

Southwest Arkansas Education Cooperative Board's Minutes

March 28, 2018

Schools Present: Texarkana, Spring Hill, Hope, Carmen Cross – Fouke Proxy, Bradley Wright – Genoa Proxy, Lafayette

Schools Not Present: Blevins, Nevada, Prescott

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

Guests Present: Dr. Richard Abernathy, AAEA, Matt Young, Stop the Bleed

The meeting was called to order by President Becky Kesler.

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

Bobby Hart made a motion to approve the financial and expenditure reports from February. Angie Raney seconded the motion. Motion Passed.

STOP THE BLEED PRESENTATION – Matt Young presented information on a course that trains school staff to help stop the bleed in emergency situations. The training will take place at the Texarkana AR Convention Center on Wednesday, April 25, 2018. Each district is allowed to send 3 representatives. Participants will receive training and kits to bring back to their district.

DR. RICHARD ABERNATHY, AAEA – Dr. Abernathy gave updates on the upcoming fiscal session and funding for next year. Some other topics discussed were school choice, education forums, curriculum, school safety, and facilities. He also noted a few concerns from the superintendents and will take those back for discussion at AAEA.

TEACHER CENTER UPDATES – Monica Morris

Leadership Quest – Mrs. Morris is looking for a principal to take on the role of facilitator for the 2018-2019 school year. She asks that the superintendents contact her if they would like to recommend someone from their district.

Representatives from Kuder would like to come speak to the board on Career and Technical assessments. If anyone is interested, please let Mrs. Morris know and she will get them scheduled for a future meeting.

STANDARDS AND ASSESSMENT – School districts will assign a Civics Exam Coordinator for each 9-12 building, where the exam will be administered.

Financial Literacy (Act 480) – Schools will need a plan for 9th grade students who have taken economics, that did not include the financial literacy standards. Contact Margaret Herrick at the ADE with any questions.

ESSA AND ACCOUNTABILITY – A-F ratings will be based on the ESSA Accountability Plan. Districts will receive the rating in advance of its public release, around April 15, 2018. The emergency rules governing A-F ratings went into effect on March 7, 2018.

TESS/LEADS/LICENSURE/MENTORING – The emergency rules, governing licensure, have been updated and went into effect on March 7, 2018. These rules remove the requirement of the basic skills exam (Praxis Core) for licensure. However, educator prep programs may still require this for admission.

Two webinars have been scheduled for March 29, 2018, to provide an overview of the changes to TESS and LEADS, resulting from Act 295 of 2017.

OTHER INFORMATION – The ADE will be providing regional Praxis Support sessions by content area.

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

DIRECTOR UPDATES

Ms. Bailey notified the board of the upcoming paper purchase. She also gave them their purchase amounts from last year. If they are interested, they should submit their order request by April 11, 2018.

Ms. Bailey told the board that the current Co-op vehicle is in need of replacement. She explained that Spring Hill has recently gone through the process and purchased a 2018 Chevy Traverse through state bid contract. Ms. Bailey recommended that the Co-op use the state bid contract and also purchase a Chevy Traverse. Bobby Hart made a motion to purchase the Chevy Traverse, using the state contract. Angie Raney seconded the motion. Motion Passed.

Ms. Bailey handed out the Proposed Co-op Calendar for the 2018-2019 school year. Angie Raney made a motion to approve the calendar. Robert Edwards seconded the motion. Motion Passed.

Eva Wood shared that a new staff training in crisis prevention has created the need for a new policy. She handed out a copy of a Crisis Prevention Policy. She also shared a policy that states what guidelines must be met if a parent requests an independent evaluation of their child under IDEA. After review, Robert Edwards made a motion to approve the policies as written. Bobby Hart seconded the motion. Motion Passed.

BONUS DISCUSSION – Ms. Bailey told the board that after reviewing the budget, she would like to recommend a \$750 bonus for all active and contracted Co-op employees, to be given in April. Bobby Hart made a motion to accept Ms. Bailey's recommendation. Angie Raney seconded the motion. Motion Passed.

PERSONNEL – Ms. Bailey noted that interviews had been conducted and she would like to recommend Shannon Puckett for the position of CTE Coordinator. Angie Raney made a motion to accept the recommendation. Robert Edwards seconded the motion. Motion Passed.

Ms. Bailey recommended the termination of ECH Clerk, Vikki Bearden. Bobby Hart made a motion to accept Ms. Bailey's recommendation. Angie Raney seconded the motion. Motion Passed.

OTHER ITEMS:

Ms. Bailey shared that she has received a nomination for Bobby Hart as Rural Ed Superintendent of the Year. She will send him the paperwork to complete.

With this portion of the meeting complete, Robert Edwards made a motion to adjourn. Angie Raney seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned.