

COOPERATIVE EDUCATIONAL SERVICE AGENCY #4

The Board of Control met on Monday, December 2, 2024 at CESA 4, 923 Garland Street, West Salem Chair Catherine Griffin called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Board Members Present: Sara Cook, Larry Cyrus, Brad Dobbs, Catherine Griffin, Julie Meyers, Lindsay O'Hair, Gerald Roethel, Sarah Staff, and Jim Wright.

Excused: Jim Bagniewski, Kevin Bauman

Also present: Jenny Riggle, Christy Tainter, Paul Fischer, Wayne Pollock and Michelle Kotek

Presentation: Future-Ready at Every Level (Jenny Riggle and Christy Tainter, presenters)

Gen Z students feel uninterested in their learning at school and feel that school is not connected to their strengths. Absenteeism is becoming an alarming problem. Thirty-five percent of WI graduates did not feel that their K-12 education prepared them for the world of work. Americans believe that changers are needed in the current education system. Community members want K-12 education to be focused on the development of: practical skills, basic academic skills, career preparedness, personal development skills and demonstration of character.

The set of skills that are necessary for people to perform their jobs well include: oral communication, time management and active listening. Qualities that contribute to individual self-management and personal well-being include: willingness to learn, honesty and integrity and positive attitude. Problem solving and critical thinking are the top applied knowledge skills in the workforce. Upcoming WI Career Readiness Standard workshops at CESA 4 are scheduled for January 9 and February 5, 2025.

PUBLIC INPUT

None

APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA

Jim Wright moved to approve the meeting agenda as distributed. Julie Meyers seconded the motion. Motion carried.

READING AND APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER 6, 2024 MEETING MINUTES

Sara Cook moved to approve the minutes of the November 6th meeting. Jim Wright seconded the motion. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR NOVEMBER

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

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion and Approval of Budgets for 2024-25

Wayde reviewed the \$9.09 million dollar proposed budget for 2024-25. Sarah Staff moved to approve the budget as presented. Brad Dobbs seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Discussion and Approval of Recommended Pricing for 2025-26

Paul reviewed the proposed day rate pricing and administrative pricing structure. Larry Cyrus moved to approve the pricing structure as presented. Sarah Staff seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Discussion and Approval of vehicle replacement

Jim Wright moved to replace 2022 Ford Escape with a 2025 Nissan Rogue for itinerant use. Julie Meyers seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

Review and Discussion of Agency Administrator Evaluation

Discussion on the evaluation form that was distributed.

AGENCY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT TO THE BOARD – PAUL FISCHER

1. I shared last month that our Superintendents were gathering data regarding the impact private school vouchers have on our public schools in the CESA 4 region. I am happy to report that all 26 of our districts submitted the information that was asked of them. I am not pleased to report that over \$11 million has been spent by our CESA 4 public schools to help fund the private school voucher program. I have information for each district if you want to see the breakdown.
2. We have started developing the CESA 4 Service Catalog for districts. I have been working with Sally Weber to streamline the master contracts page, making it easier for our District Administrators to complete the contract digitally. I am also seeking input from the PAC Sub-advisory Committee to see if they would like to see any changes in format or delivery. Our directors are reviewing the catalog pages they submitted last year and making any necessary revisions or edits. They are also working on new pages that will be part of the catalog as new services we will offer for the 2025-2026 school year. Finally, we want to remove any services/catalog pages that are no longer being utilized or offered. Plenty of content is in the catalog, so we want to remove those pages that are no longer needed or of interest to our districts.
3. This week, I will be attending the AESA National Conference in Orlando, Florida. All twelve CESA Agency Administrators will be in attendance. It is a great opportunity for

us to network not only with one another but also with Service Agencies throughout the country. This year's conference will focus on Leadership, Collaboration, Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Innovation, Governance, and Engagement. I look forward to the networking and learning that will take place. I will certainly report back on the conference on anything beneficial for us to hear or consider.

4. The proposed resolutions for the 2025 State Education Convention should be released soon. You can look for them on the WASB website our Superintendent should receive them soon to share with you. We will once again review them at our January Board of Control meeting.
5. This is just a reminder that if you have not responded to me regarding your attendance at the Board of Control Appreciation Breakfast on Wednesday, January 22, 2025 at the Hilton Hotel, please do so by Friday, January 10th. Early bird registration for the State Convention ends Friday, December 13, 2024, so be sure to sign up if you still need to do so.
6. I have again asked our BSN Sports apparel rep to open an apparel store for our CSN (Cooperative Statewide Network). Many Board of Control members who attend the State Education Convention in Milwaukee in January like to have apparel that represents the entire statewide network and not just their CESA.

State News

1. Gov. Tony Evers, together with the Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development (DWD), today announced that \$1 million in grants is available for the Teacher Training and Recruitment Grant program to train and recruit teachers where shortages are most prevalent in Wisconsin.

The grants, which cover two years of program costs, are available through DWD's Expanded Wisconsin Fast Forward (WFF) program. Wisconsin nonprofit organizations can apply for up to \$500,000 to recruit, train, and license teachers to meet the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction's guidelines for serving qualifying school districts. The grant application is due Monday, December 16, 2024.

Governor Evers also recently visited Lincoln Elementary in the Alma Center-Humbird-Merrillan School District. His visit resulted from the district recently passing a referendum allowing them to build a daycare center at the elementary school. He took the opportunity to visit several classrooms and read a book to the students. He reiterated during his visit that districts shouldn't have to go to referendums as often as they are to fund their schools. He indicated that it was time for the legislature at the state level to come together to fund our public schools adequately.

Brad Dobbs moved to approve the report. Sarah Staff seconded the motion. Motion carried.

CRACKER BARREL

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Principal Coaching Presentation from Jed Kees and Laura Veglahn
- Audit Report – Johnson Block

ADJOURNMENT

Brad Dobbs moved the meeting adjourn. Jim Wright seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 8:22 p.m.

Next meeting: Wednesday, January 8, 2025 at 6:30 p.m. at CESA 4

Respectfully submitted,
Michelle Kotek