

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

October 10, 2024

Mr. Brooks, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:01 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. Norton
Mr. Graham
Ms. Turner
Mr. Landeck
Mr. Brooks
Mr. Brink

Not Present

Ms. Thompson
Mr. Ellison
Mr. Isenhower
Ms. McArthur

Present at the meeting were Mrs. Jennifer Armstrong, Executive Director; Mrs. Stephanie Ward, Executive Assistant; Mrs. Allison Whitney, School Psychologist

Additions/Deletions

Executive Session was deleted.

Consent Agenda Items

a. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the September 12, 2024 Executive Board meeting were in the Board packet.

b. Accounts Payable

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

c. Approval of Financial Report (Reconciliation)

The reconciliation for the month of September, listing a cash and investment balance of \$1,039,673.26 was included in the Board packet.

Mr. Landeck moved to approve the consent agenda items as presented. Mr. Brink seconded. The following roll call was recorded: "Aye" Ms. Norton, Mr. Graham, Ms. Turner, Mr. Landeck, Mr. Brooks, Mr. Brink "Nay" None. The motion carried. (6-0)

Action Items

a. Action to Approve RCCSEC Board Policies

The Director recommended the approval of the following policies:

2:125 Board Member Compensation; Expenses

4:70 Resource Conservation

4:80 Accounting and Audits

5:130 Responsibilities Concerning Internal Information

5:200 Terms and Conditions of Employment and Dismissal

Review and Monitoring:

2:160 Board Attorney

4:15 Identity Protection

5:180 Temporary Illness or Temporary Incapacity

5:290 Employment Termination and Suspensions

6:110 Programs for Students At Risk of Academic Failure and/or Dropping Out of School and Graduation Incentives Program

6:150 Home and Hospital Instruction

7:170 Vandalism

Mr. Landeck moved to approve the above board policies as presented. Ms. Norton seconded. The motion carried. (voice vote)

b. Action to Approve RCCSEC FY24 Audit Report

The Director recommended the approval of the FY 24 Audit Report which was completed by Russ Leigh and Associates. The Board packet included a copy of the audit and a letter to the Board noting that no deficiencies were found.

Ms. Norton moved to approve the FY 24 audit report as presented. Mr. Landeck seconded. The following roll call was recorded: "Aye" Ms. Norton, Mr. Graham, Ms. Turner, Mr. Landeck, Mr. Brooks, Mr. Brink "Nay" None. The motion carried. (6-0)

Discussion Items

a. Alternative School

The Board members and the Executive Director discussed the possibility of RCCSEC opening an alternative school. The Executive Director reported that for many years, RCCSEC operated Pathways, an alternative school housed in the Myna Thompson Building in Rantoul. This program was fully funded by the districts and housed 6 classrooms that served K-12 students. The program had a full-time social worker and a full-time administrator and also had the use of a full-size gym. Lunch and breakfast were provided by Rantoul Township High School which was located across the street. In 2014, Rantoul City Schools withdrew from the Cooperative and only a few member district students remained at Pathways. It was not fiscally feasible or responsible to continue operating the program.

As the waitlist grew at Circle and Pavilion a few years ago, Jennifer Armstrong started a lengthy building search to open another alternative program. After much research and discussions, the board ultimately felt RCCSEC would not be able to staff the program and the search ended.

It was decided at the Board meeting that the alternative school option will be tabled at this time.

Administrative Report

b. Spectrum

Fall screenings were completed. The Executive Director is currently looking for additional Paraprofessionals that will be paid out of Local 13. Spectrum has been chosen for a focus monitoring visit during the 24-25 school year.

Public Participation

There was no public participation.

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Good of the Cause Participation

There was no good of the cause participation.

Adjournment

At 1:42 PM, Mr. Brink moved to adjourn. Mr. Landeck 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