

REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

February 28, 2020

8:30 A.M. Taylorville Administrative Building- Board Room

CALL REGULAR BOARD MEETING TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

President Scott Doerr called the regular board meeting to order and roll was taken with three board members present. Board members present were Jason Bauer, Scott Doerr, and Chris Dougherty. Also present were NPT Director, Kelly Suey, NPT Program Coordinator/Transition Specialist, Sabrina Jones, Taylorville Curriculum Director, Anita Brown, and Taylorville Director of Finance, Wendy Dulakis.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS, PUBLIC COMMENT, AND CORRESPONDENCE.

Wendy Dulikas read a letter wanting clarification on some issues. Issues included: Nokomis and Pana requested a bill from Taylorville District for FACeS, discussion regarding how often Taylorville will provide bills, and EBF money not received from Fiscal Agent.

MOVE TO APPROVE THE FEBRUARY 26 CONSENT AGENDA.

Motion by Bauer, seconded by Doerr to approve the February 26, 2020 Consent agenda as presented. Dr. Doerr-YEA, Mr. Bauer- YEA, Dr. Dougherty- NEA. Motion passed.

The consent agenda included the monthly minutes.

NEW BUSINESS

UPDATE AND ACT ON NPT BECOMING ITS OWN FISCAL AGENT AND OBTAINING A FEIN NUMBER.

Kelly Suey provided documentation on what is required and steps to be taken to become a fiscal agent and to obtain a FEIN number. The documents were reviewed and discussed. Motion by Mr. Bauer, seconded by Dr. Doerr to allow NPT Special Education Cooperative to begin the process of becoming their own fiscal agent.

Dr. Doerr-YEA, Mr. Bauer-YEA, Dr. Dougherty-YEA. Motion passed.

DISCUSS AND ACT ON EXTENDED SCHOOL YEAR SERVICES

Kelly Suey provided an update on the anticipated number of students recommended for ESY services. There was discussion regarding reimbursements for ESY. It was reported that ESY is not reimbursable, however transportation is. There continued to be discussion regarding the recommendation for the structure of ESY. It was recommended that all three districts combine ESY services in one central location and the other districts would transport students to that location and reimburse for personnel costs. The recommendation for ESY would be two weeks in June and two weeks in August. The summer school session would be morning classes only. The board will take the next month to determine specific plans, location and times and come together next month to discuss and approve postings for hire and wages for ESY employees.

REVIEW AND ACT ON AUDIT PROPOSAL PROVIDED BY LMHN ACCOUNTANTS.

The provided Auditing service contract was reviewed. Mr. Bauer asked if Taylorville was pleased with their work through the Taylorville School District. Dr. Dougherty stated she is. A motion was made by Mr. Bauer and seconded by Dr. Dougherty to approve LMHN accountants to continue providing auditing services for NPT Special Education.

Dr. Doerr-YEA, Mr. Bauer-YEA, , Dr. Dougherty-YEA. Motion passed.

DISCUSS UPCOMING ISBE VISIT

Kelly Suey updated the board on the upcoming ISBE visit for the cooperative. Mrs. Suey shared the dates of the visit and an overview of what the visit includes. ISBE is conducting this visit due to this being the first year of NPT Special Education Cooperative. The visit includes: showing off programs within the district and FACeS/CBI Program, 10 IEP Reviews from each district, interview staff/administration, and a parent survey. Dr. Dougherty stated that parent surveys need to be approved through the district office prior to that type of action and behavior. There were no further questions regarding the upcoming visit.

OPEN DISCUSSION

Dr. Dougherty stated that she feels that there is erroneous information circulating regarding communications with Mt. Zion School District. She also stated she had talked to Sue Taylor, from State Board regarding some accusations that she also feels are erroneous. Dr. Dougherty stated that she has reached out to the ROE regarding fiscal information being included on a website. There was discussion regarding whether that information being part of the Taylorville website or if NPT Special Education Cooperative needed to create their own website. There will be follow up regarding where the information needs to be posted.

REPORTS

Directors Report

Kelly Suey reported that Embrace (IEP/504 platform) will be increasing their prices for the 2020/2021 school year. She has submitted the required documentation to Embrace for them to provide NPT with an accurate renewal contract by April 1st. Mrs. Suey also provided each superintendent with child count verification reports for them to review prior to the deadline for approval within the upcoming months. Mrs. Suey stated she received a FOIA request regarding Taylorville Schools. This request included questions regarding IDEA and is part of a national survey. A copy of the request and information provided was included in Dr. Dougherty's board packet. Mrs. Suey updated the board regarding Northern Illinois Academy's ongoing investigation and what that might look like in the future for any students currently placed there. NPT has recently interviewed two social workers, one psychologist intern and one social work intern for the 2020/2021 school year! Students and staff are ready for the DLM (alternate assessment). Teachers have completed any preliminary work and Mrs. Suey has uploaded students and created testlets for those students. Testing window is March 11-May 6. An update on the number (and %) of TCTs for each district was provided as well as an update regarding the IAASE conference that was attended February 26-27.

Program Coordinator/Transition Specialist Report

Sabrina Jones reported that 11 of the 20 STEP outcomes have been met. As of August 2019, STEP has generated approximately \$45,025. Dr. Dougherty asked why November didn't generate any funds. Mrs. Jones stated she also asked that question and she was told that they typically don't provide checks in November. February's transition meeting with students focused on a real-life simulation. This simulation requires students to learn more about the real world and experiences and expenses that occur. Students have been very engaged in this activity. Mrs. Jones has reviewed 270 IEP's this school year and all teachers are working hard to continue to keep their IEP's in compliance. Third Quarter Special Education Team meetings have been had, or are scheduled to happen during the third quarter.

CLOSED SESSION

A motion was made by Mr. Bauer, and seconded by Dr. Doerr to move into a closed session for the purpose of employment, evaluation, compensation, appointment, and discipline of personnel.
Dr. Doerr-YEA, Mr. Bauer-YEA, Dr. Dougherty-YEA. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Mr. Bauer and seconded by Dr. Doerr to re-enter regular session.
Motion passed by voice vote.

A motion was made by Dr. Dougherty and seconded by Mr. Bauer to hire Ashley Yockey as a NPT School Psychologist for the 2020/2021 School year.
Dr. Doerr-YEA, Mr. Bauer-YEA, Dr. Dougherty-YEA. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Dr. Dougherty and seconded by Mr. Bauer to recommend Liz Patrick for a NPT school psychologist intern for the 2020/2021 school year.
Dr. Doerr-YEA, Mr. Bauer-YEA, Dr. Dougherty-YEA. Motion passed.

MOVE TO ADJOURN AT 9:55.

Motion by Mr. Bauer, and seconded by Dr. Dougherty. Motion passed by voice vote.

Dr. Scott Doerr, President

Dr. Chris Dougherty, Secretary