Southwest Arkansas Education Cooperative Board’s Minutes
November 8, 2016

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

Co-op Staff Present: Monica Morris, Elsie Roach, Gina Perkins, Karen Massey

Guests Present: Ken Rich, APSRC Director, Finance Services

The meeting was called to order by President Bobby Hart.

Robert Poole made a motion to approve the minutes from October, seconded by Angie Raney. The minutes were approved.

Angie Raney made a motion to approve the financial and expenditure reports from October. Billy Lee seconded the motion. Motion Passed.

**VALUE ADDED REPORT FOR COOPERATIVE EVALUATION** – Next year is the year cooperatives in the state are to be evaluated. Co-op directors are working on a Value Added Report to assist with the evaluation process. Ms. Bailey will be collecting 2015-2016 data from districts. Professional development, products and procurements, direct student services, and district administrative assistance will all be included in the report. Each cooperative will choose five districts and use that data in the evaluation process.

**PERSONNEL** – Karen Massey recommended the employment of Chasity Battee as a paraprofessional in the Hope 3-5 classroom. Forrest Mulkey made a motion to approve the recommendation. Rick McAfee seconded the motion. Motion Passed.

SWAEC has been approved to house one of the four Computer Science Specialist positions provided by the state. Ms. Bailey requested that the Co-op open the position for advertisement, with the closing date listed as until filled. The position will start in January 2017. Angie Raney made a motion to open the position, seconded by Forrest Mulkey. Motion Passed.

**LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE** – The Board agreed that the following will serve on the AAEA Legislative Committees: Becky Kesler, Curriculum; Robert Poole, Finance; and Bobby Hart, Governance.

The superintendents would like to schedule a Legislative Panel to meet the second week of December, in conjunction with the December board meeting. Ms. Bailey will check with the legislators on a date and get back with the superintendents.

**DISASTER RECOVERY PLAN** – Ms. Bailey discussed the Co-op’s Disaster Recovery Plan. She noted that a restoration procedure is required in every Disaster Recovery Plan. She will send the plan electronically to the superintendents.

**TEACHER CENTER UPDATES** – Monica Morris

**STANDARDS AND ASSESSMENT**
* Computer Science Standards – SWAEC is currently looking for a Computer Science Specialist.
* The ADE will be providing a computer science update session with Anthony Owen on December 13, 2016. The session will be live-streamed at AETN.
* The matrix on computer science courses and course codes has been created to help schools prepare for the 2017-2018 school year.
The ADE is teaming with Virtual Arkansas to create a placement tool, which will evaluate each student’s computer abilities, to help schools determine the best course placement.

**TESS/LEADS/LICENSURE**
Leadership Quest: Schools of the 22nd Century-Leveraging Innovations & Opportunities to Create Your Future will be held on November 15-16, 2016.

Online license renewal is now available through the ADE. Mrs. Morris shared the application steps.

The Teach Again Campaign is aimed at teachers who left the profession and no longer have a current Arkansas license; who desire to re-enter the education workforce; and retired teachers who do not have a current Arkansas license. The campaign timeline is November 1, 2016 through March 31, 2017.

**OTHER INFORMATION**
The next School Board Training will be held January 24, 2017, from 5:30 P.M. – 8:30 P.M.

The ADE will provide an online demonstration of My School Info on November 9, 2016 at 10:00 A.M.

The State Board gave approval for the Arkansas Department of Education Rules Governing How to Meet the Needs of Children with Dyslexia. These rules are effective October 3, 2016.

Mrs. Morris mentioned a Commissioner’s Memo concerning a toolkit called Leading Attendance in Arkansas: How principals can help students succeed by reducing chronic absence.

**DECEMBER MEETING DATE** – Ms. Bailey will contact the legislators to find out a good time to host the Legislative Panel and schedule a date accordingly.

**APSRC CFAM PRESENTATION** – Ken Rich presented APSRC’s new program, CFAM (Comprehensive Financial Analysis Model). The CFAM system is an online software program, designed to give school districts a quick and easy method for analyzing their district’s financial data. The superintendents should contact Mr. Rich with any further questions or to place an order for the software.

**OTHER ITEMS:**
Ms. Bailey shared a flyer concerning the Student Loan Forgiveness Program.

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