

COOPERATIVE EDUCATIONAL SERVICE AGENCY #4

The Board of Control met on Wednesday, September 7, 2022 at Wason's Restaurant, Galesville, Wisconsin.

Dave Amundson called the meeting to order at 6:45 p.m.

Board Members Present: Dave Amundson, Kevin Bauman, Larry Cyrus, Catherine Griffin, Julie Meyers, Gerald Roethel, Mary Jo Rozmenoski, Sarah Staff and Jim Wright - (Vernon County vacant)

Excused: Katie Berkedal

Also present: 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.

APPROVAL OF AUGUST 3, 2022 MEETING MINUTES

Mary Jo Rozmenoski moved to approve the minutes of the August 3, 2022 meeting. Sarah Staff seconded the motion. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR AUGUST

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

APPROVE APPOINTMENT OF A VERNON COUNTY BOARD MEMBER TO FILL THE VACANT SEAT

Kim Littel, Viroqua and Lindsay O'Hair, Hillsboro have both expressed interest in the open seat vacated by the La Farge School District. The Board of Control reviewed and discussed the responses to questions that both individuals completed.

Julie Meyers moved to approve Lindsay O'Hair, Hillsboro Board Member to fill the Vernon County seat. Catherine Griffin seconded the motion. Roll call vote was taken: Bauman – aye; Berkedal – absent; Cyrus – aye; Griffin – aye; Meyers – aye; Roethel – aye; Rozmenoski – aye; Staff – aye; Wright – aye and Amundson - aye. Motion passed unanimously.

The term will expire at the Annual meeting in 2024.

Meeting stopped at 7 p.m. for dinner.
Meeting resumed at 7:25 p.m.

APPROVAL OF PERSONNEL CONTRACTS

Sarah Staff moved to approve personnel contracts for Jenny Leren, OT and Abby Fernan, School Counselor/Instructional Services Director for 2022-23. Julie Meyers seconded the motion. Motion carried.

AGENCY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT TO THE BOARD

CESA 4 Activities and Regional News

1. In mid-August, CESA 4 hosted the 6th Annual Paraprofessional Summit. This 1.5 day event brought together 115 paraprofessionals from 22 of our 26 school districts. The summit featured keynote speakers each day as well as several breakout sessions for those in attendance to choose from. The event has grown each year and it to a point that we may need to consider hosting it offsite to accommodate for a larger group. Here are some of the comments from the exit survey:
 - This is my 2nd year coming and I am so thankful for this learning experience.
 - All the speakers were great and I learned quite a bit. I learned about new assistive technology.
 - Excellent material – will take lots of learned information back to our district.
 - Great Presentations. Good way to kick off the school year.
 - Really enjoyed meeting other Paraprofessionals from different schools
 - Presenter made a lot of valid points and made me think about ways to better my approach with the kids.
 - Great strategies and reasonings behind why we need to promote independence.
 - Great job! Very engaging and great and useful information.
 - Loved attending this event.

2. On Thursday, August 18th we hosted the 1st annual Summer Summit at the Heider Center at the West Salem High School. We had 75 educators registered for the event. Of those registered, who had the entire staff from the School District of Alma in attendance as part of the start of the year inservice. Principal Keefe began the day with his keynote address that focused on classroom practices and the importance of making connections with students in order to close the attitude gap that we sometimes see in students. The rest of the day focused on break out sessions that encompassed the message that was laid out in Principal Keefe's opening address. The hope is to plan another event similar to this next August with the idea that we assist districts with some of their back to school inservice schedules.

3. The parking lot sealcoating took place on Friday, September 2nd, with the painting of the lot completed on Saturday, September 3rd.
4. I am working with Dave Laehn, our policy representative with Neola, to revise policy 3440. This policy focuses on Expense Reimbursement and needs to be updated. In regards to mileage reimbursement, the current policy reads "Mileage is reimbursed at a rate approved by the Board of Control." The current rate is \$.60 per mile, but my recommendation moving forward is to have that language reflect the IRS rate, which currently is \$.625 per mile. I would also like to update the meal reimbursement rate, as we are finding that they are seemingly low based on today's reality. The rates currently are: Breakfast - \$9.50, Lunch - \$12.00, and Dinner - \$24.00. I would propose moving to the current state per diem rate at \$59 per day. When broken down, that reflects that following prices: Breakfast - \$11.80, Lunch - \$17.70, Dinner - \$29.50.

State News

5. Governor Evers recently announced an additional \$90 million in federal funds that will be going towards K-12 public schools. Of the \$90 million, \$15 million will be going towards mental health services, and the remaining \$75 million being awarded to school districts on a per pupil level. These funds are coming from the states portion of the federal American Rescue Plan Act dollars they received. The funds are not earmarked for any specific purchases like what was done with the ESSER III funds. The emphasis was placed on using the money to help attract and retain teachers, as well as to offset the rising costs of supplies and services districts are seeing due to inflation. Districts will have until 2026 to spend the funds. You will see a breakdown in funding of the 26 school districts found in CESA 4 in your packet.
6. The statewide CSN team recently met with the Wisconsin Department of Health Services in regards to a \$7.6 million, noncompetitive Nursing Grant. We have been working with them as a resource in helping them distribute the grant funds to school districts throughout the state of Wisconsin. The purpose of the funds is to help school districts with the recruitment and retention of school nurses, as well as providing schools or school districts with any type of training they may need in regards to health services. Initially their level of funding was not equitable throughout the state of Wisconsin, with many of the rural school districts not receiving adequate funds. In many cases, the rural school districts have the biggest issues in attracting nurses to work in their districts due to their geographic location. After much discussion and several meetings, a new matrix was developed so that there was a more equitable way in which to distribute the funds. CESA 4 is set to receive \$414,379 in funding that will be allocated to the 26 school districts

throughout CESA 4. The breakdown for each school district will be coming in the near future and we will communicate that with each of them once we have that information. Being that the CESA's are serving as the fiscal agents, we will be receiving a 5% allocation for our work.

Catherine Griffin moved to approve the Administrator's Report. Mary Jo Rozmenoski seconded the motion. Motion carried.

BOARD OF CONTROL MEMBER INPUT/CRACKER BARREL

*Please note that there was previous discussion to move the November meeting to the 2nd Wednesday of the month. That is no longer necessary so the meeting will remain on the 1st Wednesday of the month, which is November 2nd.

ADJOURNMENT

Sarah Staff moved that the meeting adjourn Larry Cyrus seconded the motion Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Next meeting: Wednesday, October 5, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. Location to be determined.

Respectfully submitted,
Michelle Kotek