

COOPERATIVE EDUCATIONAL SERVICE AGENCY NO. 9
BOARD OF CONTROL MEETING
CESA 9 OFFICE
304 KAPHAEM ROAD
TOMAHAWK, WISCONSIN
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4, 2015

MINUTES

President Scott Everson called the March 4, 2015 Board of Control monthly meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led the members in the Pledge of Allegiance. The following members were in attendance:

Present: Helen Ackermann – DC Everest
Ken Dirks – Tomahawk (via phone)
Scott Everson – Rib Lake
Duane Frey – Rhinelander
Tara Guelzow – Antigo
Michael Kaiser – Mosinee
Tom Rulseh – Three Lakes
Dan Thompson – Stratford
Kevin Zubke - Athens

Absent: Helen Palmquist – Prentice
John Shull - Merrill

Others in attendance included DPI Consultant David O'Connor and CESA staff members Hilary Cordova, Beth Tepper, Jenny Miner and Agency Administrator Karen Wendorf-Heldt.

Approval of Consent Agenda

Motion by Kaiser, second by Thompson to approve the consent agenda as presented. These items included approval of meeting agenda, minutes of the February 4, 2015 meeting, approval of new employee letter of employment (Ek) and second reading and final approval of Policies 723.3 Emergency Closings, 730.1 Building Access, and Policy 891.3 Relations with Districts Outside Service Area. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

Opportunity for Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Presentation of Financial Report and Monthly Claims

Financial reports for February were reviewed. Motion by Zubke and second by Dirks to approve the February financial report and presentation of claims as presented. Upon roll call vote, all present voted aye. Motion carried.

Board Development – Evidence-based Policy Agenda – Students Ready to Learn

Beth Tepper, Early Childhood Support Teacher, and Karen Wendorf-Heldt (standing in for Lynn Verage) presented information in support of the SAA Evidence-based Policy Agenda in the area of students being ready to learn, specifically related to early childhood

education, children's mental health, and climate and culture. Beth and Karen provided information on the evidence, the policy recommendations, and how CESA 9 supports that work in the specific areas. The complete SAA document can be found at http://wsaa.org/saainfo/wp-content/uploads/2014/11/SSA_Draft31.pdf.

Presentation – Wisconsin American Indian Studies

DPI Consultant, David O'Connor, shared information related to Wisconsin American Indian studies and the implementation of Act 31. David gave a brief overview of the topics he would be going over at the CESA 9 workshop on March 5th for school/district administrators and teachers. David shared a number of resources with the Board and a website (theways.org).

New Business

Dr. Heldt shared information received from DPI requesting nominations of board members to possibly serve on the School District Boundary Appeal Board for a term of two years. Karen stated that the current CESA 9 SDBAB member Theresa Miles from the Wausau School District has agreed to serve another two year term if needed. Motion by Dirks, second by Rulseh to nominate Theresa Miles as CESA 9 representative to the School District Boundary Appeal Board. There were no additional nominations or volunteers. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on changing the Board of Control meeting start time from 7:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Board members shared their thoughts and the pros and cons. Motion by Frey, second by Thompson to change the meeting start time to 6:30 p.m. Voting yes were board members Ackermann, Dirks, Frey, Guelzow, Rulseh, Thompson, and Zubke. Voting no were Everson and Kaiser. Motion carried. Revisions to the current Board policy relating to meeting time (Policy 171) will be brought to the Board for a first reading/review at their April 1st meeting. The Board will re-evaluate and revisit the effectiveness of the change in start time as they move forward.

Administrator's Report

Dr. Heldt reviewed the Board's process for conducting her annual evaluation and provided board members with two documents to assist them in their evaluation: an update on progress related to her goals for 2014-15 and the collated results of the feedback provided by the district superintendents. Board members will receive an electronic evaluation survey (same format as last year) and are asked to complete their individual feedback at least one week prior to the April Board meeting.

Karen reported that all CESA 9 staff that have 2014-15 employment contracts will soon receive their annual letter letting them know that their employment contracts will expire in June 2015. When shared service contracts are returned and funding sources confirmed, employment contracts will be issued for 2015-16.

Karen shared highlights of the CESA 9 Straight A Leadership Assessment report from Studer Education. A full copy of the report was posted for the Board. Karen also described the scope of the work the Agency will be doing with Studer group over this upcoming year to further strengthen organizational excellence and leadership development.

Karen shared information on a partnership with Hamilton County ESC that will provide an opportunity for school district employees to participate in a federal student loan forgiveness program.

Karen reported that she has visits scheduled with each district superintendent during the month of March to discuss CESA 9 services. She shared a sample of the CESA 9 value add document being created for each district.

CESA 9 will be receiving a Universal Design for Learning startup grant and the Rhinelander School District is designated to be the pilot for the program. Linda Myers and Casey Gretzinger will be leading the charge in this area for the Agency.

Karen provided a brief update on several statewide initiatives including the Badger test (still on for this spring), ESEA waiver renewal (WI applying for a 3-year waiver), and academic and career planning (being implemented in 2017-18).

Karen reported that CESA 9 is working to partner with WASB to host an event to bring board members and legislators together for discussion on issues relating to school districts. More information will be forthcoming from WASB.

Meeting notes from the February 13th PAC meeting were shared with the Board.

Karen shared that CESA 9 recently received a donation from an individual of an Atlas 600 camera telesensory unit (magnifier to be used with low vision students). The CESA 9 VI/OM instructor will put the unit into use.

Board member Ackermann shared a letter that the DC Everest board and administration developed and will send to area legislators describing the possible impact the Governor's proposed budget would have on the students in their district. The Board suggested that CESA 9 develop a similar letter. Karen will draft the letter and bring to the Board in April to review.

Adjournment

Motion by Frey, second by Rulseh to adjourn. All aye. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 9:32 p.m.