

Mid-State Special Education
Montgomery County/Carlville Region
Region Board Meeting
August 21, 2013
OFFICIAL MINUTES

PROCEDURAL BUSINESS

The regular meeting of the Mid-State Special Education, Montgomery County/Carlville Region Board was called to order by Chairman Mr. Aaron Hopper at 9:16 a.m. Present were Mr. Aaron Hooper, Panhandle; Mr. John Mullett, Litchfield; Mr. David Powell, Hillsboro; Mr. Mike Kelly, Carlville

OTHERS PRESENT

Mrs. Angela Armour, Assistant Director; Mrs. Lyn Becker, Program Coordinator; Mrs. Vickie Throne, Secretary

Recognition of Visitors: Kristy France, MC/CSEA representative

MEMBERS ABSENT

None

CONSENT AGENDA

Mrs. Armour reported that the Statement of Position for June 30, 2013 and July 31, 2013 were available for review as well as the final FY14 receipts versus expenditures report. Mrs. Armour reported that the ending monthly balance for June was \$556,239.53. FY13 ended with expenses under budget by approximately \$22,000.00 at 99.52%. In July, the 4th FY13 Personnel payment was received. Expenditures for July were \$367,412.21 bringing the ending monthly balance to \$1,532,088.57. Mrs. Armour reported that the August projected expenditures are high this month due to an additional certified payroll with September 1st falling on a weekend. The projected August 31, 2013 ending balance is \$912,275.76.

Mrs. Armour presented a brief review of the monthly payables for May, June, July and August. The payables list for May totaled \$2,950.00, June totaled \$88,073.72, July totaled \$23,162.54, and August totaled \$112.81.

The open and executive session minutes of the May 21, 2013 meeting, the destruction of executive session audio recordings older than 18 months, the financial report and approval of bills were presented for approval.

A motion made by Mr. Kelly and seconded by Mr. Powell to approve the consent agenda, carried by a roll call vote of 4 yeas, 0 nays.

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mrs. Armour reported that we are continuing to see a lot of students move in and out of our schools with IEPs. With some districts starting last week and some just this week, we anticipate that things will not settle for another couple of weeks. We are making adjustments with staff as needed based upon the results of the children that are actually in our schools to serve.

Mrs. Armour reported that Brandy Buske and Bobbi Hartman, special education teacher from Hillsboro who is completing her administrative practicum this year, provided professional development to 36 teachers, SLPs, and administrators. Participants received an overview of CCSS, resources, and how this relates to special education goal and objective development as well as lesson planning. The staff who attended are piloting either a CCSS iPad app for ELA or math or one of several flip charts. In addition to the CCSS, all resources feature strategies for accommodations, student motivation, UDL, diverse learners, assessment, vocabulary, and higher-order thinking. We will obtain feedback from this pilot

group regarding the effectiveness of this resource before determining if it should be made available to all of our teachers and SLPs.

Mrs. Armour reported that Brandy Buske provided a CPI re-certification course on August 7th. Twelve teachers who are due for re-certification chose to attend this summer session instead of being out of the classroom for a half-day later this year.

Mrs. Armour reported that Laura Snyder and Dawn Skorzewski, transition specialists, provided training during a half-day session on transition best practices. Twenty-five teachers were in attendance.

Mrs. Armour reported that Lyn Becker provided training to 14 teachers and SLPs on the VB-MAPP. This assessment has been purchased and will be used with our students who are non-verbal as a tool to drive their instruction and to document their progress.

Mrs. Armour reported that Brandy Buske provided a CPI Certification course for our new staff. A series of evening sessions are being scheduled in late September since we have had resignations and employed more new staff. This will be open to all district administration, faculty, and staff.

Mrs. Armour reported that Christine Peterson, CSC Learning representative, provided training on two Lexia computer-based intervention programs that we have available. The Strategies for Older Students (SOS) program is used with students in grade 5 and higher. Eight teachers were in attendance. She then provided training on the features of the new Core5 program that is appropriate for Pre-K through grade 5 to 13 teachers. Mrs. Armour reported that she will be sending an email to the district superintendents as well as their technology staff regarding the Core5 which will now be web-based. The district will have to have some basic requirements in place in order to switch to the web-based program. The licensing is also changing for this program. They use to be concurrent user seats, for instance Carlinville had 26 seats. The new Core5 will now be a per seat, but for the valued customers, they will translate each seat into seven seats. Carlinville will now have 182 seats, Hillsboro 252 seats, Litchfield 203 seats and Panhandle 98 seats.

Mrs. Armour reported that Brian Dowd, Assistive Technology Specialist from the Alton school district, provided an iPad new users training. Twenty teachers attended this training and learned the basics of using and setting up an iPad for classroom use as well as many apps that are resources in both regular and special education settings.

Mrs. Armour reported that she has met with all Mid-State staff in districts to review important policies and procedures and share priorities for our faculty meetings and professional development for this school year.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion made by Mr. Powell and seconded by Mr. Mullett to enter into Executive Session carried by a voice vote of 4 yeas, 0 nays at 9:30 a.m.

A motion made by Mr. Powell and seconded by Mr. Mullett to return to open session carried by a roll call vote of 4 yeas, 0 nays at 9:49 a.m.

ACTION ON BUSINESS ITEMS FOLLOWING EXECUTIVE SESSION

Closed Session Minutes:

A motion made by Mr. Powell and seconded by Mr. Mullett to recommend, after review of the Montgomery County/Carlinville Region Board meeting minutes from February 2013 through March 2013 including the March 2013 special meeting, that all minutes remain closed, carried by a roll call vote of 4 yeas, 0 nays.

Personnel:

Certified Staff

A motion made by Mr. Powell and seconded by Mr. Kelly to recommend accepting the resignation of Kathy Mersinger, special education teacher, effective July 17, 2013, carried by a roll call vote of 4 yeas, 0 nays.

A motion made by Mr. Mullett and seconded by Mr. Powell to recommend employment of Ariel Johnsey as full-time certified special education teachers for the 2013-14 school year, pending successful completion of all state and local employment requirements, carried by a roll call vote of 4 yeas, 0 nays.

A motion made by Mr. Mullett and seconded by Mr. Kelly to recommend approving the request for maternity leave for Molly Daggett from October 30, 2013 through December 20, 2013, carried by a roll vote of 4 yeas, 0 nays.

A motion made by Mr. Kelly and seconded by Mr. Powell to recommend a two percent salary increase for Michele Stephenson, behavior specialist, for the 2013-2014 school year, carried by a roll call vote of 4 yeas, 0 nays.

Non-Certified Staff

A motion made by Mr. Powell and seconded by Mr. Kelly to recommend accepting the resignations of the following assistants: Holly Ruder effective June 26, 2013; Laura Gibbel effective July 1, 2013; Kevin Brown effective July 19, 2013; Diana Schott effective July 26, 2013; Abby Reynolds effective July 31, 2013; Kristi Jones effective August 12, 2013; and Carol Correll effective August 14, 2013, carried by a voice vote of 4 yeas, 0 nays.

A motion made by Mr. Kelly and seconded by Mr. Mullett recommend the employment of Dustie Beck, Natalie Forsee, Amy Smith, Jenna Stewart, and Danlee Whitler as full-time assistants for the 2013-14 school year pending successful completion of all state and local employment requirements, carried by a roll call vote of 4 yeas, 0 nays.

A motion made by Mr. Kelly and seconded by Mr. Mullett to grant Denise Joiner's request to work reduced hours of 19.5 hours per week from August 26 through December 18, 2013, carried by a roll call vote of 4 yeas, 0 nays.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Mrs. Armour presented a brief review of the FY14 Budget. Mrs. Armour reported that the August changes in staff have not been reflected in this budget. Mrs. Armour reported that the changes are minimal. Mrs. Armour reported that there was a significant change to the use Federal Funds (IDEA). The ruling caused changes in how we apply Federal Funds to salaries of staff. In the past we were able to apply the funds to certified staff salaries, however with the change, we would receive a 36% penalty, which would have resulted in over \$650,000.00 loss overall in Mid-State, so we had to find a different area to apply this funding to continue to maximize our ability to offset costs for districts.

A motion made by Mr. Powell and seconded by Mr. Mullett to recommend approval of the FY14 MC/C Region Budget as presented, carried by a roll call vote of 4 yeas, 0 nays.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

DISCUSSION

The next MC/C Region Board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday September 18th, at 9:15 a.m. at the MC/C Region office in Morrisonville.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion made by Mr. Powell and seconded by Mr. Kelly to adjourn the meeting at 10:01 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Vickie Throne, Recording Secretary