

COOPERATIVE EDUCATIONAL SERVICE AGENCY #4

The Board of Control met on Wednesday, April 5, 2023 at the Golden Frog Restaurant, Fountain City, Wisconsin.

Dave Amundson called the meeting to order at 7:40 p.m.

Board Members Present: Dave Amundson, Kevin Bauman, Larry Cyrus, Catherine Griffin, Julie Meyers, Lindsay O'Hair, Gerald Roethel, Mary Jo Rozmenoski, and Sarah Staff.

Absent: Katie Berkedal

Excused: Jim Wright

Also present: Sara Cook, Paul Fischer, Wayde Pollock, and Michelle Kotek

PUBLIC INPUT

None

APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA

Julie Meyers moved to approve the meeting agenda as distributed. Sarah Staff seconded the motion. Motion carried.

BOARD MEMBER RECOGNITION

Paul Fischer recognized Dave Amundson for his 17 years of service to the Board and his time as the Board Chair.

READING AND APPROVAL OF MARCH 8, 2023 MEETING MINUTES

Sarah Staff moved to approve the minutes of the March 8, 2023 meeting. Kevin Bauman seconded the motion. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR MARCH

Mary Jo Rozmenoski moved to approve the vouchers and financial statement for March as presented. Julie Meyers seconded the motion. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

DISCUSS ANNUAL CONVENTION MEETING

The following board members have CESA 4 Board of Control terms expiring this year (2023) Kevin Bauman, Katie Berkedal (La Crosse), Larry Cyrus and replacement from Cashton School Board.

APPROVE DENTAL INSURANCE RENEWAL FOR 2023-2024

Julie Meyers moved to approve the Delta Dental renewal for the 2022-2023 year with an 8 percent increase with CESA 4 absorbing the increase in premium. Mary Jo Rozmenoski seconded the motion. Motion carried.

APPROVE HEALTH INSURANCE RENEWAL FOR 2023-2024

Larry Cyrus moved to approve WCA – Group Health Trust Renewal for 2023-2024 with a 2 percent increase and with an increase to the deductible from \$350 to \$500 per individual for single. Julie Meyers seconded the motion. Motion carried.

APPROVE STANDARD RAISE INCREASE FOR 2023-2024

Julie Meyers moved to approve a 6 percent increase for employees with the discretion of the Administrator to make adjustments. Catherine Griffin seconded the motion. Motion carried.

DISCUSS AND APPROVE BLOOD-BORNE PATHOGEN POLICY #8453.01 AND RELIGIOUS ACTIVITIES AND OBSERVANCES #8800

Sarah Staff moved to approve the second reading of Policies #8453.01 and #8800 as discussed. Kevin Bauman seconded the motion. Motion carried.

AGENCY ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT TO THE BOARD – PAUL FISCHER

CESA 4 Activities and Regional News

1. At our most recent PAC meeting, Attorney General Josh Kaul and his staff were in attendance. Their main objective was to make our Superintendent’s aware of the Speak Up Speak Out initiative. Some of our CESA 4 districts already utilize this app, but many of our districts currently do not. This resource is a free resource to school districts offered by the Office of School Safety. This program offers districts and their students and staff a Threat Reporting System, Threat Assessment Consultation, Critical Incident Response and General School Safety Guidance. It is available 24 hours a day/7 days a week and gives students, parents, school staff, or any community members the ability to submit a school safety concern or threat via a website, mobile phone application, or toll-free number. Their resource center staff work around-the-clock to respond to tips and to deploy a response locally by communicating directly with school administrators, law enforcement, and counselors. It is important to note that if your district ever experiences a trauma, such as the death of a student or staff member, resources and funds are available to ensure that districts have the support they need. This can be accessed by reaching out to the Office of School Safety.

Jon Bales, the Executive Director of WASDA was also in attendance. He wanted to provide our CESA 4 Superintendents with an update on what is happening on a statewide

level. There was much discussion on the ongoing meetings and discussions that are happening with the Department of Public Instruction. There is a desire from school district administrators to meet regularly with Dr. Underly and her staff in regards to education initiatives and work that needs to be done statewide in partnership with DPI and our administrators. Jon also answered questions and took feedback from our district leaders so that he had a better understanding of the needs of the districts in our area. He plans to take that information and share it with DPI when they meet.

2. Referendum results: Locally there were 7 districts going to referendums, either for capital improvements or non-recurring operating expenses allowing districts to exceed their revenue limits. Of those, 5 of them passed and 2 failed. Statewide there were a total of 82 school referendums scheduled. Twenty nine of those were to issue debt (\$674,915,000), 10 to exceed the cap on a recurring basis (\$40,840,000), and 43 to exceed the cap on a non-recurring basis (\$432,911,000). We should be receiving data from WASB soon in regards to all of the statewide referendum results.
3. WASB events: Just a reminder that the WASB new school board member gathering at CESA 4 will be Tuesday, April 18, from 7:00-9:00 p.m. WASB is also hosting their Essential Elements of Governance at CESA 4 on Wednesday, May 10. Registration is not required for the new school board member gathering, but it is required for the May 10th workshop (cost for that is \$120). The CESA 4 annual meeting is set to be held on Wednesday, June 7, 2023. If districts have not sent in who will be representing their district at the annual meeting, please do so in the near future.
4. The 7th annual **Paraprofessional Summit** will be held August 15 - 16, 2023 at CESA 4. Registration for this event is now open and seats are limited so it is highly recommended to register early! Each participant will be able to attend two keynote speakers and choose from five different breakout sessions.

State News

1. I attended the WASB Day at the Capitol on Wednesday, March 22nd. I am happy to report that nearly $\frac{1}{3}$ of the CESA 4 districts were in attendance. While the morning session was a large group setting, the afternoon allowed us to meet with various legislators from both sides of the aisle. We were given 30 minutes to share our stories and provide our thoughts on the state budget. I personally met with the offices of Brad Pfaff, Loren Oldenberg, Treig Pronchinske, Jill Billings, and Jeff Smith. In some cases, if the legislator was not present, they at least came off the floor, as they were in session, to make contact with us. The messaging from all those I spoke with is that both sides of the aisle are behind the Special Education reimbursement, although it is not likely to be the amount in the state budget. They also indicated that mental health is a priority area and that funding in that area will be likely as well. When it comes to the per pupil allocations, both sides have different thoughts on this and it is likely the recommended increase will not come to fruition. The optimism from this meeting is that it seems clear

that both sides of the aisle realize the need for more bi-partisan politics. Whether that happens or not remains to be seen. On that note, an interesting item to note is that the Joint Finance Committee did not invite DPI to present their budget to the committee.

2. The Joint Finance Committee is hosting hearings throughout the state. If your administration or school board would like to share their story and reinforce your district's needs, those sessions are being held locally in Eau Claire or Wisconsin Dells. The Eau Claire listening session is being held at UW-Eau Claire on Tuesday, April 11th from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The Wisconsin Dells session is being held on Wednesday, April 12th from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the Wilderness Lodge. If you plan to attend, it is recommended that you arrive early to get a place in line as this event is usually highly attended. Following the statewide public hearings, JFC will begin voting on provisions of the budget during executive sessions throughout the month of May. It is anticipated that the Legislature will send their version of the budget to the Governor for his signature by July 1, 2023.

Mary Jo Rozmenoski moved to approve the report. Sarah Staff seconded the motion. Motion carried.

ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION UNDER WI STATUTE 19.85 [c] TO DISCUSS ADMINISTRATOR CONTRACT

Catherine Griffin moved to go into closed session. Kevin Bauman seconded the motion. Roll call vote was taken: Dave Amundson – aye; Kevin Bauman - aye; Katie Berkedal – absent; Larry Cyrus - aye; Catherine Griffin -aye; Julie Meyers - aye; Lindsay O’Hair - aye; Gerald Roethel - aye; Mary Jo Rozmenoski - aye; Sarah Staff - aye; and Jim Wright – absent. Convened into closed session at 8:15 p.m.

RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION

Julie Meyers moved to return to open session. Mary Jo Rozmenoski seconded the motion. Roll call vote was taken: Dave Amundson – aye; Kevin Bauman - aye; Katie Berkedal – absent; Larry Cyrus - aye; Catherine Griffin -aye; Julie Meyers - aye; Lindsay O’Hair - aye; Gerald Roethel - aye; Mary Jo Rozmenoski – aye; Sarah Staff - aye; and Jim Wright – absent. Reconvened into open session at 8:27 p.m.

REPORT OUT

Lindsay O’Hair moved to approve the contract for Paul Fischer for 2023-24. Julie Meyers seconded the motion carried.

Larry Cyrus moved to approve the contract for Wayde Pollock for 2023-24. Kevin Bauman seconded the motion. Motion carried.

BOARD OF CONTROL MEMBER INPUT/CRACKER BARREL

Mary Jo Rozmenoski discussed the affiliation that WASB has with COSSBA (Consortium of State School Boards Associations). Mary Jo discussed the COSSBA conference in Tampa, FL that she attended in late March.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

ADJOURNMENT

Julie Meyers moved the meeting adjourn. Mary Jo Rozmenoski seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Next meeting: Wednesday, May 3, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. at CESA 4 in West Salem.

Respectfully submitted,
Michelle Kotek