

## **COOPERATIVE EDUCATIONAL SERVICE AGENCY #4**

The Board of Control met on Wednesday, January 8, 2025 at CESA 4, 923 East Garland Street, West Salem. Chair Catherine Griffin called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Board Members Present: Kevin Bauman, Sara Cook, Larry Cyrus, Catherine Griffin, Julie Meyers, Sarah Staff and Jim Wright.

Excused/Absent: Brad Dobbs, Gerald Roethel, Jim Bagniewski, and Lindsay O'Hair.

Also present: Paul Fischer, Wayde Pollock, Jed Kees, Laura Veglahn and Michelle Kotek

### **PUBLIC INPUT**

None

### **APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA**

Sarah Staff moved to approve the meeting agenda as distributed. Kevin Bauman seconded the motion. Motion carried.

### **PRESENTATION: PRINCIPAL LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE**

Jed Kees and Laura Veglahn presented information on the principal coaching program that CESA 4 has provided to districts over the past five years. Information was shared on the turnover rate both at the local level as well as at the national level for principals. CESA 4 has 118 principal, associate principal and dean positions in our region. Fifty-nine of them are in their first 3 years in those positions. CESA 4 can assist districts in providing support to those new to the role in your district. Studies have found that growing educational leaders in your building does impact the positive outcomes for your teachers and your students.

### **READING AND APPROVAL OF DECEMBER 2, 2024 BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

Jim Wright moved to approve the minutes of the December 2, 2024 meeting. Kevin Bauman seconded the motion. Motion carried.

### **APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR DECEMBER**

Jim Wright moved to approve the vouchers and financial statement for December. Sarah Staff seconded the motion. Motion carried.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

### **BOARD DISCUSSION/INPUT ON WASB CONVENTION RESOLUTIONS FOR CESA 4 DELEGATE**

The Board reviewed each of the resolutions and discussed any questions and gave their feedback to Sarah Staff (delegate voting on behalf of CESA 4). Based on the feedback given on each of the resolutions, the group gave Sarah the discretion to vote accordingly.

## **AGENCY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT TO THE BOARD – PAUL FISCHER**

### **CESA 4 Activities and Regional News**

1. At our December agency meeting, we made the final edits to our established norms for our agency meetings and our agency operations. The norms that were created were Intentional and Purposeful meetings. Solution-based and Forward Thinking, Respectful Communication and Active Listening, and Shared Accountability. This work was one of the first major tasks we undertook as part of our strategic planning and needs assessment work. These norms will now be used as we design and run our agency meetings. We will also utilize two note takers, a timer, and a process observer during our meetings. As you may recall, four pillars were identified as focus areas in that work. These were Organizational Clarity, Financial Stability, Organizational Structure, and High Impact Culture. We continue to take action steps in each of these areas with the intention of moving the agency forward in a positive direction.
2. With the State Education convention coming up in two weeks, the Agency Administrators from all 12 CESA's will meet on Monday and Tuesday at the CESA 1 office in Pewaukee. At this meeting, we will have cabinet members from the Department of Public Instruction present. We will discuss their proposed biennium budget with them and the continuation of major DPI project initiatives such as ACT 20, EMLSS, and mental health. Our biggest priority is to impress upon them the importance of providing funding for the work being done around ACT 20. We are receiving a clear message from our district leaders that this unfunded mandate is impacting their ability to implement the ACT 20 requirements. In regards to the State Conference itself, just a reminder for those that have signed up, that we will be having the Board of Control appreciation breakfast on Wednesday, January 22nd, from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. at the Hilton Hotel, Wright Room A & B.
3. We recently received long-awaited news from the Department of Public Instruction this week. Our alternative licensing pathway for Cross-Categorical Special Education licensure was approved. This allows us to move forward with planning and implementation of the Cross-Categorical licensure program, with the intention of starting a cohort this fall. The enrollment numbers for our ALPSS K-9 licensure program were lower than desired this past fall. We are in the process of reviewing the program to determine our next steps moving forward. Wayde and I, along with the Directors of the ALPSS program recently met to discuss the program and its future. The reality is that if we cannot draw applicants for the program, it is not fiscally responsible for us to continue with the K-9 licensure program. The conversations around this will continue over the next two months.

## **State News**

1. It was recently announced that a third candidate has surfaced for the Wisconsin State Superintendent's race. Dr. Underly had announced her re-election bid a few months ago, and Jeff Wright, a Superintendent in the Sauk Prairie district, announced his run in late November. Most recently, educational consultant Brittany Kinser announced her intention to enter the race. She has described herself as a "Blue-Dog Democrat" and has experience in education as a special education teacher and principal. Kinser is the Founder and President of City Forward Collective, a non-profit organization advocating for school choice. The primary for the nonpartisan race is set for Feb. 18. The two candidates with the most votes in the primary will advance to the April 1 general election.

Julie Meyers approved the Administrator's Report as presented. Larry Cyrus seconded the motion. Motion carried.

### **ADJOURN INTO CLOSED SESSION UNDER WI STATUTE 19.85 1 [C] TO CONSIDER AGENCY ADMINISTRATOR EVALUATION**

Sarah Staff moved to go into closed session. Larry Cyrus seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken: Jim Bagniewski - absent; Kevin Bauman – aye; Sara Cook – aye; Larry Cyrus –aye; Brad Dobbs - excused ; Catherine Griffin – aye; Julie Meyers - aye; Lindsay O'Hair - absent; Gerald Roethel – excused; Sarah Staff – aye, and Jim Wright – aye. Adjourned into closed session at 7:55 p.m.

### **RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION**

Sarah Staff moved to return to open session. Julie Meyers seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken: Jim Bagniewski - absent; Kevin Bauman – aye; Sara Cook – aye; Larry Cyrus –aye; Brad Dobbs - excused ; Catherine Griffin – aye; Julie Meyers - aye; Lindsay O'Hair - absent; Gerald Roethel – excused; Sarah Staff – aye, and Jim Wright – aye. Adjourned into closed session at 8:35 p.m.

### **CRACKER BARREL**

### **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Audit Report scheduled for February 5<sup>th</sup> meeting

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Julie Meyers moved the meeting adjourn. Sara Cook seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Next meeting: Wednesday, February 5, 2025 at 6:30 p.m. at CESA 4, West Salem.

Respectfully submitted,  
Michelle Kotek