Southwest Arkansas Education Cooperative Board’s Minutes
September 9, 2020

Schools Present: Lafayette, Prescott-Jay Turley (Proxy)

Schools Present via Zoom: Hope, Genoa, Nevada, Fouke, Blevins, Texarkana-Lea McDonald (Proxy)

Schools Not Present: Spring Hill

Co-op Staff Present: Phoebe Bailey, Monica Morris, Gina Perkins, Tanya Collins, Eva Wood, Lynn Foster, David Henderson.

The meeting was called to order by President Jim Buie.

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

Bobby Hart made a motion to approve the financial and expenditure reports for August. Robert Edwards seconded the motion. Motion passed.

2020-21 CO-OP BUDGET APPROVAL: Ms. Bailey handed out copies of the proposed 2020-21 budget for SWAEC. Jim Buie made a motion to approve the budget, seconded by Robert Edwards. Motion passed.

STATEMENT OF ASSURANCE: Ms. Bailey presented the board with a Statement of Assurance for 2020-21. She will send it to Dr. Buie for his signature and then submit it to the department.

APPROVAL OF CONTINUITY OF OPERATIONS: Ms. Bailey asked David Henderson to share the SWAEC’s Continuity of Operations Plan for 2020-21. It will be uploaded to the SWAEC website for reference. Robert Edwards made a motion to approve the plan, seconded by Jay Turley. Motion passed.

TEACHER CENTER UPDATES: Monica Morris

STANDARDS AND ASSESSMENT: SOR Assessor Training will begin again in October. There are only 210 slots. The Division of CTE is releasing the 2021-22 State Start-Up application beginning September 1. Virtual Explore Success 2020 will be held on October 6, 2020. The keynote speaker will be Paul Vitale. The GT program approval application is due by October 15.

ESSA AND ACCOUNTABILITY: Mrs. Morris presented parent support guides as well as refrigerator curriculum that can be used to help parents with at home learning ideas. This will be sent out in an email.

TESS/LEADS/LICENSEURE/MENTORING: Novice Teacher Mentoring Registry- Anytime a new teacher is hired, they should be added into the registry. Novice teachers needing PRAXIS support can contact Vicki Jewell for 240 Tutoring subscriptions for free.

OTHER INFORMATION: SWAEC’s AMI Resource page has been changed to SWAEC Resources. The site will house video lessons, digital resources, parent resources, etc. SWAEC as well as Arch Ford, South Central have partnered with BloomBoard to offer Foundations of Blended Learning, a competency based professional learning opportunity. This micro-credential will count towards Arkansas’ Master Teacher designation. The cost is $2000.00 per person, Mrs. Morris advised she is looking into grants and advised all superintendents to inform their teachers if any are interested. October 2nd is the last day to sign up.

REVIEW OF ECH FUNDING STRUCTURE FOR 2020-21: Ms. Bailey shared a handout with the 2020-21 ECH funding updates. Ms. Bailey advised the superintendents that the MOU handed out in March 2020 was
being amended to reflect the new price of $800.00 per student. The new MOU’s will be sent electronically for signatures. She also advised that these invoices would go out in September. Ms. Bailey stated that the state, federal and EIDT funds will be billed quarterly. The board discussed the quarterly billing procedures for the federal funds.

**PERSONNEL:** Ms. Bailey recommended Emily Powell-Carpenter for hire as Instructional Designer for the GPS program in Little Rock. Robert Edwards made a motion to hire and was seconded by Jay Turley.

**OTHER ITEMS:** Ms. Bailey provided the superintendents with a calendar listing all the Board Meeting dates for the year. October 14th was set for the next meeting. Mr. Edwards asked for help with a minority recruitment plan. Mrs. Morris advised that Vicki Jewell would be available to help with that. Mr. Edwards also asked for help with Title IX training. Ms. Bailey will find someone to help.

With no other business, Robert Edwards made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Jay Turley. The meeting was adjourned.