00 an hour higher, Physical Therapy assistants, Speech Language assistants, Sign Language paras be paid at a rate of

\$2.00 an hour higher. Employees in these categories with advanced degrees will be compensated additionally as per the ECKCE para scale.

Motion: Chris Perry

Second: Dawn Whalen

Motion approved 5-0

Executive Session

Enter executive session with the Board Members and Dan Wray, to discuss a personnel matter pursuant to the non-elected personnel exception under KOMA, and the open meeting will resume in the Boardroom at 7:59 p.m.

Motion: Chris Perry

Second: Becky Plate

Motion approved 5-0

Enter executive session with the Board Members and Dan Wray, to discuss negotiations pursuant to the exception for employer-employee negotiations under KOMA, and the open meeting will resume in the Boardroom at 8:05 p.m.

Motion: Chris Perry

Second: Dawn Whalen

Motion approved 5-0

Enter executive session with the Board Members and Dan Wray, to discuss negotiations pursuant to the exception for employer-employee negotiations under KOMA, and the open meeting will resume in the Boardroom at 8:10 p.m.

Motion: Dawn Whalen

Second: Becky Plate

Motion approved 5-0.

Action on Personnel as Presented

Motion: Chris Perry

Second: Lynn Reazin

Motion approved 5-0

Meeting Adjournment

Motion: Lynn Reazin

Second: Becky Plate

Motion approved 5-0

The meeting was adjourned at 8:13 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:

Ruth Foehringer, SLP Eudora

Hirings/Changes

Paras:

Ashton Hawkins, BJHS

Elisha Howard, EES

Lori Walker, EES

Jenny Wynne, EES