

RURAL CHAMPAIGN COUNTY SPECIAL EDUCATION COOPERATIVE
807 N. MATTIS AVE, CHAMPAIGN, IL 61821
EXECUTIVE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

April 11, 2024

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

Members Present

Ms. Thompson
Mr. Davis
Ms. Turner
Mr. Landeck
Mr. Brooks
Ms. McArthur
Mr. Larson

Not Present

Mr. Ellison
Mr. Graham
Mr. Isenhower

Present at the meeting were Jennifer Armstrong, Executive Director; Mrs. Stephanie Ward, Executive Assistant; Mrs. Samantha Pettry, Spectrum Program Coordinator; Mrs. Allison Whitney, School Psychologist; Mr. Brian Brink, 24-25 Unit 7 Superintendent

Appointment of Secretary Pro Tem

Mr. Larson moved to approve Mr. Landeck as Vice-Chair Pro Tem. Mr. Davis seconded. Motion passed. (voice vote)

Additions/Deletions

The Executive Session was deleted from the agenda.
Needs Assessment and Spectrum Salary were added to Administrative Report.

Consent Agenda Items

a. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the February 8, 2024 Executive Board meeting were in the Board packet.

b. Accounts Payable

The accounts payable for February 9 -April 10, 2024 and the payments between Board meetings were included in the Board packet.

c. Approval of Financial Report (Reconciliation)

The reconciliation for the month of February and March, listing a cash and investment balance of \$1,555,554.43 and \$1,099,144.02 was included in the Board packet.

Mr. Larson moved to approve the consent agenda items as presented. Ms. McArthur seconded. The following roll call was recorded: "Aye" Mr. Davis, Ms. Turner, Mr. Brooks, Ms. Thompson, Mr. Larson, Mr. Landeck, Ms. McArthur "Nay" None. The motion carried. (7-0)

Action Items

a. Action to Employ Personnel

The Director recommended the approval of the employment of the following individual:

- Jasmine Ash – .80 FTE School Social Work Intern
- Susie Jackson - .80 FTE School Social Worker

Ms. McArthur moved to employ Jasmine Ash and Susie Jackson as presented. Mr. Larson seconded. The following roll call was recorded: "Aye" Mr. Davis, Ms. Turner, Mr. Brooks, Ms. Thompson, Mr. Larson, Mr. Landeck, Ms. McArthur "Nay" None. The motion carried. (7-0)

b. Action to Approve Resignation of Personnel

The Director recommended the approval of the following resignation:

- Tiffany Stevens – 1.0 FTE Vision Itinerant Teacher

Ms. McArthur moved to approve the resignation of Tiffany Stevens as presented. Ms. Thompson seconded. The motion carried. (voice vote)

Administrative Report

a. Workkeys Assessment

The Executive Director reported that RCCSEC completed the necessary training and paperwork to become a testing site that will administer the Workkeys Paraprofessional Assessment. RCCSEC can administer the test to Member District employees immediately and will open testing to districts outside of the Cooperative starting July 1, 2024.

b. Spectrum Report

The Spectrum Program Coordinator, Samantha Pettry, reported the following:

Student enrollment:

St. Joseph- Full

Thomasboro- Full

Unity- 50 students

Screenings will occur the week of April 15th.

Spectrum is considering closing one classroom next year if unable to fill it with students and staff.

c. Retirement Party

The Executive Director announced that the Retirement Party will be at the IHotel in Champaign on May 17, 2024 from 3:00-6:00 pm for the following people:

Janice Swanson, RCCSEC School Social Worker

Pam Golden, RCCSEC Vision Itinerant Teacher

Andy Larson, RCCSEC Executive Board Member

Tom Davis, RCCSEC Executive Board Member

d. Illinois Elevating Special Educators

ROE 9 and ISBE have partnered together to create IESE, a grant funded program. Districts can utilize these free services to get Professional Development and Coaching for Special Educators. The Executive Director requested to be on the Districts agreements if they decide to utilize any of these services.

e. Infnitec

Ifinitec offers online training, in person training, assistive technology support, and discounted technology. Currently only 2 out of the 10 member districts are using Infnitec. RCCSEC is currently paying \$4,000 annually for RCCSEC and 10 member districts. The Executive Director reported that RCCSEC will continue to utilize Infnitec and the two districts decided to discontinue use.

f. Needs Assessment

The Needs Assessment was handed out to the Superintendents during the meeting. The Executive Directed advised that most of the responses were not related to Special Education.

g. Spectrum Salary

The Executive Director handed out a proposed amended Teacher salary schedule and spoke about an MOU to change the salary and tuition reimbursement. The proposal is to start Spectrum teachers, that hold both the licensure and the special education approval, at the Bachelor's + 24 lane. There will also be a stipulation that they will stay with RCCSEC for a determined amount of years after receiving a tuition reimbursement. The Union agrees with this proposal. This will be voted on at the May meeting.

Public Participation

There was no public participation.

Good of the Cause Participation

There was no good of the cause participation.

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Adjournment

At 1:24 PM, Mr. Larson moved to adjourn. Ms. Thompson 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

Mr. Jared Ellison
Vice-Chair of the Board of Directors