

**Southwest Arkansas Education Cooperative Board's Minutes
September 23, 2016**

Schools Present: Hope, Blevins, Lafayette, Texarkana, Prescott

Schools Not Present: Nevada, Genoa, Spring Hill, Fouke

Co-op Staff Present: Karen Massey, Monica Morris, Gina Perkins, Elsie Roach, Will Harris, Kelly Cornelius

Guests Present: Charles Canosa, Kajeet Technology Regional Sales Director
Technology Representatives from Lafayette, Spring Hill, Fouke, and Blevins

President Bobby Hart called the meeting to order.

Robert Edwards made a motion to approve the minutes from August, seconded by Robert Poole.
The minutes were approved.

Robert Poole made a motion to approve the financial and expenditure reports from August.
Billy Lee seconded the motion. Motion Passed.

2016-2017 CO-OP BUDGET APPROVAL – Ms. Bailey presented the 2016-2017 Southwest AR Education Cooperative's budget for approval. Billy Lee made a motion to approve the budget. Robert Poole seconded the motion. Motion Passed.

SCHOOL BOARD TRAINING DISCUSSION – The first scheduled school board training will be held October 6, 2016. The second training will be in January or February. The board should let Mrs. Morris know if any further training is needed for their school board members.

STATE/FEDERAL UPDATES – Ms. Bailey

The State Board of Education met on September 8, 2016. The SBE adopted a recommendation to approve AdvanceEd and the American Montessori Society as accrediting agencies for the Succeed Scholarship Program.

Four decisions by the Charter Authorizing Panel on charter requests were upheld, as the board voted not to review the CAP decisions.

The Joint Education Committee met September 12-13, 2016. They heard a report by the Public School Health Services Advisory Committee. An OEP presentation on an alternative approach to special education funding was also presented.

TEACHER CENTER UPDATES – Mrs. Morris

STANDARDS AND ASSESSMENT – A schedule of trainings and registration links for ACT Aspire is available in a recent Commissioner's Memo. The ADE is allowing each DTC to bring two additional team members. ACT Aspire training will be provided at the Co-op on October 3, 2016. Two SWAEC specialists, that have received training on periodic assessments, will conduct this training. A Commissioner's Memo has been released, explaining the requirements for districts to participate in giving the ACT Aspire periodic assessments.

Computer Science Standards – An All Regional State Coding Competition will be held at SWAEC on November 7, 2016.

TESS/LEADS/LICENSURE – Leadership Quest sessions have been scheduled at SWAEC for administrators to help build a positive culture in their schools.

Bloomboard training, for the districts that met the opt-in deadline for premium services, will be held at SWAEC on October 26, 2016.

OTHER INFORMATION

SWAEC will host Become a Teacher to help districts possibly recruit people interested in entering the teaching profession. The event will be from 5:00 P.M. – 7:00 P.M. on October 25, 2016.

DYSLEXIA UPDATE – There was a brief discussion about screening and identifying dyslexic students. The superintendents were given a handout showing local, Co-op and state data pulled in APSCN’s Cycle 7 report. The dyslexia contacts from each district should be in contact with Co-op’s literacy specialist, Kelly Cornelius, to ensure that they are up- to- date with the latest information. Student data should be updated in eSchool as soon as they are identified.

PERSONNEL/EMPLOYMENT – Karen Massey informed the board that she would like to hire two paraprofessionals, Danaka Thomas and Jamie Williams, for the Fouke 3-5 classroom. Robert Edwards made a motion to approve the hires, seconded by Robert Poole. Motion Passed.

The Co-op is still advertising for a paraprofessional for the Lafayette classroom.

Ms. Bailey recommended Daniel Collier for employment as the Student GPS Educational Technologist. Mr. Collier will be housed in Little Rock. Billy Lee made a motion to accept Ms. Bailey’s recommendation. Robert Poole seconded the motion. Motion Passed.

LEGISLATIVE MEETING DISCUSSION – Ms. Bailey noted that it is time to consider hosting a panel meeting with area legislators at the Co-op. Possible dates will be discussed at an upcoming board meeting. The superintendents should also consider their recommendations for who will represent SWAEC on AAEA’s legislative committees.

KAJEET TECHNOLOGY PRESENTATION – Charles Canosa

Kajeet Technology offers filtered internet access to students outside the classroom to work on schoolwork without the worry of distractions or abuse. Mr. Canosa presented their service plan options and answered questions from the superintendents. Districts interested in using this service should contact Mr. Canosa.

OCTOBER MEETING DATE – The next meeting has been scheduled for Thursday, October 13, 2016 at 10:00 A.M.

OTHER ITEMS:

Ms. Bailey informed the board that several presenters have asked to attend meetings and speak with the superintendents. Ms. Bailey will contact the presenters and confirm them on upcoming agendas, based on the superintendents’ request.

With no further business, Billy Lee made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Robert Poole seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned.