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


Schools Not Present: Fouke, Nevada

Co-op Staff Present: Monica Morris, Gina Perkins, Eva Wood

Guest Present: Dr. Robin Hickerson, Texarkana School District

The meeting was called to order by Phoebe Bailey.

Carroll Purtle made a motion to approve the minutes from December, seconded by Jay Turley. The minutes were approved.

Carroll Purtle made a motion to approve the financial and expenditure reports from December. Jay Turley seconded the motion. Motion Passed.

SWAEC UPDATES AND REMINDERS – Phoebe Bailey

- Financial Disclosure Statements are due January 31, 2020. An electronic document was provided to help with any questions concerning the form, if needed.
- SWAEC will run a school choice announcement on the radio. Ms. Bailey presented two versions of the wording and the board chose the one they wanted to air. The superintendents should let Ms. Bailey know if they want their district to participate.
- The superintendents should send their completed Director Evaluation forms to Angie Bryant by Wednesday, January 29, 2020. She will compile the evaluations for the February board meeting.

TEACHER CENTER UPDATES – Monica Morris

The monthly state meeting will be held next week, so the finalized TCC notes will be shared after the meeting. Mrs. Morris reminded the districts to have the Professional Development Needs Survey completed by January 17, 2020.

STANDARDS AND ASSESSMENT – Strategic and critical reading courses can be offered for HS credit. An elementary teacher that has been through SoR can teach that course. K-6 ESL teachers must show proficiency in SoR.

- There will be a mandated change to the Transitional Course offerings for mathematics, starting in the 2020 school year. Changes have been shared electronically.
- New K-12 Library Media Standards were approved in October, 2019.
- Assessment Policy and Procedures for DTCs (REQUIRED) will be held January 23, 2020. District Test Coordinator Workday Sessions are scheduled to help DTCs prepare PANext for the Summative ACT Aspire Assessments. The dates are: February 18, 19 & 20, 26, 27, and 28, 2020. Excel Tutorials are provided in LinkedIn Learning for DTCs needing to develop Excel skills.

OTHER INFORMATION – Attendance works will be held January 21, 2020. SWAEC Principals’ Meeting will be held January 31, 2020.

Mrs. Morris also shared a list of links to recent Commissioner’s Memos.
DOCTORIAL SURVEY DATA – Dr. Robin Hickerson

Dr. Hickerson has been working on research showing the effects of school culture and workplace bullying on educator job satisfaction. She has used data submitted by teachers in this Co-op area. She spoke about the different aspects of workplace bullying, the types of bullies, and the possible outcomes of workplace bullying situations. She concluded that it’s best to create an environment where people feel comfortable reporting potential bullies.

DYSLEXIA UPDATE – Ms. Bailey passed out a report, specific to each district, showing how many students, per grade level, need dyslexia support. The state wants every school to make sure they are inputting dyslexia data in eSchool correctly. Dyslexia training at SWAEC will be held February 21, 2020.

OTHER ITEMS

Due to the increase in early childhood students, the state is looking at increasing ECH funds by 3 million this school year and by 5 million in school year 2020-2021. More information will be shared once it is released.

Ms. Bailey asked the superintendents to please share their 2020-2021 school calendars, once they are approved, so the Co-op can plan according to the districts’ needs.

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