

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

EXECUTIVE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

March 11, 2021

Mr. Brooks, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:04 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  
Ms. McArthur  
Mr. Graham  
Ms. Turner  
Mr. Isenhower  
Mr. Brooks

Not Present

Mr. Pence  
Mr. Smith

Also present were Mrs. Jennifer Armstrong, Executive Director; Mrs. Janice Swanson, School Social Worker; Ms. Martine Nickols, Executive Assistant.

Consent Agenda Items

a. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the February 11, 2021 Executive Board of Directors meeting were in the packet.

b. Approval of Accounts Payable

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

c. Approval of Financial Report (Reconciliation)

The reconciliation for the month of February, listing a cash and investment balance of \$947,290.59, was included in the packet.

Mr. Larson made the motion to approve the consent agenda items as presented. Ms. McArthur seconded. The following roll call was recorded: "Aye" Ms. Thompson, Mr. Davis, Mr. Larson, Ms. McArthur, Mr. Graham, Ms. Turner, Mr. Isenhower, Mr. Brooks; "Nay" None. The motion carried. (8-0)

Executive Session

At 1:05 PM, Ms. Thompson 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. Ms. McArthur seconded. The following roll call was recorded: "Aye" Ms. Thompson, Mr. Davis,

Mr. Larson, Ms. McArthur, Mr. Graham, Ms. Turner, Mr. Isenhower, Mr. Brooks; "Nay" None. The motion carried. (8-0)

At 1:17 PM, Ms. Thompson made motion to move out of executive session. Ms. McArthur seconded. The motion carried. (voice vote)

#### Action Items

a. Action to Approve Additional Sick Leave Days

The Director recommended the approval of 20 additional sick leave days for Brandy Waldrop, Paraprofessional at Unity East. The collective bargaining agreement 8.1 G states: "The Board may, at its discretion, grant additional sick leave days for a catastrophic accident or illness involving the employee, his/her spouse, or his/her child."

Ms. McArthur made the motion to grant as needed up to 20 additional sick leave days for the 2020 – 2021 school year to Brandy Waldrop. Mr. Isenhower seconded. The following roll call was recorded: "Aye" Ms. Thompson, Mr. Davis, Mr. Larson, Ms. McArthur, Mr. Graham, Ms. Turner, Mr. Isenhower, Mr. Brooks; "Nay" None. The motion carried. (8-0)

b. Action to Employ Professional Educator Licensed Personnel

The Director recommended the approval of the following individual:

- Pamela Wingate - 1.0 FTE School Social Worker

Mr. Davis moved to approve the employment of Pamela Wingate as School Social Worker as recommended. Mr. Isenhower seconded. The following roll call was recorded: "Aye" Ms. Thompson, Mr. Davis, Mr. Larson, Ms. McArthur, Mr. Graham, Ms. Turner, Mr. Isenhower, Mr. Brooks; "Nay" None. The motion carried. (8-0)

c. Action to Approve TRS Resolution

The TRS Supplemental Savings Plan Resolution was included in the packet.

Mr. Larson moved to approve the TRS Supplemental Savings Plan Resolution. Ms. McArthur seconded. The motion carried. (voice vote)

d. Action to Approve Resignation

The Director recommended the approval of the resignation of:

- Lisa Liggins-Chambers - 1 FTE School Psychologist

Mr. Isenhower moved to approve the resignation of Lisa Liggins-Chambers, School Psychologist, as presented. Ms. McArthur seconded. The motion carried. (voice vote)

Discussion Items

a. RTI in Districts

The Director reported that Samantha Pettry has been meeting with districts regarding RTI plans and procedures. Mrs. Pettry will be in touch with district RTI personnel about needs for the next school year. RCCSEC has provided guidelines to districts regarding special education entitlement through RTI. It has been a difficult year to get RTI plans in place. RCCSEC plans to meet with district RTI personnel prior to the 2021 – 2022 school year.

RCCSEC will have Brandon Wright present legal information pertaining to RTI and then district teams will break out into groups to discuss procedures. The goal is to assist districts in starting the year with solid RTI procedures that will lead to great interventions and RTI plans for students. This will also assist the RCCSEC IEP team if that student will be referred. The Director will send an email to district administrators requesting that certain staff attend. RCCSEC will provide a stipend to those who attend as it will be outside of the school calendar.

b. IDEA Funds

RCCSEC has professional development funds that must be spent by June 30, 2021. The Director asked districts to let her know if the districts have any professional development activities that can be reimbursed by RCCSEC.

There will probably also be funds available for supplies.

Administrative Report

Spectrum Update

The Spectrum report was included in the packet.

The Director noted that the Spectrum Program is doing better enrollment wise than most programs in the area. The program will probably continue with the 4 days in person sessions per week for the remainder of the school year.

Mr. Larson asked about the Elevating Special Education Teachers grant which was mentioned by Gary Lewis. The Director did not have further information on this.

RCCSEC purchased a paraprofessional series and a trauma informed series from 321 Insight. RCCSEC has 50 licenses. This online training has been used by Thomasboro School District.

Executive Board of Directors

March 11, 2021

Page 4 of 4

Public Participation

There was no public participation.

Good of the Cause Participation

There was no good of the cause participation.

Adjournment

At 1:30 PM, Mr. Larson moved to adjourn. Ms. McArthur seconded. The motion carried. (voice vote)

---

Ms. Bonnie McArthur  
Secretary of the Board of Directors

---

Mr. Brian Brooks  
Chair of the Board of Directors

---

Mrs. Jennifer Armstrong  
Recording Secretary

---

Ms. Barbara Thompson  
Vice-Chair of the Board of Directors