

**MID-STATE SPECIAL EDUCATION
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
February 19, 2013**

PROCEDURAL BUSINESS:

Chairperson, Mr. David Powell called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. at the Mid-State Special Education Office in Morrisonville, Illinois.

Members Present – Mr. Jerry Wesley, Morrisonville; Dr. Gregg Fuerstenau, Taylorville; Dr. David Lett, Pana; Mr. Ron Graham, South Fork; Dr. Scott Doerr, Nokomis; Mr. Jeff Strieker, Bond County; Mr. Adam Bussard, Brownstown; Mr. Rich Well, Vandalia; Ms. Melissa Ritter, Ramsey; Mr. Aaron Hopper, Panhandle; Mr. David Powell, Hillsboro; Mr. Chad Allison, Litchfield.

Presentation of Proxies – Mr. Rich Well, Vandalia for Mr. Mike Gauch, Mulberry Grove; Mr. Rich Well, Vandalia for Ms. Deb Philpot, St. Elmo.

Members Absent – Ms. Patty Wood, Edinburg; Mr. Mike Gauch, Mulberry Grove; Ms. Deb Philpot, St. Elmo; Mr. Mike Kelly, Carlinville.

Others Present – Ms. Alison Boutcher, Director; Ms. Brenda Patrick, Assistant Director Christian Region; Ms. Angie Armour, Assistant Director Montgomery/Carlinville Region; Ms. Crystal Lawler, Assistant Director Bond/Fayette Region; and Ms. Tammy Hadley, Secretary/Recorder. Visitors: Ken Carwell and Beth Conran from The Menta Group, Barb Daugherty, Principal of Cornerstone Academy; and Katie Glenn, School Social Worker for Christian Region.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Presented for review and approval:

- Regular and Executive Session Minutes from January 15, 2013.
- Recommendation for destruction of Executive Session audio recordings older than 18 months – none to destroy.
- Payables list – total \$488,745.89
 - \$472,787.72 = MSSE Central
 - \$2,910.98 = CR/MSSE
 - \$8,007.30 = BF/MSSE
 - \$5,039.89 = MC/MSSE
- Statement of Position – as of January 31, 2013, the fund balance for MSSE was \$1,171,147.26.
- Receipts vs. Expenditures – Ms. Boutcher presented the receipts vs. expenditures report.

Motion to approve all items on the consent agenda: Mr. Strieker; second, Dr. Fuerstenau. Roll call yielded 14 yeas, 0 nays. Motion carried.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

You Make the Difference Award – Ms. Boutcher recognized and presented School Social Worker, Katie Glenn, with the 3rd quarter award. Katie has been a School Social Worker in Christian Region for nine years.

Update on Cornerstone Academy – Beth Conran from the The Menta Group presented updates on the students at Cornerstone Academy. Some highlights include:

- Average daily enrollment for the second quarter is 51.3.
- Attendance is outstanding at 86%, and the truancy rate is very low at only 4.99%.
- Reading scores for the winter benchmarking period are up significantly from those recorded for the fall benchmarking period.
- 86% of high school students earned credit towards graduation during the first semester, and 82% earned all available credits; only one student did not earn credit.
- Four Cornerstone students reintegrated into their district schools during or at the end of the first semester.
- Physical management interventions are down from the first quarter.

Update on *Insights into Behavior* – Katie Glenn, School Social Worker, has coordinated trainings for all MSSE School Social Workers on using the *Insights into Behavior* software tool to conduct Functional Behavior Assessments and write Behavior Intervention Plans. Ms. Glenn provided an update on the benefits of the tool and how it is being used.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Certified School Nurse – Ms. Boutcher shared information she received from ISBE Superintendent, Chris Koch. Mr. Koch had previously proposed postponing the implementation of the Certified School Nurse rule and indicated that it still had to go through the rulemaking process. However, information received on February 18th from School News Service indicates House Bill 1373 regarding this issue has been proposed and the hearing is February 20th. Alison emailed Chris Koch asking if this is still the rulemaking process or is this legislation. Mr. Koch indicated that this is IFT's attempt to put what is in rule with regard to the July 1st implementation into statute. ISBE is working with Representative Chapa LaVia to put a hold on any action on this. Alison will keep superintendents informed.

NEW BUSINESS:

FY13 MSSE Central & Consolidated Budget Amendments – Ms. Boutcher presented the amended budgets for approval. She also provided members with a brief summary of the proposed adjustments. Since contract negotiations were just completed in MCC Region, the amended budget does not yet reflect adjustments to salaries of non-certified staff. These figures will be added to the budget for the amended budget hearing. Following approval by the Executive Committee, the FY13 Amended Consolidated Budget will be presented to the Governing Board for approval at the budget hearing scheduled for Monday, March 25, 2013 at 6:30 p.m.

Motion to approve the amended FY13 MSSE Central Budget as presented: Dr. Fuerstenau; second, Mr. Well. Roll call yielded 14 yeas, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Motion to approve the amended FY13 MSSE Consolidated Budget as presented: Dr. Fuerstenau; second, Mr. Allison. Roll call yielded 14 yeas, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Letter of Resignation – Ms. Boutcher presented a letter of resignation from Amalia Schoenherr, Hearing Itinerant Teacher, effective at the end of the 2012-2013 school year.

Motion to accept the resignation of Amalia Schoenherr effective at the end of the 2012-2013 school year: Mr. Well; second, Dr. Fuerstenau. Voice vote was unanimous. Motion carried.

Employment of HI Teacher – Ms. Boutcher recommended the full-time employment of Leah Nelson as a hearing itinerant teacher for MSSE effective at the start of the 2013-2014 school year.

Motion to approve employment of Leah Nelson as hearing itinerant effective at the start of the 2012-2014 school year: Mr. Graham; second, Mr. Allison. Roll call yielded 14 yeas, 0 nays. Motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Motion to enter executive session at 10:41 a.m. to consider the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the Joint Agreement: Mr. Well; second, Mr. Strieker. Voice vote was unanimous. Motion carried.

Motion to return to open session at 11:15 a.m.: Dr. Doerr; second, Dr. Lett. Voice vote was unanimous. Motion carried.

ACTION FOLLOWING EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Discussion and approval of the Director's Evaluation was tabled and will be added to the March Executive Committee Meeting Agenda.

Motion to approve the recommendation to the Governing Board for the employment of Brenda Patrick as Director of Special Education starting July 1, 2013, pending contract negotiation: Mr. Graham; second, Mr. Strieker. Roll call yielded 13 yeas, 0 nays (one board member left meeting prior to vote). Motion carried.

DISCUSSION:

The next monthly meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 19, 2013 at 10:00 a.m. at the Mid-State Central Office in Morrisonville. In addition, the Budget Hearing and Governing Board Meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 25, 2013 at 6:30 p.m. at the Mid-State Central Office in Morrisonville.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn at 11:19 a.m.: Mr. Well; second, Dr. Lett. Voice vote was unanimous. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Mrs. Tammy Hadley, Recorder

Chairperson

Date

Secretary

Date