

**Southwest Arkansas Education Cooperative Board's Minutes  
October 12, 2017**

**Schools Present:** Fouke, Genoa – Proxy Debbie Huff, Hope, Lafayette, Prescott, Spring Hill, Texarkana

**Schools Not Present:** Blevins, Nevada

**Co-op Staff Present:** Monica Morris, Elsie Roach, Eva Wood

The meeting was called to order by President Becky Kesler.

Bobby Hart made a motion to approve the minutes from September, seconded by Robert Edwards. The minutes were approved.

Jim Buie made a motion to approve the financial and expenditure reports from September. Robert Edwards seconded the motion. Motion Passed.

**STATE AND FEDERAL UPDATES** – Phoebe Bailey

Ms. Bailey gave an update on the Facilities Advisory Committee. Four major work groups have been formed: State Plan, Assessment, Facility, and Wealth Index, Ranking and Prioritization.

Arkansas ASCD is preparing to host a Legislative Advocacy Training in Little Rock on February 28, 2018.

Bobby Hart is interested in being able to pull APSCN reports. Regina Foster will conduct a training for the superintendents that are interested. Monica Morris will get a count on how many are interested.

**ADE UPDATES-** Ms. Bailey reminded the superintendents of the October 3, 2017 Commissioner's Memo FT-18-003 on Clarification of Partnership Program "Complete Application" and Act 864 of 2017.

The ADE is developing a "Systems Conference" to be held in Hot Springs on June 18-21, 2019. This will combine many of the other conferences they do into one large conference.

Ms. Bailey informed the superintendents that, per Debbie Coffman, the Standards for Accreditation Team will be in contact with each superintendent or district contact person after the Cycle 2 window closes. Any documents needed will be requested then.

**STATE BOARD-** The State Board is meeting on October 12-13, 2017. Topics of interest include Consideration for Public Comment Release: Proposed Rules Governing Educator Licensure and Repeal of Rules Governing Educator Preparation Program Approval. These proposed rules regulate licensure for Arkansas teachers and administrators. Monica Morris told the superintendents that this will be in four tiers and is referred to as a "Tiered" Licensure System. There was a brief discussion.

Ms. Bailey gave the following summary of the licensure proposed rules:

The State Board also has on their agenda Consideration for Final Approval: ADE Rules Governing Educator Support and Development, as well as, repeal of Rules Governing the Teacher Excellence and Support System, Leader Excellence and Development System, and Educator Mentoring Programs.

**FEDERAL UPDATES** – The FCC is considering a policy change, which would deeply cut, if not eliminate, its support for Category 2 (internal connections) within the E-Rate Program. The FCC has asked for the public to submit Initial Comments on this Public Notice by October 23, 2017 and Reply Comments by November 7, 2017. The superintendents were given instructions on how to file comments.

**CO-OP UPDATES** – Ms. Bailey and Monica Morris told the superintendents that beginning in December 2017, artwork will be displayed at the Co-op on a 2-month rotation, based on grade span. This is for any K-12 student attending a Co-op member district.

**PERKINS GRANT** – Phoebe Bailey

Ms. Bailey gave the Perkins Consortium member districts a handout of the reimbursement procedures for district reimbursements. All purchases must have prior approval before purchasing.

Monica Morris told the consortium that all had been approved for Peak Performance U License, except Fouke's Career class. The cost is in the budget, so they can purchase. Professional Development has also been built in for the all in one cost is \$4000.00. She gave them the registration form for this training.

**TEACHER CENTER UPDATES** – Monica Morris

**STANDARDS AND ASSESSMENT** – Training on NWEA reports is scheduled for October 19, 2017 at the Co-op.

Renaissance will be providing training at the Co-op on accessing reports and using data effectively on October 17, 2017.

Istation has released information regarding components of their assessment meeting screening requirements for dyslexia.

The ADE is currently writing a course that has Financial Literacy embedded into Economics. Schools can embed the standards because current 9<sup>th</sup> graders will have to graduate having taken Financial Literacy.

Fee waivers are available from ACT for economically disadvantaged students to take the ACT at no cost on a national test day.

R.I.S.E. – K-2 will continue with a new group of teachers for the 2018-2019 school year. Grades 3-6 will begin in the summer of 2018. Grades 7-12 will include a study of morphology and orthographic mapping to transfer into content. Let Ms. Morris know if they are interested.

Act 416 – A Commissioner's Memo was recently released, providing a link to the Foundations of Reading Site. This assessment information explains who is required to take the assessment. Anyone on an ALP year 2 or higher does not have to take the science of reading assessment.

Act 1063 (Right to Read Act) – The expectation is that beginning in the year 2018-2019, each school teacher will receive PD in scientific reading instruction, both at the elementary and secondary levels. By the 2020-2021 school year, all teachers must demonstrate proficiency in knowledge and practices (elementary) or awareness (secondary). Possible ways of showing proficiency by 2021 were given.

Three new Foundations in SPED training modules are available through AR IDEAS.

**TESS/LEADS/LICENSURE/MENTORING** – There are two dates for the required novice teacher training at the Co-op. Day 1 was offered on October 2, 2017, with a repeat session on October 3, 2017. The next training is scheduled for February 21, 2018, with a repeat session on February 22, 2018.

The Co-op Leadership Quest Training Dates: September 12-13, 2017, November 14-15, 2017, February 6-7, 2018.

**OTHER INFORMATION** – School Board Trainings have been scheduled for October 30, 2017, December 4, 2017 and January 29, 2018. Let Ms. Morris know the number of attendees planning to attend.

The ADE has been working with AETN to create a 30 minute segment on Human Trafficking. The piece should be developed and on the AETN portal by January. Districts will be required to offer this training to teachers.

Ms. Morris told the board that Novice Teacher data shows 61% were from the APPEL Program.

**ARKANSAS LEADERSHIP ACADEMY PRESENTATION** – Dr. Blaine Alexander

The mission is to develop and support leadership capacity that fosters equity and excellence in education. The Academy supports and provides developmental learning experiences for different leadership roles grounded in five performance strands. Those strands are (1) Setting Clear and Compelling Direction (2) Shaping Culture for Learning (3) Leading and Managing Change (4) Transforming Teaching and Learning (5) Managing Accountability Systems. A question/answer/discussion followed. If they are interested, Dr. Alexander will come to their district.

**PERSONNEL** – Ms. Bailey made a recommendation to terminate the employment of Chasity Battee, HIPPY Home-Based Visitor. Robert Edwards made a motion to accept Ms. Bailey's recommendation. Angie Raney seconded the motion. Motion Passed.

The Board entered Executive Session at 11:49 and returned to open session at 11:57 with no action taken.

**NOVEMBER MEETING DATE** – The next meeting was scheduled for November 15, 2017.

With no further business, Robert Poole made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Angie Raney seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned.