

**RURAL CHAMPAIGN COUNTY SPECIAL EDUCATION COOPERATIVE
807 N. MATTIS AVE, CHAMPAIGN, IL 61821**

EXECUTIVE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

December 13, 2018

Mr. Pence, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM. The meeting was held in the Conference Room of the Rural Champaign County Special Education Cooperative, 807 N. Mattis Ave, Champaign, Illinois.

Members Present

Ms. Thompson
Mr. Larson
Mr. Davis
Mr. Pence
Mr. Grimsley
Mr. Wilson
Mr. Brooks

Not Present

Ms. McArthur
Ms. Lobmaster
Mr. White

Present at the meeting were Mrs. Jennifer Armstrong, Executive Director; Mrs. Lori Bednarz, Special Education Administrator; Mr. Jim Mayer, Transition Specialist, Mr. Jordan Wiles, School Psychologist.

Additions/Deletions

There were no additions or deletions

Consent Agenda Items

a. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the November 8, 2018 Executive Board of Directors meeting were included in the packet.

b. Approval of Accounts Payable

The accounts payable for the month of December and the payments between Board meetings were included in the packet.

c. Approval of Financial Report (Reconciliation)

The reconciliation for the month of November, listing a cash and investment balance of \$ 1,298,162.20, was included in the packet.

Mr. Larson moved to approve the consent agenda items as presented. Ms. Thompson seconded. The following roll call was recorded: "Aye" Mr. Larson, Mr. Grimsley, Mr. Davis, Mr. Brooks, Mr. Pence, Ms. Thompson, Mr. Wilson. The motion carried. (7-0)

Executive Session

At 1:01 PM, Mr. Grimsley made the motion to go into executive session to discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body. Mr. Larson seconded. The motion carried. (voice vote)

At 1:30 PM, Mr. Larson made the motion to move out of executive session. Mr. Brooks seconded. The motion carried. (voice vote)

Action Items

a. Action to Approve the Resignation of Educational Support Personnel

The Director recommended the approval of the following resignation:

- Corey Peters - 1.0 FTE Paraprofessional, Spectrum Unity East

Mr. Grimsley moved to approve the resignation of Corey Peters as presented. Ms. Thompson seconded. The motion carried. (voice vote)

b. Action to Employ Professional Educator Licensed Personnel

The Director recommended the employment of the following individual for the 2019 – 2020 school year:

- Tammey Gilbert - 1.0 FTE Social Worker

Mr. Larson moved to employ Tammey Gilbert as recommended. Mr. Grimsley seconded. The following roll call was recorded: “Aye” Ms. Thompson, Mr. Davis, Mr. Larson, Mr. Brooks, Mr. Grimsley, Mr. Pence, Mr. Wilson. The motion carried. (7-0)

c. Action to Employ Educational Support Personnel

The Director recommended the employment of the following individual:

- Emily Gulliford - .43 FTE Paraprofessional, Individual Aide, Unity East District Reimbursed

Mr. Pence moved to employ Emily Gulliford as recommended by the Director. Mr. Grimsley seconded. The following roll call was recorded: “Aye” Mr. Wilson, Mr. Brooks, Mr. Pence, Mr. Larson, Mr. Davis, Ms. Thompson, Mr. Grimsley. The motion carried. (7-0)

d. Action to Approve IDEA Amendments

A copy of the IDEA Part B amendments were in the packet.

Mr. Grimsley moved to approve the IDEA amendments as presented. Mr. Brooks seconded. The following roll call was recorded: "Aye" Mr. Brooks, Mr. Pence, Mr. Grimsley, Mr. Larson, Ms. Thompson, Mr. Wilson, Mr. Davis. The motion carried. (7-0)

e. Action to Approve STEP Expansion

The proposal to expand the STEP (Secondary Transition Experience Program) was in the packet.

Mr. Jim Mayer, Transition Specialist, addressed the Board explaining that the STEP program has been on level funding since FY 15. Currently, the only way to expand STEP funding and allow for cost of living increases is to increase the number of students served. It was proposed to expand the RCCSEC STEP contract to serve approximately 20 additional students. This proposal involves broadening the service area to include Gibson City Melvin Sibley and Paxton Buckley Loda high schools. The dollar amount of the contract would increase from the current \$110,607 to \$132,729 annually.

When asked if this expansion could impact the current schools served, Mr. Mayer explained that there are no drawbacks for the existing schools served. The approximately additional 20 students is a manageable increase. He would need approximately 5 hours of data entry support per week. He would work with the special education vocational coordinator and teacher contact to enroll the 20 students total from each of the Ford County high schools.

Mr. Larson moved to approve the STEP expansion. Ms. Thompson seconded. The following roll call was recorded: "Aye" Mr. Davis, Mr. Pence, Mr. Brooks, Mr. Grimsley, Mr. Larson, Mr. Wilson, Ms. Thompson. The motion carried. (7-0)

Discussion Items

There were no discussion items.

Administrative Report

a. Cooperative Program Updates

i. Spectrum

- There are 20 students on the waitlist for two of the three sites.
- There are 4 current open EI (Early Intervention) students.
- Vision and Hearing screenings have been completed across the sites.
- There have been at least 2 parent events per month at each of the three sites.
- There is a teacher assistant vacancy due to staff resignation.
- Mrs. Bednarz is also working on finding subs as classrooms have been short staffed due to high number of absences.

Public Participation

There was no public participation.

Good of the Cause Participation

Ms. Thompson asked what agencies districts use for fingerprinting. Information was shared.

Mr. Davis complimented Mrs. Bednarz on obtaining the PFA grant for FY 19. He learned at the School Board Convention that some suburban Chicago districts do not receive the PFA grant.

Adjournment

At 1:48 PM, Mr. Larson moved to adjourn. Mr. Grimsley seconded. The motion carried. (voice vote)

Ms. Barbara Thompson
Secretary of the Board of Directors

Mr. Todd Pence
Chair of the Board of Directors

Mrs. Jennifer Armstrong
Recording Secretary

Mr. Tom Davis
Vice-Chair of the Board of Directors