Southwest Arkansas Education Cooperative Board’s Minutes
May 14, 2020 – Zoom Meeting

Schools Present via Zoom: Lafayette, Genoa, Prescott, Texarkana, Hope, Fouke

Schools Not Present: Blevins, Nevada, Spring Hill

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

The meeting was called to order by President Jim Buie.

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

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

APPROVAL OF PAPER BID – Ms. Bailey presented a list of paper bids received by vendors. Firmin’s Office City placed the lowest bid at $25.07 per case. Bobby Hart made a motion to approve the bid and purchase. Robert Edwards seconded the motion. Motion Passed.

APPROVAL OF SWAEC AUDIT – Ms. Bailey shared the SWAEC Legislative Audit. Bobby Hart made a motion to approve the 2019 Legislative Audit. Robert Edwards seconded the motion. Motion Passed.

PERSONNEL – Ms. Bailey presented a list of personnel changes. She recommended the approval of the resignation of Kayla Parker, ECH Teacher and Leslie Savell, Computer Science Specialist. She also recommended the approval of the retirement for Donna Carozza, LEA Supervisor. Robert Poole made a motion to approve the resignations and retirement. Robert Edwards seconded the motion. Motion Passed.

Ms. Bailey recommended the hire of Patricia Jameson as LEA Supervisor. Robert Poole made a motion to approve, seconded by Robert Edwards. Motion Passed.

TEACHER CENTER UPDATES – Monica Morris

STANDARDS AND ASSESSMENT – The Division of Elementary and Secondary Education has identified a list of K-2 Approved curriculum programs for school districts. A Commissioner’s Memo and webinar have been shared to provide more information.

Science Of Reading Assessor Training at Southwest Co-op has been cancelled for July 15-16, 2020. DESE has moved this training to an online format. More information will be forthcoming.

By June 15, 2020, superintendents must submit their selection of CCR Tool provider.

TESS/LEADS/LICENSURE/MENTORING – ALL novice teachers (year 1, 2, and 3) must be entered in the Novice Teacher Registry. Vicki Jewell has shared this registry with year 2 and 3 novices and asked them to fill this out, so districts should only have to register year 1 novices.

All first year administrators, with no prior experience as an administrator, are required to receive mentoring support for his/her first 3 years of employment. Upon hiring new administrators, school districts must register first year administrators (not superintendents), experienced administrators from out-of-state, and administrators returning to the profession.

OTHER INFORMATION – The Co-op is still not performing fingerprinting services. Once SWAEC receives permission to resume this service, the information will be shared with all districts. Educators may go ahead and do all the other pieces of the renewal process. The state has waved the 14 day window to get fingerprints to 180 days.

There is an AMI parent survey available. It may be customized to fit each district.

The CARES Act Funding Data must be submitted by May 15, 2020.
There will be an ESSER Funds Webinar Monday, May 18, 2020 at 9:00 A.M.

Mrs. Morris also gave an update on professional development offerings at the Co-op and the procedures that must be followed when visiting the building. She shared a link for a list of all PD offerings. Many sessions will be held virtually, but face to face begins June 1, 2020.

**SALARY SCHEDULE** – Ms. Bailey presented the proposed salary schedule for 2020-2021. Bobby Hart made a motion to approve the salary schedule. Robert Poole seconded the motion. Motion Passed.

**DIRECTOR UPDATES** – Ms. Bailey

DESE has created the Back to School Playbook. This document can be found on the department’s website. Ms. Bailey shared the link with the superintendents.

Ms. Bailey shared a document with resources from other entities and states detailing their re-opening plans for fall.

The Co-op has developed a plan allowing the building to re-open to the public. The superintendents were given a copy of the proposed plan.

The superintendents want to schedule a weekly Zoom meeting to stay updated on COVID. This will be each Wednesday at 10:00 A.M. Ms. Bailey will send out a link to the superintendents.

**OTHER ITEMS**

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