

MID-STATE SPECIAL EDUCATION
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
December 16, 2015
Minutes

PROCEDURAL BUSINESS:

Mr. Jeff Strieker, Chairperson called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m. at the Mid-State Special Education Office, 202 Prairie, Morrisonville, Illinois.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. Gary DePatis, Morrisonville; Dr. Gregory Fuerstenau, Taylorville; Mr. Fred Lamkey, Edinburg; Dr. David Lett, Pana; Mr. Ron Graham, South Fork; Mr. Brad Turner, Mulberry Grove; Mr. Wes Olson, Bond County; Mr. Adam Bussard, Brownstown; Ms. Deb Philpot, St. Elmo; Mr. Rich Well, Vandalia; Ms. Melissa Ritter, Ramsey; Mr. Mike Kelly, Carlinville; Mr. Aaron Hopper, Panhandle; Mr. David Powell, Hillsboro; Mr. Jeff Strieker, Litchfield.

MEMBERS ABSENT:

PRESENTATION OF PROXIES:

None

OTHERS PRESENT:

Mrs. Brenda Patrick, Director; Mrs. Angie Armour, Assistant Director; Mrs. Crystal Lawler, Assistant Director; Mrs. Jeanne Vancil, Comptroller; Mrs. Shelly Rexroad, Business Manager; Mrs. Barb Daugherty, MENTA Group; Ms. Susan Sullivan, Executive Secretary.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Presented for review and approval:

- Regular Session & Executive Session Minutes from November 18, 2015,
- Destruction of Executive Session audio recordings older than 18 months (none),
- Monthly payables totaling \$328,686.96,
 - \$325,762.81 – MSSE Central
 - \$184.93 – CR/MSSE
 - \$2,230.65 – BF/MSSE
 - \$508.57– MC/MSSE
 - Notable Expenses
 - Bushue Consulting Renewal Fee
- Statement of Position as of November 30, 2015, balances with the ending monthly fund balance of \$2,074,197.03,
- Receipts vs. Expenditures Report,
- Mrs. Patrick noted that as of today the FY16 First Quarter State Personnel Reimbursement has not been disbursed by the state.

Motion to approve all items on the consent agenda: Mr. Well; second, Mr. Bussard. Roll call yielded 16 yeas, 0 nays. Motion carried.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Staff Recognition – Mrs. Patrick reported that Mid-State Special Education staff was recognized for milestone years of service at the December 5, 2015 staff meeting.

- 10 Year Recognition
 - Tina Smith – Clerical
 - Adrienne Lauff – Physical Therapist
- 15 Year Recognition
 - Laura Snyder – Transition Specialist
- 20 Year Recognition
 - Jeanne Vancil – Comptroller
 - Rick Cina – School Social Worker
- 30 Year Recognition
 - Fran Amling – Program Coordinator

Annual Joint Committee Meeting – The MSSE meeting was held on November 18, 2015 to complete the five required tasks. Members of the Joint Committee Included Brenda Patrick, Director; Crystal Lawler, Assistant Director; Laruen Assalley, School Psychologist, in CR Region, and Brenda Siegrist, School Social Worker, in CR Region. The group made no changes to the decisions made last year which are as follows:

- The committee decided to not include any “Needs Improvement” educators in Group 3 rather than Group 2.
- The committee decided to make no change to the definition of Group 4.
- The committee decided not to include evaluation ratings issued by other districts or joint agreements in the definition of “performance evaluation.”
- The evaluation rating system in use complies with IL School Code in that it contains the 4 required rating categories: Excellent, Proficient, Needs Improvement and Unsatisfactory.
- The committee reviewed the provision that any member of the Joint Committee may request review of the honorable dismissal list by the Joint Committee to determine if there is a trend of more senior teachers receiving lower ratings, indicating a bias against the longest serving teachers and all indicated understanding of it.

Excess Cost – Mrs. Patrick stated that Jeanne Vancil and Michelle Rexroad are in the process of completing information that will be distributed to the district bookkeepers and business managers. This information will be utilized as they complete the district worksheets to calculate the per pupil expenditures.

Legal Activity – Mrs. Patrick informed the Board of a sudden onslaught of legal activity. A new attorney from Peoria has become involved with an advocate from Community and Residential Services Authority and parents are being encouraged to seek legal counsel. Mrs. Patrick plans to look at ways to address common areas of concern. Foremost are the areas of behavior; LRE, focused monitoring, and discipline of special education students. Mrs. Patrick stressed the importance of working proactively on ways to prepare for FY17.

MENTA Group – Mrs. Barb Daugherty from the MENTA Group provided an update on Cornerstone North and South.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

Finance Committee Report

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Motion to enter Executive Session at 10:18 a.m. Finance Committee Report to discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees of the joint agreement: Mr. DePatis; second, Mr. Graham. Roll call yielded 16 yeas, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Motion to return to open session at 10:32 a.m.: Mr. DePatis; second, Ms. Philpot. Roll call yielded 16 yeas, 0 nays. Motion carried.

ACTION FOLLOWING EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Director Positon – The committee discussed posting the FY18 position opening for the MSSE Director.

Motion to approve posting the FY18 position opening for MSSE Director: Dr. Fuerstenau; second, Mr. Turner. Voice vote yielded 16 yeas, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Assistant Director Positon – The Finance Committee reviewed the staffing needs for MSSE Central Administration. The committee recommended that MSSE move forward with the replacement of the Assistant Director position that will be vacated when Mrs. Lawler retires at the end of FY16. Mrs. Patrick asked for approval to post the Assistant Director position.

Motion to approve posting the FY17 position opening for Assistant Director: Mr. DePatis; second, Mr. Lamkey. Voice vote yielded 16 yeas, 0 nays, 0 abstain. Motion carried.

MSSE Board Paid Health Insurance - MSSE board paid health insurance for all new MSSE Central hires as of November 1, 2015 will be paid at the rate of \$285.00 per month toward the health insurance premium. All MSSE Central employees currently taking health insurance will be eligible for board paid health insurance at the rate of \$285.00 per month as of July 1, 2016.

Any MSSE employees electing to take health insurance during the open enrollment period will receive the board contribution of \$285.00 per month.

Motion to approve implementing the health insurance option proposal as presented: Mr. Well; second, Mrs. Ritter. Roll call yielded 16 yeas, 0 nays. Motion carried.

DISCUSSION:

The next monthly meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 21, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. at the Mid-State Special Education office in Morrisonville.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn at 10:40 a.m.: Dr. Lett; second, Mr. Hopper. Voice vote was unanimous. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Ms. Susan Sullivan, Recording Secretary

Chairperson

Date

Executive Secretary

Date