

Southwest Arkansas Education Cooperative Board's Minutes
January 14, 2015

Schools Present: Blevins, Spring Hill, Hope, Nevada, Fouke, Genoa, Texarkana Proxy-Lekia Jones, Prescott Proxy-Portia Jones

School Not Present: Lafayette

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

The meeting was called to order by the president, Billy Lee.

Forrest Mulkey made a motion to approve the minutes for December, seconded by Rick McAfee. The minutes were approved.

Angie Raney made a motion to approve the financial and expenditure reports for December. Forrest Mulkey seconded the motion. Motion passed.

TECHNOLOGY UPDATES – David Henderson reminded the board that the E-Rate window opened January 14, 2015 to file requests for reimbursement of purchased technology services. This window will be open through March. Mr. Henderson has been hosting PARCC workdays to help teachers and test coordinators with PearsonAccessNext Training. Part of this training supports schools in meeting the February 6, 2015 deadline to schedule test sessions for monitoring.

Statewide infrastructure trial (practice test) for PARCC testing will take place February 2-4, 2015.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT/UACCH – Mrs. Morris told the board that, per Laura Clark at UACCH, teachers that are delivering concurrent credit classes must have 4 hours of professional development training. Ms. Clark is requesting that those four hours count toward the required 60 hours. The board discussed this and unanimously agreed that those hours should count as professional development and be counted as part of the contracted 60 hours.

TEACHER CENTER UPDATES – Monica Morris

PARCC – Manuals have been released and are on the Avocet website. Mrs. Morris told the board that the Teacher Center can print these if they need more, since the number of manuals each school will be given is not clear at this time. If interested, let her know.

The ADE is planning a webinar at the end of January for District Test Coordinators. Everyone is encouraged to attend.

TESS – If a principal is not physically in the classroom during the evaluation, the law states that a 360° camera must be used.

Mrs. Morris reminded the board that the ADE cannot advise schools regarding Teacher Fair Dismissal. Advice must come from legal counsel.

DYSLEXIA – Mrs. Morris spoke about the committee that met with Joyce Elliot regarding dyslexia. They have discussed three possible changes to the law:

- Clarify the definition of the terms dyslexia therapist, specialist, and interventionist
- Determine the level of training required for each of the roles listed above
- Clarify school district’s requirement for services when parent receives an outside evaluation

OTHER INFORMATION:

The Arkansas Department of Higher Education’s concurrent credit policy was recently updated and is effective for the Spring 2015 semester.

The ADE is working on ESL training for summer.

AIMM trainers must attend a one-day recalibration on May 12, 2015, May 21, 2015 or May 28, 2015. Mentors who received AIMM training last year will not be required to attend recalibration or additional training at this time.

UPCOMING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND MEETINGS:

January 15, 2015 – Alternative Education Accountability Training (Mandatory Attendance)

January 16, 2015, January 26, 2015, February 3, 2015 – PARCC Workdays

January 21, 2015 – Principals’ Meeting

January 22, 2015 – eSchool Training

January 30, 2015 – Teacher Center Committee Meeting

February 5-6, 2015 – Visible Learning Conference (Follow-up Day on April 14, 2015)

February 11, 2015 – TESS Support Training

February 12, 2015 – TESS Support Training (Repeat of Feb 11, 2015 Training)

February 13, 2015 – Zoom Meeting for Counselors

June 3-4, 2015 – Administrators’ Institute

June 10-11, 2015 – SWAEC Student Voice and Engagement Institute

REMOVAL OF FIXED ASSETS – Ms. Bailey requested that an outdated LCD Projector be removed from the Co-op’s fixed assets. Angie Raney made a motion to approve the removal. Rick McAfee seconded the motion. Motion passed.

A-F REPORT OVERVIEW – Ms. Bailey gave the board a completed example of an A-F Report that can be used as a template, as well as, a blank form that can be used for their building to help calculate the A-F school grade. She walked them through the steps in calculating each component in order to figure their ranking.

FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE STATEMENT REMINDER – Ms. Bailey gave the financial disclosure information to the board, with a reminder of the January 31, 2015 deadline. She asked them to give a copy to the Co-op for file.

DIRECTOR EVALUATION PROCESS – Each board member was given a packet with the director’s evaluation form, notes from Ms. Bailey’s PGP and other Co-ops’ salary information from a comparison survey comprised of all Co-ops. Mr. Lee requested that the evaluation forms be completed and sent back to him by January 23, 2015. Ms. Bailey will send an electronic copy of the evaluation form.

ACEL VISIONING CONFERENCE – The ACEL Visioning Conference will take place February 26-28, 2015. The Co-op will pay the \$100 fee for the Leader to Leader Meeting. If interested, let Ms. Bailey know by next week.

SWAEC BOARD MEETING DATES IN SESSION – The board discussed SWAEC board meeting dates during legislative session and decided on the following dates: February 10, 2015; March 10, 2015 and April 7, 2015. A handout of all members of the House and Senate Education Committees was provided to the superintendents.

OTHER ITEMS:

Karen Massey informed the board that her Early Childhood student count is up 14 students, but, down 1 teacher. The Co-op is currently advertising for a Paraprofessional in the Lewisville Preschool.

There was a brief discussion on school start date for fiscal year 2015-2016.

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

