

**Southwest Arkansas Education Cooperative Board's Minutes  
January 19, 2018**

**Schools Present:** Lafayette Proxy – Opal Anderson, Spring Hill, Fouke, Prescott, Hope, Texarkana, Genoa

**Schools Not Present:** Blevins, Nevada

**Co-op Staff Present:** Monica Morris, Gina Perkins, Elsie Roach, David Henderson, Eva Wood

**Guests Present:** Gene Hawk – TIPS Representative, Mickey McFatridge – TIPS Program Manager

The meeting was called to order by President Becky Kesler.

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

Robert Poole made a motion to approve the financial and expenditure reports from December. Angie Raney seconded the motion. Motion Passed.

**TIPS/TAPS** – Mickey McFatridge

Mr. McFatridge spoke about the free TIPS Program for cooperative purchasing that helps connect buyers to vendors. He explained how the program works and how it could benefit the school districts and the Co-op. Gene Hawk, also with TIPS, told the board how to sign up and how to purchase using the program. The superintendents can contact Mr. McFatridge or Mr. Hawk for further information.

**REPORT FROM STATE MEETINGS** – Phoebe Bailey

The Taskforce on Workforce Excellence met and discussed two reports that have been created on Career Education. They discussed the major issue of budget allocations for career centers being frozen and not seeing an increase since 2003.

The Tax Reform and Relief Legislative Task Force spoke about the desire by some legislators to remove business personal property from being taxed. There was no discussion about the impact this would have on local district budgets' debt service revenue.

Joint Public Retirement and Social Security Programs Meeting – Co-Chair Rep. Douglas House noted that in 2019, the retirement systems would be thoroughly reviewed due to the reported \$71 billion dollar liability to the state.

In December, the State Board of Education approved a reported 191 additional waiver requests for the early start date of school. They also approved a one-time cost of living increase of \$63.05 per child for the Arkansas Better Chance Program.

The Joint Budget Committee heard concerns from lawmakers about the fact that the governor's budget doesn't include a \$50 million transfer from the general revenue fund to the adequacy fund.

**DIRECTOR EVALUATION PROCESS** – Ms. Bailey handed out a copy of the Director Evaluation Form to each board member. The superintendents should submit their completed evaluation form to Dr. Kesler by next Friday, January 26, 2018.

**REMINDER OF FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE STATEMENT** – Ms. Bailey handed out the updated Financial Disclosure Statement. As SWAEC board members, superintendents need to submit a copy of their form to the Co-op.

**PERKINS CONSORTIUM UPDATE** – Ms. Bailey handed out the current budget and expenditures for the Carl Perkins grant. She asked for recommendations on where to spend the remaining funds. She also noted that the Co-op has received some applications for the position of CTE Coordinator. She asked the superintendents to help spread the word, since the Co-op will be filling the position soon.

**SWAEC EVALUATION UPDATE** – Ms. Bailey noted that the Co-op evaluation team will be here February 13, 2018. She explained the evaluation process and asked that all the superintendents try to attend. They should expect a formal invitation in the mail with more details.

**TEACHER CENTER UPDATES** – Monica Morris

**STANDARDS AND ASSESSMENT** – District Testing Coordinator Training will be held January 23, 2018 at Hempstead Hall.

**TESS/LEADS/LICENSURE/MENTORING** – Novice Teacher Training will be February 21-23, 2018. Novice teachers must attend one of these days. They will receive the registration links through email.

The next Leadership Quest Training will be held February 6-7, 2018.

An Understanding ESSA webinar was held January 9, 2018 and was recorded. Mrs. Morris shared the link to the recording.

**OTHER INFORMATION** – Administrators' Institute will be held June 6-7, 2018 and Tier Training will be held in July, 2018.

**REPORT ON PD NEEDS ASSESSMENT** – Mrs. Morris handed out each district's results of the PD Needs Survey. She will also send the same results electronically.

**OTHER ITEM:**

The next meeting will be held February 8, 2018 at 10:00 A.M.

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