

MID-STATE SPECIAL EDUCATION
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

January 20, 2016

Minutes

PROCEDURAL BUSINESS:

Mr. Jeff Strieker, Chairperson called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m. at the Mid-State Special Education Office, 202 Prairie, Morrisonville, Illinois.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. Gary DePatis, Morrisonville; Dr. Gregory Fuerstenau, Taylorville; Dr. David Lett, Pana; Mr. Ron Graham, South Fork; Dr. Scott Doerr, Nokomis; Mr. Mike Kelly, Carlinville; Mr. Aaron Hopper, Panhandle; Mr. David Powell, Hillsboro; Mr. Jeff Strieker, Litchfield.

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Mr. Fred Lamkey, Edinburg; 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.

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. Beth Conran and Mrs. Barb Daugherty, Cornerstone Academy; Ms. Susan Sullivan, Executive Secretary.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Presented for review and approval:

- Regular Session & Executive Session Minutes from December 16, 2015,
- Semi-Annual Review of Closed Session Minutes, (6/17/15; 12/16/15), recommendation for the minutes to remain closed,
- Destruction of Executive Session audio recordings older than 18 months (none),
- Monthly payables totaling \$720,610.16,
 - \$713,917.34 – MSSE Central
 - \$453.38 – CR/MSSE
 - \$1,012.99 – BF/MSSE
 - \$5,226.45 – MC/MSSE
 - Notable Expenses
 - State Personnel Reimbursement
 - Data Control & Research Annual Fee
- Receipts vs. Expenditures Report,
- Statement of Position as of December 31, 2015, balances with the ending monthly fund balance of \$2,286,112.93,

- First Quarter Personnel Reimbursement is flowing to districts with the bills today, checks were dispersed,
- 2nd Quarter Personnel Reimbursement has been vouchered.

Motion to approve all items on the consent agenda: Mr. DePatis; second, Mr. Hopper. Roll call yielded 9 yeas, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Agenda Order – The order of agenda items VI. Executive Session and VIII. Actions Following Executive Session were moved to follow item II. Consent Agenda.

Motion to approve change of order for agenda items: Mr. Kelly; second, Mr. Powell. Voice vote yielded 9 yeas, 0 nays. Motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

None

ACTION FOLLOWING EXECUTIVE SESSION:

New Hire – Meaghan Hutchinson-Malherek, School Psychologist for the 2016-2017 school year pending successful completion of the background checks.

Motion to approve employment recommendation as presented: Mr. Graham; second, Mr. Kelly. Roll call yielded 9 yeas, 0 nays. Motion carried.

New Hire – Amanda Chahal, School Social Worker for the 2016-2017 school year pending successful completion of the background checks.

Motion to approve employment recommendation as presented: Dr. Fuerstenau; second, Mr. DePatis. Roll call yielded 9 yeas, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Retirement – Fran Amling, Christian Region Program Coordinator submitted her intent to retire effective the end of FY16.

Motion to approve retirement as requested: Mr. DePatis; second, Dr. Fuerstenau. Voice vote yielded 15 yeas, 0 nays. Motion carried.

DIRECTOR’S REPORT:

Excess Cost – Mrs. Patrick reported that the special education calculations were sent to all Superintendents, Bookkeepers and Business Managers. Jeanne Vancil will be available to assist districts with completing the process. Excess Cost is due to ISBE by January 29, 2016.

MSSE Action Plan – Mrs. Patrick shared a mid-year update of the Mid-State Special Education Action Plan.

FY16 Director’s Goals – Mrs. Patrick provided a mid-year update on the status of progress.

Cornerstone Academy – Ms. Beth Conran provided a report on the dual Cornerstone locations. Information was presented on a Menta Group program that will address the pending legal changes for FY17. Ms. Conran invited the Superintendents to observe the program.

Legal In-Service – Merry Rhoades will provide an administrative in-service to assist districts and administrators prepare for the implementation of Senate Bill 100. The new law will go into effect in September 2016.

Indicator 11 – Mrs. Patrick reported that on December 21, 2015 MSSE received notification that Litchfield was non-compliant with Indicator 11 for the 2014-2015 school year. Angie Armour, Lyn Becker, and Tricia Kelley reviewed a required webinar provided by ISBE. The information provided in the webinar, 23 IAC 226.110(d) states, “Upon completion of the assessments identified, but no later than 60 school days following the date of written consent from the parent to perform the needed assessments, the determination of eligibility shall be made and the IEP meeting shall be completed.” The MSSE team questioned the discrepancy concerning the calculation of the start of the 60 days as it was listed on ISBE webinar. As a result of the inquiry the finding of noncompliance for Litchfield was rescinded. Litchfield received a letter of determination that they are now in compliance with Indicator 11.

OIG Audits – Mrs. Patrick updated the board on an opportunity to self-audit for the purposes of Medicaid. The initial findings show a great deal of problems with compliance over the entire state. A self-audit allows districts to repay money with fewer penalties. Mrs. Patrick stressed to the district superintendents the importance of completing this process to avoid monetary and an array of other penalties.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

Director’s Evaluation – Mr. Strieker will be collecting and tabulating the Director’s evaluation forms.

DISCUSSION:

The next monthly meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 17, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. at the Mid-State Special Education office in Morrisonville.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn at 10:41 a.m.: Mr. DePatis; second, Mr. Powell. Voice vote was unanimous. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Ms. Susan Sullivan, Recording Secretary

Chairperson

Date

Executive Secretary

Date