

MINUTES

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

Greene-Sullivan Special Education Cooperative

Administrative Offices 77 "A" Street N.E., Linton, IN

January 14, 2020

EXECUTIVE SESSION

9:00 AM

The purpose of this executive session will be:

The discussion of confidential student records, [IC 5-14 -1.5-6.1 (b) (7), (8)],

To discuss before a placement decision an individual student's abilities, past performance, behavior and needs, [IC 5-14-1.5-6.1 (b) (8)],

To receive information about prospective employees, [I.C. 5-14 -1.5-6.1 (b) (5)],

To discuss a job performance evaluation of individual employees. This subdivision does not apply to a discussion of the salary, compensation, or benefits of employees during a budget process, [IC 5-14-1.5-6.1(b) (9)],

To receive or discuss information about the budget, [IC 5-14-1.5-2 (3) (A)].

The Executive Board of the Greene-Sullivan Special Education Cooperative met in the Cooperative Board Room, 77 "A" Street N.E., Linton, IN on Tuesday, January 14, 2020. President, Jeff Gibboney, called the Board to order at 9:44 AM and called the roll with the following members present:

Jeff Gibboney, President - Bloomfield
Kathryn Goad, Vice President - Linton-Stockton
Nick Karazsia, Secretary Interim – MSD Shakamak
Mark Baker, Northeast
Chris Stitzle, Southwest
Robert Hacker, White River Valley

REGULAR SESSION

9:30 AM

1. Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the December 10, 2019 meeting were read beginning with "The minutes from the November 12, 2019 meeting were read..." through "...motion was passed unanimously."

Mr. Nick Karazsia made a motion to approve the December 10, 2019 Board of Superintendents meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Mr. Chris Stitzle. The motion passed unanimously.

2. Treasurer's Report and Claim Docket

The Claim Docket in the financial report was presented and reviewed. Payroll dates and amounts since last Board meeting are as follows:

December 13, 2019	\$91,472.63
December 27, 2019	\$105,139.01
January 10, 2020	\$58,504.65

Dr. Kathryn Goad made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report and payment of claims. Dr. Robert Hacker seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Public Comments and Concerns

Amanda Myers was present and introduced herself.

Mrs. Amanda Myers stated that if there is an issue at Sullivan Middle school with Miss Ashley, as a parent, she should have the right to know. She had received a note from the aides in the classroom. Mrs. Myers stated that she should not have to find out the teacher is gone by the aides. Ms. Sarah Sparks explained that there is a substitute in the classroom. She also informed that Ms. Ashley McComish was currently still employed. Ms. Sarah Sparks explained that parents will be notified of a teacher change, but are not typically notified of a substitute. Mrs. Amanda Myers was concerned that many students in the class are not able to tell parents if there is a new teacher. Ms. Sarah Sparks noted there was not a teacher change yet. A letter will be sent out immediately notifying that a permanent substitute, Michelle Livingston, will be in the room until a full-time teacher can be hired. Mrs. Amanda Myers inquired why the teacher is no longer there. Mr. Nick Karazsia explained there are specific regulations that must be followed and that information could not be shared. There is a certain period of time where explanations cannot be discussed. Ms. Sarah Sparks assured that Mrs. Dana Williams has met with the sub to ensure programming and student needs are met. Mrs. Amanda Myers would like the behavior documentation to continue going home weekly for Harsha.

Mrs. Christy Racey called in by phone and introduced herself. She claimed that her daughter is crying because the teacher is no longer there, and expressed concern of bullying. Mrs. Christy Racey was happy with her daughter's programming last year and with Miss Ashley. Mrs. Sarah Sparks stated that she would look into how the daughter is being treated, however, when observing in the classroom, that was not witnessed. Mrs. Christy Racey would like the teacher to be brought back. She is concerned that her daughter's low cognition is preventing her from comprehending what she needs to do and is struggling with schoolwork. Ms. Sarah Sparks looks at lesson plans weekly and will make sure the student is getting what she needs. Ms. Christy Racey believes the teacher was let go for something that wasn't her fault.

Mr. Jeff Gibboney asked that Ms. Sarah Sparks follow up with the situation.

Mr. Chris Stitzle will request the principal, Mr. Hitt, do additional observations. He stated that he will definitely keep an eye out.

Mr. Jeff Gibboney would like the Board of Superintendents to revisit the policy and procedures of public comments and concerns.

4. Personnel

Resignations

- a. None

Positions to Hire

- f) Speech and Language Pathologist – Linton Stockton Schools
- g) White River Valley Middle and High School
- h) Sullivan Middle School Life Skills Paraprofessional

Recommendations to Hire

- d) Olivia Riplett – White River Valley Middle and High School Paraprofessional

Ms. Sarah Sparks reviewed the positions to hire and gave her recommendation. She also asked if she could have permission to hire for those open positions. Mr. Jeff Gibboney agreed that it would be important for the continuity of the programs.

Mr. Nick Karazsia made a motion to accept the recommendation to hire and give hiring permission. Dr. Kathryn Goad seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

5. DOE Information

- a. Results Driven Accountability

-Planning Tool

-Data Retreat

Ms. Sarah Sparks gave information on Results Driven Accountability and asked if each district received the planning tool. Ms. Sarah Sparks stated she would call to set up a meeting to discuss and complete the planning tool with Sarah Hannon at Northeast School Corporation. Ms. Sarah Sparks and Mrs. Dana Williams will be attending the Data Retreats in February. She stated the retreat is free and it may be beneficial for principals to attend. Principals understanding the Results Driven Accountability information would be beneficial. Ms. Sarah Sparks also discussed the 1% cap for alternate assessment. She was given contacts for test coordinators in Northeast, Southwest, and White River Valley. Ms. Sarah Sparks can work with Mrs. Hannon, Mrs. Roberts, and Mr. Beasley to complete the alternate assessment form.

6. Program Information

a. Life Skills

-Move-in students

Ms. Sarah Sparks noted there have been several students move into the Greene County Life Skills Programs. Adding a paraprofessional may need to be considered for the Linton Elementary program.

b. Early Childhood

-Worthington Preschool Caseload

Ms. Sarah Sparks discussed the concern of the high number of preschool students at the White River Valley Program. She stated that the morning currently has fewer students and inquired if a morning route could be added to White River Valley. Dr. Robert Hacker currently does not have the availability of bus drivers. Ms. Sarah Sparks discussed other options such as checking for open spots in the WRV preschool, moving Bloomfield students to Bloomfield preschool, or hiring a teacher part-time. Dr. Robert Hacker is concerned of room availability. Mr. Jeff Gibboney was concerned of switching the schedule mid-year with parents and students. Mr. Nick Karazsia added an option of offering the morning session to parents that want to voluntarily transport their child.

c. Speech Services

Ms. Sarah Sparks reviewed caseloads and needs for Speech and Language Therapists. Angela Drake's caseload is very high, and coverage is needed for Linton-Stockton. Kristen Witt will be assisting with evaluations and reviews for Linton. Mr. Nick Karazsia asked if SLPs administered hearing screenings and if it was completed at Linton. Dr. Kathryn Goad believed the screenings had been completed this year. Mr. Nick Karazsia will see if Kristen Witt was able to complete the screening at Shakamak.

d. Life After School Program

7. Unfinished Business

a. Third Party Review Report

Ms. Sarah Sparks discussed the report from the third-party review. Information in the report was positive. There was only one concern about programming for a couple of students. GSSEC will speak with SLPs to provide more communication opportunities for nonverbal students and provide training on the program recommended, STAR. Mr. Jeff Gibboney requested that Ms. Sarah Sparks and Mrs. Dana Williams meet with staff and continue professional development. Mr. Gibboney requested a solid plan for transitioning staff. Mr. Chris Stitzle asked if Mr. Jeff Gibboney would be sharing the report with his school board. Mr. Gibboney stated he will. Dr. Kathryn Goad was pleased to hear that it was a good report.

b. Behavior Program

Ms. Sarah Sparks will be visiting Monroe County Schools the last week of January. She will share her observations and information in the next board meeting.

c. 2019-2020 Preschool Screenings

-January 10, 2020 – Hymera

-February 21, 2020 – Worthington or Bloomfield

-April 17, 2020 – Carlisle

Ms. Sarah Sparks asked if the February 21 screening would be held at Bloomfield. Mr. Jeff Gibboney stated that she should reach out to Mr. Riggleman.

8. New Business

a. Semi- Annual Certification

Ms. Sarah Sparks shared the Semi-Annual Certification documents. It was suggested as part of the previous audit that it be shared and reviewed twice per year.

Ms. Sarah Sparks noted that the Speech and Language Pathologist for Linton-Stockton has retired, effective immediately. It was discussed that all other SLP positions are hired through Greene-Sullivan Special Education Cooperative and this position would now be filled by GSSEC.

Mr. Chris Stitzle made a motion to add the SLP position to GSSEC. The motion was seconded by Dr. Mark Baker. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Sarah Sparks recommended canceling the teaching contract for Ashley McComish.

Dr. Robert Hacker made a motion to cancel the teaching contract for Ashley McComish. Dr. Kathryn Goad seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

9. Director's Notes

- MTSS-Addressing Needs of All Students
- ICASE

Ms. Sarah Sparks and psychologist intern will be attending the MTSS training. Mrs. Dana Williams and Mrs. Chastity Woodrum will be attending Indiana Council for Administrators of Special Education from February 11-14.

10. Board Member Comments and Concerns

Mr. Nick Karazsia informed that some of his staff members were concerned with 504. The teachers are sending students with a 504 to the resource room. He inquired if a training had been done at GSSEC. Ms. Sarah Sparks stated PCG came to train on the specific program. Ms. Sarah Sparks noted that GSSEC could provide the location for a training but would not be able to use special education dollars for a training. Dr. Kathryn Goad said Mr. Moore attending a training recently and she will share the training information.

Mr. Nick Karazsia stated that some teachers at Shakamak are concerned that people have keys and enter through a side door without signing in. He requests that personnel go to the office to sign in. Ms. Sarah Sparks will give the directive to sign in. She noted it's better when staff feel like part of the schools they are working in.

Mr. Jeff Gibboney shared that Bloomfield School District will be having weekly early release days for professional development.

Dr. Kathryn Goad complimented Ms. Sarah Sparks on an excellent job communicating with the parents today. Dr. Mark Baker agreed.

11. Adjourn

Dr. Mark Baker made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Dr. Kathryn Goad. The motion passed unanimously.

The Next GSSEC Board of Superintendents' Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 18, 2020 with the executive session meeting beginning at 9:00 A.M. and public meeting beginning at 9:30 A.M.






