

**Southwest Arkansas Education Cooperative Board's Minutes
March 11, 2020**

Schools Present: Texarkana Proxy – Lea McDonald, Hope, Genoa, Fouke, Nevada Proxy – Tonda Pennington, Lafayette

Schools Not Present: Prescott, Blevins, Spring Hill

Co-op Staff Present: Monica Morris, Gina Perkins, Lynn Foster, Elsie Roach, Eva Wood

The meeting was called to order by President Jim Buie, with Robert Edwards attending via phone.

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

Robert Edwards made a motion to approve the financial and expenditure reports from February. Bobby Hart seconded the motion. Motion Passed.

DIRECTOR UPDATES – Phoebe Bailey

Paper Bid – Ms. Bailey handed out a list showing past paper bids by each district. She asked for this year's orders to be turned in by Friday, April 3, 2020.

Calendar Proposal – Ms. Bailey shared the SWAEC proposed calendar for 2020-2021. Bobby Hart made a motion to approve the proposed calendar. Robert Edwards seconded the motion. Motion Passed.

Personnel Policy – Due to updates in AR School Board Association Model Policy, Ms. Bailey shared the proposed changes to the personnel policy. Bobby Hart made a motion to approve the changes, as presented, seconded by Robert Edwards. Motion Passed.

TEACHER CENTER UPDATES – Monica Morris

STANDARDS AND ASSESSMENT – Academic Reading is the course that is to be used for dyslexia intervention.

SOR Assessor Training will be held at SWAEC on July 15-16, 2020.

Arkansas A.W.A.R.E. helps provide mental health care awareness and trauma informed practices. Grants should be available for application and renewal this spring.

Shannon Puckett will be sending out three Perkins V Needs Assessment Surveys, one for students/parents, one for businesses, and one for schools. The superintendents were asked to please help gather the information to inform the state on how the money should be spent.

Mrs. Morris told the superintendents to please make their counselors aware of the Crosswalk for CTE Courses. This document shows removed courses and the recommended replacement for that course.

Districts must make and submit their decision about K-2 assessments by May 1, 2020.

ESOL Institute will be held June 22-27, 2020 in Arkadelphia.

ESSA AND ACCOUNTABILITY – The 2020-2021 SIS Handbook is published in the ADE Data Center: SIS Handbook Portal. Mrs. Morris provided the link.

OTHER INFORMATION –

Mrs. Morris shared the link for the Data Dash Newsletter from March.

Anti-bullying is the required PD for educators in the 2020-2021 school year.

Arkansas History is required for those who teach that content in 2020-2021.

The superintendents discussed Medicaid billing and the possibility of creating a Co-op consortium to handle billing for multiple districts. They also requested a “Medicaid for dummies” workshop.

The SWAEC summer workshop calendar will be released soon.

Mrs. Morris updated the board on the application process for the new charter school. The initial application is almost ready to submit.

PERSONNEL – Ms. Bailey

Ms. Bailey has received a resignation letter from Tephania Johnson, Prescott ABC Lead Teacher, effective February 28, 2020. She recommended to accept the resignation.

Ms. Bailey recommended the following changes in personnel: Samantha McClane as Lead Teacher in the Prescott ABC classroom, Gina Perkins as Office Manager/Bookkeeper, and Tanya Collins as Assistant Bookkeeper.

Bobby Hart made a motion to approve the personnel recommendations as presented. Robert Edwards seconded the motion. Motion Passed.

ECH MOU – Ms. Bailey handed out the Early Childhood MOU for 2020-20. The document included data specific to each district. She also explained the billing process. The superintendents were asked to return the signed MOUs by March 30, 2020.

Ms. Bailey asked for nominations of Rural Ed Superintendent of the Year and reminded everyone to submit Teacher of the Year nominations for Rural Ed. Bobby Hart made a motion to nominate Robert Edwards to represent SWAEC for Superintendent of the Year. Lea McDonald seconded the motion. Motion Passed.

OTHER ITEMS

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