

**Southwest Arkansas Education Cooperative Board's Minutes
August 21, 2019**

Schools Present: Nevada, Genoa, Spring Hill, Hope, Fouke, Blevins, Prescott, Lafayette, Texarkana

Schools Not Present:

Co-op Staff Present: Monica Morris, Elsie Roach, Gina Perkins, Shannon Puckett, Vicki Jewell

The meeting was called to order by President Angie Bryant.

Robert Edwards made a motion to approve the minutes from June and July, seconded by Rick McAfee. The minutes were approved.

Bobby Hart made a motion to approve the financial and expenditure reports from June and July. Carroll Purtle seconded the motion. Motion Passed.

ELECTION OF SWAEC BOARD SECRETARY – Robert Poole made a motion to elect Stephanie Dixon as board secretary. Bobby Hart seconded the motion. Motion Passed.

PERKINS V UPDATE – Shannon Puckett

Mrs. Puckett handed out a pack with several handouts, showing how Perkins funding is changing this year. She updated the superintendents on the needs assessment survey, completers, special populations, and the reimbursements process. She also handed out MOUs to be signed and returned. The Explore Success event will be held September 24th. More information will be sent electronically.

PERSONNEL

Ms. Bailey made a recommendation to hire Denise Davis as Itinerant Para in Texarkana, with a 171-day contract. Bobby Hart made a motion to accept the recommendation, seconded by Carroll Purtle. Motion Passed.

Ms. Bailey discussed how the Department of Education has provided funding for a part time Recruitment and Retention Specialist. She made a recommendation to increase the contract for Chad Morris, from 200 to 240 days, to take on this new position. Robert Edwards made a motion to accept the recommendation. Bobby Hart seconded the motion. Motion Passed.

Ms. Bailey made a recommendation to move Gina Perkins to the Bookkeeper Salary Schedule. Bobby Hart made the motion to accept the recommendation, with Carroll Purtle providing the second. Motion passed with eight voting in favor and Dr. Buie voting not in favor.

SALARY RESOLUTION – Ms. Bailey presented a salary resolution for board approval. It includes employees who incurred a 5% or more salary increase between the 2017-2018 and 2018-2019 fiscal years. Bobby Hart made a motion to approve the salary resolution, seconded by Robert Edwards. Motion Passed.

PROXY FORMS – Ms. Bailey shared proxy forms for board members to appoint a replacement when they can't make it to meetings.

PD PRESENTER RESOLUTION FOR MANDY TOWNSEND – Ms. Bailey presented the required professional development resolution for Mandy Townsend, with a contract limit of \$2,000 per fiscal year. Bobby Hart made a motion to approve the resolution. Robert Poole seconded the motion. Motion Passed. The resolution was submitted to the DESE Commissioner, Johnny Key, for approval.

TEACHER CENTER UPDATES – Monica Morris

On August 27th, DESE is providing support to districts, regarding Act 1082, at SWAEC. This work session, with district leadership/school leadership teams, will help districts review and/or revise their current school improvement plans and district support plans.

Principals' Professional Learning Community – Leadership Quest dates have changed. The August date has been cancelled. The new dates are: September 24th – Day 1, October 22nd – Day 2, Day 3 date will be announced.

There are multiple opportunities to attend Novice Teacher Mentoring. Mrs. Morris talked about the upcoming dates and requirements for certain new teachers.

The following dates should be held for High Reliability Schools: October 3rd – Level 1, January 24th – Level 1, and April 3rd – Level 3.

Mrs. Morris shared a list of links to recent Commissioner's Memos.

UPCOMING PD AND Meetings

August 27th – District Support – Literacy Plans

August 30th – Equip, Adapt and Respond to Children Who Are Exposed to Trauma

August 30th – Quiz Bowl Coaches' Meeting

August 30th – AASEA Area 7 Meeting

September 3rd – Reading Fair and Battle of the Books Info Meeting

September 6th – Supporting Struggling Readers for Dyslexia Contacts

September 26th – Fall Counselors' Meeting

September 30th – School Board Training

With the new fingerprint regulations, SWAEC will stay open late, if needed, to accommodate the districts needing background checks for classified staff.

Vicki Jewell gave an update on the Novice Teacher Mentor Program. She asked the superintendents to please make sure all new teachers are signed up and to call her with any questions.

ECH/EIDT CENTER UPDATE – Eva Wood

As of this time last year, the program started with 100 students. As of today, there are 246 students in the program, with an additional 50 pending referrals.

OTHER ITEMS

The next meeting will be held September 24th.

With no further business, Carroll Purtle made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Bobby Hart seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned.