

**Southwest Arkansas Education Cooperative Board's Minutes  
January 17, 2019**

**Schools Present:** Lafayette, Spring Hill, Hope, Fouke, Blevins, Nevada, Prescott, Texarkana

**School Not Present:** Genoa

**Co-op Staff Present:** Monica Morris, Gina Perkins, Eva Wood

The meeting was called to order by President Robert Edwards.

Carroll Purtle made a motion to approve the minutes from November, seconded by Robert Poole. The minutes were approved.

Bobby Hart made a motion to approve the financial and expenditure reports from November and December. Becky Kesler seconded the motion. Motion Passed.

**REPORT FROM DIGITAL TASK FORCE**

Ms. Bailey gave a summary of the following recommendations made by the Digital Task Force:

-It is recommended that Virtual Arkansas continue its role as state digital provider. The Task Force concurs that if a new study of educational adequacy should be undertaken in the next biennium, to reexamine the educational system and its finance structure, it should include a thorough view and discussion of digital learning in Arkansas.

-Funding for digital learning should be allocated in a manner that takes into account the following: data-driven decisions, outcome-oriented processes, transparency, and competitive/collaborative grant opportunities.

-It is recommended that the state provide guidance in the development of adequate resources and ongoing support to districts and charters, as digital instructors and class facilitators are hired, to create the proper environment and delivery structure of digital learning.

-The task force encourages the state to research and endorse national quality digital learning standards and provide training/resources to schools, as they build local capacity.

-They also advise revisiting the digital learning provider approval process, annually, to ensure schools and students have access to diverse digital learning opportunities.

-The task force supports Governor Hutchinson's goals and ongoing efforts to ensure affordable and efficient delivery of digital learning, with broad access, that will allow for "learning anyplace, anytime" beyond the walls of the local school.

Ms. Bailey handed out a paper copy of the recommendations and noted the full report has been shared electronically with all board members.

**SWAEC UPDATES AND REMINDERS** – Phoebe Bailey

Financial Disclosure Statements are due January 31, 2019. An electronic document was provided to help with any questions concerning the form, if needed.

SWAEC will run a school choice announcement on the radio. The superintendents should let Ms. Bailey know if they want their district to participate.

Ms. Bailey shared a spreadsheet listing the support visits of the SWAEC's Content Specialists to each district and campus during the first semester of this school year.

Legislative Update – Ms. Bailey shared a spreadsheet showing current bills and their recent progress.

Director Evaluation Process – The superintendents should send their completed evaluation forms to Robert Edwards by February 5, 2019.

**TEACHER CENTER UPDATES** – Monica Morris

**STANDARDS AND ASSESSMENT** – No Limits Campaign materials are currently being distributed to high school counselors.

By the end of the 2018-2019 school year, each eighth-grade student shall have a Student Success Plan in place, that is developed by school personnel, in collaboration with parent and student.

**ESSA and Accountability** – Absenteeism should be a focus area for all schools. ERZs are providing support through Attendance Works.

The ADE has determined that the focus for the 2019-2020 Leadership Quest will be High Reliability Schools.

**OTHER INFORMATION** – Research and Technology monthly webinars are back. These webinars will be held the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month.

The ADE will host the Arkansas Education Summit June 18-21, 2019 in Hot Springs. School Law Conference will be June 11, 2019 in Hot Springs.

Parental Involvement Training is required for certified educators in the 2018-2019 school year.

Mrs. Morris included that the PD Needs Assessment Survey will be shared with the superintendents and will be discussed at the next meeting.

**OTHER ITEMS:**

SWAEC is hosting a Poverty Simulation at Hempstead Hall on April 15, 2019 at 5:30 P.M. Mrs. Morris will send out more information as it becomes available.

Ms. Bailey asked the superintendents to please send in their 2019-2020 school calendars as soon as they are ready. She also shared a handout from Shannon Puckett with reminders and deadlines for the CTE Program and Perkins funding.

The next board meeting is scheduled for February 12, 2019.

With no further business, Carroll Purtle made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Bobby Hart. The meeting was adjourned.