

Southwest Arkansas Education Cooperative Board's Minutes

June 13, 2024

Schools Present: Prescott, Spring Hill Proxy-Ronald Smead, Lafayette County, Texarkana, Hope, Nevada

Schools Not Present: Fouke, Genoa, Blevins

Co-op Staff Present: Phoebe Bailey, Monica Morris, Gina Perkins, Jenny Smead, Vicki Jewell, Katlin Niemeyer

The meeting was called to order by Roy McCoy

Robert Poole made a motion to approve the minutes from May. Jonathan Crossley seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

Robert Poole made a motion to approve the financial and expenditure report from May. Lloyd Jackson seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

Personnel- Ms. Bailey presented a packet for three new hires. Brittani Trumble and Kayla Jones for the mental health team and Kristy White as a HIPYPY home visitor were on the slate to be hired. The motion was made by Jonathan Crossley to approve these as presented. The motion was seconded by Opal Anderson. The motion was approved.

Legislative Audit- Ms. Bailey stated that we received our audit report and the superintendents should have received theirs in the mail also. A motion was made by Lloyd Jackson to approve it. The motion was seconded by Robert Poole. The motion was approved.

Annual Report- Ms. Bailey sent copies of this to all the board members in the google drive. The motion was made by Robert Poole to approve the report. The motion was seconded by Opal Anderson. The motion was approved. This will be submitted to the state department and will go before the state board for approval.

Contract Amendments- Ms. Bailey presented a handout for end of the year contract amendments for work including presenting sessions for ArPEP, signing bonus for mental health positions, working on TEACH coursework. Also included was ArPEP facilitation consisting of booking the sessions, sequencing the topics for sessions, recruiting students, Saturday work and licensing the candidates as they complete the courses. After discussion, the motion was made by Lloyd Jackson to approve this as presented. It was seconded by Jonathan Crossley. The motion was approved.

ECH Local LEADS- Katlin Niemeyer went over information concerning the purpose of this program and who can benefit from it. She stated that early childhood has made significant progress in addressing learning implementations to meet LEARNS requirements.

EOY Mentoring Updates- Ms. Jewell stated that we supported 208 novice teachers this year. Mentoring will continue to support any teacher who needs to obtain an assessment score that will qualify them for licensure. There was a written "district specific" plan developed by the mentoring program specialist, superintendent, and building principals. All novice teachers completed code of ethics training. District and novice teachers have been made aware of SWAEC licensure support

services. Anyone who reached out to the programs was given assistance in the form of 240 tutoring access, Praxis workbook check-out system, study plan, and direct connection with content specialists.

Teacher Center- Monica Morris

Administrator Institute- Day one was offered on June 12 with day two being on June 26.

Educator Effectiveness and Licensure- each beginning administrator is required to receive mentoring/induction support for his or her first three years of employment. This is provided in partnership with DESE and AAEA.

AR App- COM-24-093 was released April 3, 2024 providing districts information on AR App. A consolidation of 17 different state and federal applications into a single new plan. Plans will be due June 28, 2024 for the 2024-2025 school year.

School Safety Assessments and Safety Grants - A public school shall conduct a comprehensive school safety assessment every three (3) years to assess the safety, security, accessibility, and emergency preparedness of district buildings and grounds in collaboration with local law enforcement, fire, and emergency management officials. The first safety assessment is due by August 1, 2024. COM-24-045.

Required Training- there will be a bullying training via zoom on July 22 that you can sign up for through SWAEC. We will also have Tier I training on June 26.

ArPep- the application deadline for this is June 28, 2024. All applicants must pass the Praxis Subject Assessment before applying.

Merit Pay- information for this can be found in the commissioner's memo LIC-24-011.

ADE SIS- The information is updated by a districts' APSCN-SIS Cycle Coordinator using the ADE Statewide Information System (SIS) and resides on the LEA Profile module of the ADE SIS web application, which is used to certify Cycle 1 through Cycle 9 data submission. The update process is now cycle independent and can be updated anytime of the year.

Director Updates- Phoebe Bailey

24-25 Meeting Dates- Ms. Bailey handed out the 2024-2025 board meeting calendar.

AEPA- Ms. Bailey talked about information concerning AEPA (Association of Educational Purchasing Agencies). They offer quality products and services that are awarded through a national competitive bidding process. Contracts are supported by a cooperative of educational service agencies in different states that work together to support schools and other non-profit entities throughout the US. Members are selected based on their commitment to supporting the AEPA contracts with their state and meeting minimal membership requirements. Ms. Bailey asked for permission to look into this further and possibly pursue. Everyone in attendance agreed and gave permission to look into this further.

With no further business, a motion was made by Robert Poole to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Opal Anderson. The meeting was adjourned.

