

**Southwest Arkansas Education Cooperative Board's Minutes
May 11, 2022**

Schools Present: Spring Hill, Prescott, Lafayette (Opal Anderson), Texarkana (Lea McDonald), Nevada, and Hope.

Schools Not Present: Blevins, Fouke, and Genoa.

Co-op Staff Present: Phoebe Bailey, Monica Morris, Eva Wood, Lynn Foster, Gina Perkins, Tanya Collins, and Vicki Jewell.

The meeting was called to order by Phoebe Bailey.

Tom Wilson made a motion to approve the minutes from April, seconded by Dr. Crossley. The minutes were approved.

Robert Poole made a motion to approve the financial and expenditure reports for April. The motion was seconded by Roy McCoy. The financial and expenditure reports were approved.

PAPER BID: Ms. Bailey informed the board about the only paper bid quote that was returned. The bid was from Printing Papers and was for \$53.04 including tax. After a brief discussion Robert Poole made a motion to accept the proposed paper bid and Tom Wilson seconded. The motion passed to accept the bid from Printing Papers.

PERSONNEL: Ms. Bailey let the board know that Valarie Harval has submitted her letter of resignation effective May 13, 2022. Ms. Bailey also recommended for hire, Trent Saracini for the position of Automation Specialist for DESE Research & Technology, as well as Sandra Hurst for TESS/LEADS State Specialist. Ms. Bailey advised that both of these positions will be housed in Little Rock. Dr. Crossley made a motion to approve the personnel slate as recommended. Robert Poole seconded the motion and the motion was approved.

TEACHER CENTER UPDATES: Monica Morris

Ms. Morris informed the board that all Perkins reimbursement requests need to be turned in to Shannon Puckett, the CTE Coordinator by May 16th. Ms. Morris gave a link to the recent commissioner's memo regarding specific information about federal grant reimbursement payments. Ms. Morris also let the board know that the duplicate enrollment audit website opened on May 2nd, for resolving enrollment issues with school submitted Cycle 6 data. Ms. Morris reminded the board that if they asked for only one year approval for their AMI plan that they will need to resubmit again this spring if they wish to continue with AMI days

Ms. Morris reminded the superintendents that the EdReflect Data platform will end permanently on June 30, 2022. All data will be deleted on that day, therefore districts and schools should consider downloading and printing information necessary for future planning. Ms. Morris told the superintendents about the Beginning Administrator Form that should be completed by school districts upon hiring first year administrators. While on this topic, she let them know about the Highly Effective School Leadership Certification which provides support for first year principals who no longer qualify for Beginning Administrator Induction.

Ms. Morris told the board that the required training for the 2022-23 school year will be professional learning in family and community engagement. She reminded them that the required training for this year was child maltreatment/mandated reporter and if they have someone who has not completed this training that ARIDEAS has a video to cover the requirement.

Ms. Morris shared that DESE is offering a two year Dyslexia Therapist training course for certified Arkansas teachers. The goal of this project is to develop a network of Certified Academic Language Therapists (CALT) for the purpose of providing a specialized dyslexia instructional program designed to provide therapy to public school students with dyslexia or related reading and written language difficulties.

Ms. Morris asked the board to consider nominating a teacher from their district for Arkansas Teacher of the Year. The online application and supporting materials must be submitted by June 6th.

RECRUITMENT & RETENTION: Vicki Jewell

Ms. Jewell presented to the board her 2021-22 End of Year Report. Included in her report were answers to a survey Ms. Jewell had given the novices. She also included responses by building leaders. Ms. Jewell asked the superintendents to designate a contact person for the upcoming school year with whom she could collaborate about the novice teacher registry and other related topics. She also informed the board that she is available to help them make their own district specific new teacher handbook.

DIRECTOR UPDATES:

Ms. Bailey talked with the board about the Department of Health ELC Grant. She let them know that the SWAEC districts have spent approximately 20% of the allocated budget and the final deadline for reimbursement for 2022 is June 6th. Any submission received after that will not be processed until July.

Ms. Bailey let the board know that two of our ARP Technology Grant projects have been submitted and approved. The software licensing agreement for Adobe software was approved, as well as the project of replacing wireless access points. She let them know that she had met with David Henderson this week and they have submitted additional projects for approval.

Ms. Bailey reminded the board that all school districts and charter schools must prepare and post on their website by August 1st of each year a 3 year Teacher and Administrator Recruitment and Retention Plan. She also let them know that SWAEC will host a training on this plan on May 13th with DESE at 10:00 and gave them a registration link.

Ms. Bailey let the board know that they should have received an email from Debbie Smith last week with information on the (ATRM) AR Teacher Residency Model.

ECH PROGRAM MOU: Ms. Bailey discussed with the board the funding for the upcoming ECH school year. She told them that the carryover balance enables us to continue billing at the same rate as this year of \$400 per student. Without the carryover, per student cost would increase back to the original amount of \$800. However, Ms. Bailey gave the board the option of a payment for the carryover money or to keep the per student amount the same. Roy McCoy made a motion to keep the student cost of \$400 and not accept a carryover refund and Tom Wilson seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Ms. Bailey passed information out to the board regarding the Clean Bus Rebate Program. The program assists school districts in Arkansas that are interested in electrifying a portion of their bus fleet.

Ms. Bailey asked the board for approval to pay out Patrick Schoenberger's sick days to his spouse with his passing. Robert Poole made a motion to approve and was seconded by Roy McCoy. The motion passed.

With no other business Robert Poole made a motion to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Dr. Crossley. The meeting was adjourned.