

Southeastern Board of Cooperative Educational Services

Regular Session Minutes

November 16, 2023, 6:00 PM

7784 Saddle Club Drive Lamar, CO 81052

1. Call to Order

The Southeastern Board of Cooperative Education Services met for a regular session on November 17, 2023. Mrs. Denyce Widner-Block called the meeting to order at 6:21 PM.

2. Roll Call

Board members present over DL: Mr. Stan Elmore, Mrs. Denyce Widener-Block, Mr. Dusty Heck, Mr. Derek White-Heckman, Mr. Brett Wilson, and Ms. Jennifer Esch.
Superintendents present over DL: Mr. Ty Kemp
SEBOCES staff: Mrs. Stephanie Hund, Executive/Special Education Director; Michelle Estep, Business Manager and Tara Martin, Assistant Office Manager in person. Mrs. Loraine Saffer, ALP Director and Mr. Logan Smith, Special Programs Coordinator on Zoom.

3. Additions/Deletions to the Agenda

- a. Add Approval of Vehicle purchase through SPED Funds to Action Items

4. Consent Agenda

- a. Mr. Heck made the motion to approve the agenda with the addition for November 16, 2023, the minutes from September 21, 2023, the 4th Quarter 2022-2023 Financial Report and the 1st Quarter 2023-2024 Financial Report
Mr. White-Heckman seconded the motion.
Those in favor: Mr. Elmore, Mrs. Widener-Block, Mr. Heck, Mr. White-Heckman, Mr. Wilson and Ms. Esch.
Those opposed: None
Motion passed: 6-0

5. Staff Reports

- a. Logan Smith – Programs Coordinator
 - i. Fall Conference Nov 17 all day at LHS.
 1. There will be 12 session breakouts
 2. Keynote with Brain Buffington
 - ii. JC Phol visited Campo and Granada this week and will be at the Fall Conference tomorrow.
- b. Loraine Saffer – ALP/Induction Director
 - i. The Alternative License program has twenty-six candidates enrolled in the program. The first round of observations were completed Thursday, November 2, 2023. I always send a copy of my evaluation to the building administrator as

well as the candidate. If there is a particular item you would like me to pay attention to while observing your candidate please let me know. I have been impressed with the candidates and the skills they are displaying in their classrooms. It has been interesting to see several of the classroom management tools implemented within their classroom with their style added. This has been extremely helpful for me to see what areas I need to focus on in our monthly meetings.

- c. Stephanie Hund – Executive/ESS Director
 - i. Early Literacy Grant – The 2024 literacy conference is a one-day, virtual event scheduled for Wednesday, April 24th. The date has been shared with your literacy grant contacts. This is a mandatory event for ELG participants. We may have additional funds available to purchase curriculum again this year. I will know for certain later in the month. Administrators should notify me as soon as possible if they need additional K-3 curriculum or materials.
 - ii. CDE Regional Training – Southeastern BOCES was happy to host two CDE regional trainings this year. On September 26th we hosted a Regional Accountability Training and on October 5th we hosted a Regional School Finance training. We will be hosting a Regional Educator Evaluation training on May 3, 2024 as well. It is encouraging that CDE is providing so much support to our districts in rural Colorado and BOCES is happy to partner with them to continue hosting these events.
 - iii. Financial Audit – Our annual financial audit was October 16th -19th. The audit went well and we are in the process of finalizing everything. Based on audit findings, we saw an increase of approximately \$190,000. I will be reviewing the audit information more fully with you all once it is finalized.
 - iv. Administrative Unit (AU) Reorganization Meeting – On October 23rd I attended a meeting with several other BOCES directors and Dr. Paul Foster and Floyd Cobb from CDE. The topic of conversation was growing concern with districts leaving administrative units and the impact that this has on serving students with disabilities. Moving forward, I will work with a group of approximately 6 other BOCES directors to go through the ECEA rules regarding AU reorganization and recommend clarification and changes to the existing rules.
 - v. Special Education Teacher Training – We held our second monthly Special Education Teacher on October 30th and covered topics including least restrictive environment, transition requirements, and re-evaluations of students who have been recently dismissed from special education.
 - vi. Vehicles - One of our providers, Julie Thompson, was involved in an accident when someone rear ended her in her BOCES vehicle. Thankfully, Julie was not seriously injured. Michelle is looking for a replacement vehicle for us.
 - vii. New Staff – We were contracting with Santa Fe Trails BOCES for a part-time PTA to assist our hybrid PT. However, that individual resigned her position with SFT and we were left needing to hire someone else. Also, we have an OT paraprofessional who will be going on maternity leave around January. To fill these voids, I have hired Weston Meardon as a TOSA. He has a Bachelor’s

Degree in psychology and is working towards his Master's Degree. I will be asking you all to ratify his hiring later in the meeting.

- viii. Lease – Pinion Group will be renewing their lease agreement with us. As per the contract to purchase, they have this option for 10 years from the date of purchase.

6. Discussion Items

- a. 2023-2024 Final Revised Budget
 - i. We changed auditors and they wanted Michelle to make some changes to the so there are some differences in account coding and how the funds are split. We split some funding into different lines and created new SPED revenue lines for some that were included another line. I moved some staff around due to license lapse, but will change back after the license is updated. Appropriation went from \$5,012,968.00 to \$5,253,901.00.
- b. AU Procedures for Students with Disabilities in County Jails
 - i. Colorado ruled against a district that had a complaint of someone in the county jail system did not receive SPED services. In the future we must know of any person 21 or under that is incarcerated in a county jail. Including persons that have dropped out of school or received a GED.
- c. 1st reading of Policy GBGG Staff Discretionary Leave
 - i. Our auditor suggested updating the wording on this policy to remove the payout option.
- d. Local School Board Election Results – Couple new and couple vacant seats.

7. Action Items

- a. Ms. Esch made the motion to approve the 2023-2024 Final Revised Budget and Appropriations Resolution.
Mr. White-Heckman seconded the motion.
Those in favor: Mr. Elmore, Mrs. Widener-Block, Mr. Heck, Mr. White-Heckman, Mr. Wilson and Ms. Esch.
Those opposed: None
Motion passed: 6-0
- b. Ms. Esch made the motion to ratify AU Procedure for Students with Disabilities in County Jails.
Mr. Heck seconded the motion.
Those in favor: Mr. Elmore, Mrs. Widener-Block, Mr. Heck, Mr. White-Heckman, Mr. Wilson and Ms. Esch.
Those opposed: None
Motion passed: 6-0
- c. Mr. White-Heckman made the motion to approve the 1st reading of Policy GBGG Staff Discretionary Leave.
Ms. Esch seconded the motion.
Those in favor: Mr. Elmore, Mrs. Widener-Block, Mr. Heck, Mr. White-Heckman, Mr. Wilson and Ms. Esch.
Those opposed: None

- Motion passed: 6-0
- d. Mr. Heck made the motion to ratify hiring PT/OT TOSA
Ms. Esch seconded the motion.
Those in favor: Mr. Elmore, Mrs. Widener-Block, Mr. Heck, Mr. White-Heckman,
Mr. Wilson and Ms. Esch.
Those opposed: None
Motion passed: 6-0
- e. Mrs. Esch made the motion to approve Holiday Bonuses.
Mr. Heck seconded the motion.
- f. Mrs. Denyce Widner-Block volunteered for the Chair position.
Mr. Derek White-Heckman volunteered for the Vice Chair position.
Ms. Jennifer Esch volunteered for the Secretary position.
Mr. Heck made the motion to close nominations.
Mr. White-Heckman seconded the motion.
Positions were appointed to the volunteers by acclamation.
- g. Mr. Heck made the motion to approve the purchase of the 2018 Ford Fiesta for
\$13,224.00 from Tri-County.
Ms. Esch seconded the motion.
Those in favor: Mr. Elmore, Mrs. Widener-Block, Mr. Heck, Mr. White-Heckman,
Mr. Wilson and Ms. Esch.
Those opposed: None
Motion passed: 6-0

8. Meeting adjourned at 6:53 PM.

Next SEBOCES Board Meeting is February 15, 2023.