

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

Governing Board Meeting

August 8, 2019

Mr. Brooks, Chair of the Executive Board, called the meeting to order at 6:05 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. Rushing  
Mr. Koss  
Mr. Elmore  
Ms. Brooks Bennett-Miller  
Ms. Jamison  
Ms. Harris  
Mr. Quinlan  
Mr. Goldenstein

Not Present

Ms. Sprandel  
Ms. McCormick

Present at the meeting were Mr. Brooks, Chair of Executive Board; Mrs. Jennifer Armstrong, Executive Director; Ms. Martine Nickols, Executive Assistant.

Additions/Deletions

There were no additions or deletions.

Consent Agenda Items

a. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the March 14, 2019 Governing Board meeting were in the packet.

Mr. Goldenstein moved to approve the minutes as presented. Mr. Elmore seconded. The motion carried. (voice vote)

Action Items

a. Action to Employ Personnel

The Executive Board recommended the employment of the following individuals:

- a. Sharon Benekohal - 1.0 FTE School Social Worker

- b. Sarah Thomas - 16 hours per week School Social Worker
- c. Elizabeth Holcomb - 108 days, School Social Worker
- d. Tony Buser - 52 days, School Social Worker
- e. Brandy Mentock - 1.0 FTE Paraprofessional, Spectrum
- f. Shaina Lane - 1.0 FTE Early Childhood Teacher
- g. Mesha Ruskin - 1.0 FTE Early Childhood Teacher
- h. Hayley Marshall - 1.0 FTE Paraprofessional (Ind. Aide), St. Joe Spectrum
- i. Terri Fink - 1.0 FTE Paraprofessional

Mr. Koss moved to employ the above individuals as presented. Ms. Rushing seconded. The following roll call was recorded: "Aye" Ms. Rushing, Mr. Elmore, Mr. Koss, Ms. Jamison, Ms. Brooks Bennett-Miller, Ms. Harris, Mr. Quinlan, Mr. Goldenstein. The motion carried. (8-0)

b. Action to Appoint Complaint Manager

Bonnie McArthur, Superintendent at Thomasboro, was appointed the new Complaint Manager by the Executive Board.

Ms. Jamison moved to appoint Bonnie McArthur as the complaint manager. Mr. Goldenstein seconded. The motion carried. (voice vote)

c. Action to Approve RCCSEC Board Policies

The Executive Board recommended the approval of the following policies:

- 4:30 Revenue and Investments
- 6:65 Student Social and Emotional Development
- 7:185 Teen Dating Violence Prohibited
- 8:95 Parental Involvement
- 2:20 Powers and Duties of the Boards
- 4:100 Insurance Management
- 4:110 Transportation
- 4:150 Facility Management and Building Programs
- 4:160 Environment Quality of Buildings and Grounds
- 5:330 Sick Days, Vacation, Holidays and Leaves

Mr. Goldenstein moved to approve the above policies as presented. Mr. Elmore seconded. The motion carried. (voice vote)

d. Action to Approve the Roof Bid

The Executive Board discussed roof bids at the May 2019, Board meeting. The bid from Martinsville Roofing Company was the lowest bid at \$50,515.00. The bid tabulation form was included in the packet.

Mr. Koss moved to approve the roof bid from Martinsville Roofing. Ms. Rushing seconded. The following roll call was recorded: "Aye" Ms. Rushing, Mr. Elmore, Mr. Koss, Ms. Jamison, Ms. Brooks Bennett-Miller, Ms. Harris, Mr. Quinlan, Mr. Goldenstein. The motion carried. (8-0)

e. Action to Recall Personnel

The Executive Board recommended the recall of the following personnel:

- a. Amanda Black - .43 FTE Paraprofessional, Unity Spectrum
- b. Emily Gulliford - .43 FTE Paraprofessional, Unity Spectrum
- c. Jennifer Matthews - .43 FTE Paraprofessional, Unity Spectrum

Ms. Jamison moved to approve the recall of Amanda Black, Emily Gulliford and Jennifer Matthews as recommended. Ms. Brooks Bennett-Miller seconded. The following roll call was recorded: "Aye" Ms. Rushing, Mr. Elmore, Mr. Koss, Ms. Jamison, Ms. Brooks Bennett-Miller, Ms. Harris, Mr. Quinlan, Mr. Goldenstein. The motion carried. (8-0)

f. Action to Increase Full Time Equivalence of Personnel

The Executive Board recommended to increase the following individuals to full time equivalence:

- a. Amanda Black - 0.43 FTE to 1.0 FTE Individual Aide, Spectrum
- b. Emily Gulliford - 0.43 FTE to 1.0 FTE Individual Aide, Spectrum
- c. Jennifer Matthews - 0.43 FTE to 1.0 FTE Individual Aide, Spectrum

Ms. Brooks Bennett-Miller moved to approve the increase to full time equivalence of Amanda Black, Emily Gulliford and Jennifer Matthews. Mr. Koss seconded. The following roll call was recorded: "Aye" Ms. Rushing, Mr. Elmore, Mr. Koss, Ms. Jamison, Ms. Brooks Bennett-Miller, Ms. Harris, Mr. Quinlan, Mr. Goldenstein. The motion carried. (8-0)

g. Action to Approve Resignation of Personnel

The Executive Board recommended the approval of the following resignations:

- a. Regina Blackmon - 1.0 FTE Early Childhood Teacher
- b. Heather Johnson - 1.0 FTE Social Worker
- c. Meghan Loschen - 1.0 FTE Early Childhood Teacher

- d. Heather Northway - 0.5 FTE Family Educator/  
0.5 FTE Paraprofessional

Ms. Jamison made to motion to accept the resignations of Regina Blackmon, Heather Johnson, Meghan Loschen and Heather Northway. Mr. Quinlan seconded. The motion carried. (voice vote)

h. Action to Approve IDEA Amendments

The IDEA Part B Flow Through and IDEA Preschool amendments which had been completed during the year were included in the packet.

Mr. Elmore moved to approve the IDEA Part B Flow Through and IDEA Preschool amendments as presented. Ms. Brooks Bennett-Miller seconded. The following roll call was recorded: "Aye" Ms. Rushing, Mr. Elmore, Mr. Koss, Ms. Jamison, Ms. Brooks Bennett-Miller, Ms. Harris, Mr. Quinlan, Mr. Goldenstein. The motion carried. (8-0)

i. Action to Approve RCCSEC FY 20 Budget

The RCCSEC FY 20 budget was discussed during the public hearing.

Mr. Koss moved to approve the RCCSEC FY 20 budget as presented. Ms. Rushing seconded. The following roll call was recorded: "Aye" Ms. Rushing, Mr. Elmore, Mr. Koss, Ms. Jamison, Ms. Brooks Bennett-Miller, Ms. Harris, Mr. Quinlan, Mr. Goldenstein. The motion carried. (8-0)

j. Action to Approve RCCSEC Local Assessment Increase

The Director reported that member districts currently pay \$70 per student enrolled within the district to be part of the Cooperative. This assessment pays for salaries and benefits of vision/hearing teachers, Director, social workers and psychologists. The assessment has not been increased in over 25 years but expenses have increased due to an increase in salaries and benefit costs. A committee was formed and met in July to discuss a potential local assessment increase. The committee requested that the Director develop a formula for scheduling staff in districts. The committee is recommending a local assessment increase from \$70 per student to \$90 per student.

Ms. Rushing moved to increase the local assessment from \$70 per student to \$90 per student. Ms. Jamison seconded. The following roll call was recorded: "Aye" Ms. Rushing, Mr. Elmore, Mr. Koss, Ms. Jamison, Ms. Brooks Bennett-Miller, Ms. Harris, Mr. Quinlan, Mr. Goldenstein. The motion carried. (8-0)

k. Action to Approve Leave of Professional Educator Licensed Personnel

The Executive Board recommended the approval of the leave of absence for the first semester of Sharon Benekohal, Social Worker.

Mr. Koss moved to approve the leave of absence for the first semester of Sharon Benekohal, Social Worker. Ms. Brooks Bennett-Miller seconded. The motion carried. (voice vote)

l. Action to Approve RCCSEC Collective Bargaining Agreement

The Executive Board recommended the approval of the 2019-2023 Collective Bargaining Agreement which was included in the packet and includes the following salary increases:

Teachers	4%
Teacher Assistants	4%
Braille Assistants	4%
Psychologists	4%
Social Workers	4%
Clerical	4%
COTA	6%

Mr. Quinlan moved to approve the 2019-2023 Collective Bargaining Agreement. Ms. Jamison seconded. The following roll call was recorded: "Aye" Ms. Rushing, Mr. Elmore, Mr. Koss, Ms. Jamison, Ms. Brooks Bennett-Miller, Ms. Harris, Mr. Quinlan, Mr. Goldenstein. The motion carried. (8-0)

m. Action to Approve Non Union Salary Increase

The Executive Board recommended a 4% salary increase for:

Jennifer Armstrong, Executive Director  
Lori Bednarz, Special Education Administrator  
Karen Jannusch, Physical Therapist  
Jean McCarthy, Occupational Therapist  
Kristie Behrens, Bookkeeper

Mr. Koss moved to approve a 4% increase for Jennifer Armstrong, Lori Bednarz, Karen Jannusch, Jean McCarthy and Kristie Behrens. Ms. Brooks Bennett-Miller seconded. The following roll call was recorded: "Aye" Ms. Rushing, Mr. Elmore, Mr. Koss, Ms. Jamison, Ms. Brooks Bennett-Miller, Ms. Harris, Mr. Quinlan, Mr. Goldenstein. The motion carried. (8-0)

- n. Action to Approve the Governing Board Delegating to the Executive Board the Authority to Employ Specific Personnel when such Employment is Necessary Prior to the Next Regularly Scheduled Meeting of the Governing Board

Ms. Jamison moved to approve that the Governing Board delegate to the Executive Board the authority to employ specific personnel when such employment is necessary prior to the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Governing Board. Mr. Goldenstein seconded. The following roll call was recorded: "Aye" Ms. Rushing, Mr. Elmore, Mr. Koss, Ms. Jamison, Ms. Brooks Bennett-Miller, Ms. Harris, Mr. Quinlan, Mr. Goldenstein. The motion carried. (8-0)

Public Participation

There was no public participation.

Good of the Cause Participation

There was no good of the cause participation.

Adjournment

At 6:25 PM, Mr. Quinlan moved to adjourn. Mr. Koss seconded. The motion carried. (voice vote)

---

Ms. Jane Sprandel  
Secretary of the Governing Board

---

Mr. Fred Koss  
Chair of the Governing Board

---

Mrs. Jennifer Armstrong  
Recording Secretary

---

Mr. Roger Quinlan  
Vice-Chair of the Governing Board