

REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

February 28, 2023

9:00 A.M. NPT Office

CALL REGULAR BOARD MEETING TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL at 9:00 am

Mr. Bauer called the meeting to order and roll call was taken with three board members present. Board members in attendance were Mr. Jason Bauer, Dr. Scott Doerr and Dr. Chris Dougherty. Also present was NPT Director, Kelly Suey, NPT Program Coordinator/Transition Specialist, Sabrina Jones and NPT Business Manager, Deanna Tarter.

Others in attendance: Wendy Dulakis and Brenda Patrick

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS, PUBLIC COMMENT, AND CORRESPONDENCE

No correspondances or public comment

MOVE TO APPROVE THE February 28, 2022 CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED.

Mrs. Suey discussed the treasurer's report. There were no questions. Seniority lists were sent to NPT staff on February 7th with no communications with Mrs. Suey on or before February 17th, therefore employees agreed with the seniority lists. Mrs. Bullard is requesting Maternity leave from the start of the 2023-2024 school year until approximately November 8, 2023.

Motion by Dougherty, seconded by Doerr to approve the February 24, 2023 consent agenda as presented. Bauer - YEA, Doerr - YEA, Dougherty- YEA. Motion passes 3-0.

The consent agenda included Regular Minutes from January 24, 2023 Executive Board meeting, Bills/Treasurer's Report for February, Seniority Lists for the 2022/2023 School Year , and Approval of Briann Bullard's maternity leave request..

NEW BUSINESS

Review and Approve Engagement Letter from LMHN regarding FY23 Audit

The audit will be comprehensive with the addition of the GATA report this year. Total cost for services will be \$9,200.00 and the audit is scheduled to begin August 31, 2023 and last approximately 2 weeks.

Motion by Dougherty, seconded by Doerr to approve the Engagement Letter from LMHN regarding FY23 Audit as presented. Bauer - YEA, Doerr - YEA, Dougherty- YEA. Motion passes 3-0.

Discuss Extended School Year Location and Dates

Mrs. Suey proposes having ESY at Nokomis Junior High School, like in the past. It will be scheduled from Tuesday May 30th through Thursday June 8 from 8:30-11:00. This session will

be Tuesday through Friday and then Monday through Thursday. The second session will be July 24th through August 4 Mondays through Thursdays from 8:30-11:00. She will present numbers and recommendations for personnel postings at the March board meeting. Dr. Doerr stated that using Nokomis Junior High school will be fine. Dr. Dougherty asked who runs ESY and Mrs. Suey responded that she does (Mrs. Suey).

Approve/Certify Statement of Economic Interest Personnel List

Included in the packet is the list of Individuals who have to complete and file a Statement of Economic Interest on Behalf of NPT Special Education Cooperative. Dr. Doerr asked if this will come from Christian County and Mrs. Suey answered yes. There were no edits to the list.

Motion by Doerr, seconded by Dougherty to approve the Statement of Economic Interest Personnel List as presented. Bauer - YEA, Doerr - YEA, Dougherty- YEA. Motion passes 3-0.

Discuss FACeS Classrooms for the 2023/2024 School Year

Mrs. Suey addresses that she believes an additional elementary classroom for NPT's FACeS Program for the 23/24 school year is needed. She has talked with the Taylorville Administration regarding this addition and they do not have the space to provide. She is reaching out to the other member districts to see if an elementary classroom in their district would be an option. She then went over the predicted numbers for Elementary (K-5) is 16 students and Secondary (6-12+) is 21 students for next school year. She also included a more detailed information sheet in the board packet about the enrollment.

Dr. Doerr stated that there is no room in Nokomis for an extra class and asked if Mrs. Suey already had a teacher lined up to teach the class and she responded no. Mr. Bauer asked what if we hire more paraprofessionals for the room. Mrs. Suey responded that we are already sitting at 10 students in the classroom and we are out of space to add more people to the classroom. Mr. Bauer said this really shows that there is a need for the FACeS program and the needs are getting more significant. He stated that he will have to have some conversations with his staff, but there may be a room at Washington school. Dr. Dougherty asked if we can put a cap on the number of students. Mrs. Suey responded that we could, but we still have to be prepared because there is a need for this program. She (I DON'T know if this is you or Dr D, but I think her) stated she is working with Lakin about the students coming from PreK. Mrs. Suey said those students already have it in their IEP so there will have to be another meeting if they are not placed there. Mrs. Suey discussed that if we hired a teacher, she believes the position should be hired through Taylorville due to the pay difference between districts for teachers and assistants. Mr. Bauer asked what the likelihood was of hiring a teacher or finding one and asked what if we can't find someone. Mrs. Suey responded that if we can't find a teacher we would have to hire a substitute. Mr. Bauer said what if no substitute teacher can be found. Mrs. Suey responded that it will fall to the principal just like any district. Dr. Dougherty asked how students are placed in the program. Mrs. Suey stated that there is an application process that is supposed to be completed that is utilized in Pana and Nokomis districts. Mrs. Suey believes we need to come together to meet these students' needs and she is open to any ideas. Mr. Bauer said we need to look at all variables. Mrs. Suey said that if we have one class in Taylorville and

one class in Pana, we will have to base the class on transportation, but if it is all in Taylorville it will be based on ability level.

We may need to look at NPT hiring these teachers and aides. If we put these students in special education classrooms in their home districts, it won't be what is best for the classroom or these kids. Dr. Doerr stated we need to look at two things. One who employs whom because we need equalized in pay and benefits. Two we have someone retiring, I believe, so maybe need to think about transferring FACeS teachers and aides. Mr. Bauer asked Dr Dougherty if Taylorville has room for an extra class. Dr. Dougherty responded they are full. Mr. Bauer asked Dr. Doerr about Cornerstone or old South School. Dr. Doerr said he would not feel comfortable with that and they would not be meeting LRE.

Mr. Bauer said why can't Taylorville hire the teacher and Pana find the space like we do for the Pre-k program. Dr. Dougherty stated this would be a staffing nightmare and she would not force someone to travel to a different community. She said this needs rethought and she wouldn't feel comfortable asking her staff to transfer employers. Dr. Dougherty asked about numbers in the program and Mrs. Suey directed her to the FACeS Fact Sheet provided in the packet and went over the projected numbers again for next year. Dr. Dougherty discussed that maybe some of these students do not need to be placed in the program. Mrs. Suey said she has already discussed these students with Lakin and they have been placed into the program per their IEP. Mrs. Suey also stated she doesn't want a district to violate the Joint Agreement either since FACeS/CBI is NPT's program and another program like this cannot be started in their district. Dr. Dougherty said her district is currently working on their staffing plan and placement recommendations. She said she will talk to Lakin about getting hard placement data. Mrs. Suey said Lakin already does have hard placement data. There was no more discussion on adding a FACeS classroom.

Open Discussion

There was no open discussion.

REPORTS

Director's Report

The next NPT After Hours will be held on March 14th from 5:00pm-7:00pm on "Been There, Done That-Parent Perspective on Raising a student with a Disability." The next PD with a Purpose will be on March 21st from 3:30pm-4:00pm with a Social Work Panel to ask any social work questions. The book study "Uniquely Human: A Different Way of Seeing Autism" will start today from 3:30-4:00 pm through April. There are 9 people registered to participate.

Caseload totals and TCT numbers are included for Pana and Nokomis. Based on information from Taylorville that she can access to, the number of TCT's for this school year is included in the Taylorville board packet.

Mrs. Suey shared a FACeS Update Flyer that was given to her by Mrs. Bri Bullard who could not be present to present it. During the holiday season, each class made a different item to be sold. The elementary class made Santa and snowmen ornaments, the Hr. High class made gift tags, and the high school class made grinch ornaments. The money collected will go towards outings

for the classes. On December 14, 2022 the group took their 2nd quarter field trip to the Taylorville Cinema to watch The Grinch and enjoyed some popcorn and soda. NPT held the second FACeS Family Night on December 15, 2022 at Ugly Mugs Coffee House in Nokomis. The attendees drank hot chocolate and decorated christmas cookies. The elementary class continues to have music therapy two times a month, a special art project once a month, and also monthly visits from the Unified Tornadoes from THS. The Jr. High class is working hard to fill drink orders weekly with their Tornado Joe's coffee cart. They serve North and TJHS weekly. Their drink offerings have expanded and now include different flavored coffee, cappuccino, hot cocoa, and hot and iced teas. They also participate in monthly activities with the Unified Tornadoes. The high school class continues their good work at the Taylorville Food Pantry and YMCA. Some of the high schoolers helped deliver Christmas ornament and gift tag orders to school staff in each district. The class will be participating in the Polar Plunge at THS on March 7, 2023 at 1:00pm.

Mrs. Jones and Mrs. Suey attended the Winter IAASE Conference last week. They attended a lot of great sessions and cannot wait to share that information with the districts!

Program Coordinator/Transition Specialist

As the Transition Specialist, Mrs. Sabrina Jones reported there are currently 68 students who have filled out their applications. There are 20 of 30 outcomes and she has 11 additional students on their way to becoming an outcome. This month they are working on Deluxe Banking-Balancing Checkbook #3. Mrs. Jones is also working on the Senior Conference that will be held in April.

As the Program Coordinator, Mrs. Jones attended the Winter IAASE Conference and attended some great sessions. She has held 3rd quarter Special Education Team Meetings, PHS Special Education Mentoring program, and has reviewed IEPs. There were no questions for Mrs. Jones.

Business Manager Report

Mrs. Tarter reported that Excess Cost has been submitted in IWAS for district approval for all three member districts. She expressed her gratitude to Wendy, Susan, and Nicole for working together to get it turned in by the deadline. There were no questions for Mrs. Tarter.

CLOSED SESSION

No closed session.

MOVE TO ADJOURN AT 9:36 a.m.

Doerr made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Dougherty seconded the motion. Motion passed by a voice vote.

Mr. Jason Bauer, President

Dr. Scott Doerr, Secretary