

CASE BOARD BRIEFS
May 2021

The May 2021 business meeting of the Cooperative Association for Special Education Executive Board was held on Friday, May 7, 2021 via Zoom meeting. The Board approved the following items:

1. Approval of Minutes April 9, 2021, Regular Session and Closed Session;
 2. Approval of April 2021 Accounts Payable and Payroll Summary and Projected May & June 2021 Payroll;
 3. Treasurer's Report, March 2021;
 4. Contracts;
 - a. Baker Tilly, Engagement Letter for Audit Services;
 - b. Solid State, FY22 Contract;
 5. Personnel;
Employment;
 - Karen Fountain, Program Aide, assigned to Marquardt School District #15, at a 1.0 FTE, for the 2021-2022 school year. This position is necessary to fill a vacancy;
 - Kaitlin Underdown, Teacher, assigned to Marquardt School District #15, at a 1.0 FTE, for the 2021-2022 school year. This position is necessary to fill a vacancy;
 - Kathryn Ward, Speech Language Pathologist, at a 1.0 FTE, for the 2021-2022 school year. This position is necessary to fill a vacancy;
- Resignations;
- Nicole Paneque, Occupational Therapist, has resigned effective at the end of the 2020-2021 school year;
 - Marybeth Stralko, Program Assistant Medical RN, has resigned effective at the end of the 2020-2021 school year.
6. CASE Fiscal Year 2022 Budget, Second Draft.

Workshops/Trainings

Restorative Practices - Matt Epperley facilitated a presentation with Marquardt D15 staff to better understand the historical roots, current trends and future directions of restorative practices. Staff increased their understanding and generated ideas to implement in their educational setting.

Restorative Circles - Matt Epperley facilitated a presentation with Marquardt D15 staff to better understand the rationale and essential elements of restorative circles. Staff generated ideas to implement in their educational setting and participated in an online circle.

Brave Spaces

The CASE Equity committee created "Brave Spaces" where all staff have an opportunity to come together to discuss a short equity related video. Tracy Mack (DHH teacher) led the first Brave Spaces

conversation and utilized the series, *Uncomfortable Conversations with a Black Man* by Emmanuel Acho to guide the discussion. The next meeting will be facilitated by Lauren Witt (Vision teacher).

Glenbard Parent Series-CASE Collaboration

Mary and Jeanine attended various sessions within the Collective Impact Conference. This conference brings together organizations and community members throughout the world that work together to increase their effectiveness through collaboration. Our attendance at this event is supported by Illinois Action for Children.

Music Therapy

CASE currently contracts with Rhythmworks to provide students throughout the elementary districts with music therapy services. Linda Jedrzejek (founder) has decided to turn over the operation of this company to Alyssa Stone of Dynamic Lynks. Alyssa will keep all of the current therapists in their current positions and will be hiring as needed. The transition will be very smooth for CASE and our member districts.

ESY Update

142 student applications
10 signed teacher contracts
23 signed paraprofessional contracts

We are continuing to work with the directors to encourage district staff to work this summer. We have put out a “enroll by” date of April 16th out to all district staff. The earlier date was April 1st but we have continued to hear that more students will be enrolling. Thank you to D41 and to Laurel O’Brien for continuing to participate in our planning meetings.

Secret Buddy Reveal

As a way to stay connected and meet each other, many members of the CASE staff participated in the CASE Secret Buddy program. Throughout the year, they sent each other tidbits of information, memes, stories, resources – small emails just to let their buddy know they were out there. The culminating event was a reveal Zoom party where participants got to learn who their buddies were.

HB2848 (Amends the Children with Disabilities Article of the School Code)

The House passed HB2748. Students who age out between March 17, 2020 and the last day of the 20-21 school year are entitled to compensatory services (i.e. another year of school). Issues:

- Use of the term “compensatory service” opens this up to all students with IEPs
- No difference between students who did receive services and students who did not

It has passed the House and Senator Koehler picked it up in the Senate.

The next and last CASE Executive Board Meeting will be held on June 4, 2021. For more information call CASE at 630-942-5600.