

COOPERATIVE EDUCATIONAL SERVICE AGENCY #4

The Board of Control met on Wednesday, November 2, 2022 at Legacy Restaurant, Coon Valley, Wisconsin.

Dave Amundson called the meeting to order at 7:50 p.m.

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

Excused: Katie Berkedal, Gerald Roethel

Also present: Paul Fischer, Wayde Pollock and Michelle Kotek

PUBLIC INPUT

None

APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA

Mary Jo Rozmenoski moved to approve the meeting agenda as distributed. Catherine Griffin seconded the motion. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF OCTOBER 5, 2022 MEETING MINUTES

Julie Meyers moved to approve the minutes of the October 5, 2022 meeting. Kevin Bauman seconded the motion. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR OCTOBER AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR SEPTEMBER

Jim Wright moved to approve the vouchers and financial statement for October and Financial Statement for September as presented. Julie Meyers seconded the motion. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

SECOND READING AND APPROVAL OF EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT (3440/4440) AND WEAPONS (3217/4217/7217) POLICIES

Paul Fischer reviewed the revisions to the meal reimbursement and mileage reimbursement (Policy #3440/4440) and the adoption of a Weapons Policy (Policy #3217/4217/7217). Julie Meyers moved to approve the revisions and adoption of policies as discussed and reviewed. Larry Cyrus seconded the motion. Motion carried.

AGENCY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT TO THE BOARD

- The ten vehicles that were approved to be purchased by the Board of Control (October 2021), finally arrived two weeks ago. All ten vehicles have been distributed to the Itinerant Service staff that will be utilizing them.
- At our monthly CSN meeting last Thursday, we met with John Johnson, the Asst. State Supt. for the Dept. of Public Instruction. As part of the meeting, he shared information regarding initial ESSER I as well as GEER funds. To date, there are over \$4 million in federal funds that have not been claimed. I am happy to report that nearly all of the CESA 4 school districts had spent their ESSER 1 and GEER funds. Of the CESA 4 school districts who had not, their funds left to spend was very minimal. In that meeting we also discussed the ESSER II Out of School Time grant. This is a \$15.4 million grant that came about as a result of American Rescue Plan funds. The grant deadline was extended to November 4 due to the fact that they have received very little response via grant applications. The grant requests that they have received to date do not even account for ¼ of the grant funds available. All districts are eligible for the grant, but priority is being given to those districts that receive sparsity aid. I shared this information and links with all of our 26 CESA 4 districts and highly encouraged them to apply if they have a desire to implement after school programming.
- After a conversation with Lindsay O'Hair at our Board of Control meeting in October, I have decided to send my administrative report to all 26 CESA 4 school district board presidents and district administrators. We discussed the importance of communicating with all of our districts, not just those on the Board of Control. This is a great idea that could potentially strengthen our relationships with our CESA 4 districts.
- The fall WASB Region 6 meeting was held last week at Stoney Creek in Onalaska. There were 14 of the 26 CESA 4 school districts represented, with a total of 43 in attendance. Awards for years of service were handed out and presentations were given by WASB staff members Ben Niehaus and Dan Rossmiller. As a reminder, WASB State Convention registration is now open.
- Shared Services Study Committee Update: The Legislative Council Study Committee on Shared School District Services met recently and discussed possible legislation to be drafted for consideration at the next meeting. The first item for discussion was sharing of administrative positions. Public members on the committee said that while long-term savings will come, on the front end many school districts are working in deficit so the consolidation will allow them to "break even" rather than see large savings in the first few years.

The next discussion was on grant writing. The first determination is that DPI could not offer grant writing since in many cases DPI is the administrator of the grants, and it would result in a conflict of interest. Discussion was had about CESAs receiving funding for grant writing services, both for state grants and federal grants. School districts don't have staff with expertise for grant writing, so many schools don't apply for grants. The issue for these school districts is recouping their costs for grants.
- DPI released NAEP results: The results of the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) were released recently. According to "The Nation's Report Card" release, "A majority of states saw scores decline for fourth- and eighth-graders in mathematics and reading between 2019 and 2022. The national average score declines in

mathematics for fourth- and eighth-graders were the largest ever recorded in that subject.” The release goes on to highlight, “There were no improvements in mathematics in any state or large urban district, and eighth-grade mathematics scores declined in 51 participating states and jurisdictions since the assessment was last given in 2019, the year prior to the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic in the United States.” The data table released with their announcement shows that Wisconsin is 1 of 10 states which saw no change in Grade 4 mathematics, and 1 of 22 states that saw no change in Grade 4 reading. Wisconsin is 1 of 51 states which saw a decrease in Grade 8 mathematics, and 1 of 33 states which saw a decrease in Grade 8 reading.

On a related note, the state school report cards will be released on Tuesday, November 15, 2022. Districts will have access on November 10, 2022 through their district SAFE portal.

Mary Jo Rozmenoski moved to approve the Administrator’s Report. Kevin Bauman seconded the motion. Motion carried.

BOARD OF CONTROL MEMBER INPUT/CRACKER BARREL

None

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None

ADJOURNMENT

Catherine Griffin moved the meeting adjourn. Larry Cyrus seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Next meeting: Wednesday, December 7, 2022 at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Michelle Kotek