

Director's Report August 3, 2018

Extended School Year

- Thank you to Marquardt District 15 for the use of Blackhawk Elementary School
- Participation was high – overall there were approximately 296 students who attended ESY from across the cooperative
- Full report with recommendations for ESY 2019 will be presented at the September Board meeting.

Start-up for 2018-2019

- Recruited and hired 27 new staff members as of August 1, 2018.
- New staff orientation is on Wednesday August 8, 2018.
- C.A.S.E. all-staff meeting will be on Thursday August 30, 2018 at 2:45pm.
- Please inform building administrators about CASE In-Service day! We are asking that CASE staff be permitted to leave at 2:20.

Staff Activities

Legislative Summit



Mary Furbush attended the 2018 Special Education Legislative Summit in Washington, DC in July with other members of the Illinois Alliance for Special Education Administrators and the Illinois Council of Exceptional Children. We had several presentations by OSEP, OCR and DOE. Our final day of the summit included meeting with members of Congress and/or their staff members to discuss 4 main issues - teacher/staff shortages, keeping public funds in public education, IDEA funding and mental health. The summit began with Senator Corey Booker describing the STRIVE Act (SB2380 & HB4914) which amends HEA and among other things, includes provisions for teacher loan forgiveness, allows EC teachers to qualify for loan forgiveness programs, increases money to teacher prep programs and provides grants to teachers who teach in areas of high need.

CASE staff presented a number of workshops and trainings for the District 93 Tech Academy and the District 15 Learning Academy this summer.

Adapted Schools Training

CASE Administrators and several staff members finished the last two days of Adapted Schools Training in late June. The four-day training is being offered this year through the Kane County ROE. Mindy Long and Emily Shields will be attending so that all CASE Administrators are fully trained. This training has helped us to focus on our facilitation skills but also provided us with a new way to look at how we interact, support and share with members of the CASE staff.

Glenbard Parents as Teachers



Three home visitors were trained in the research based home visiting model, Parents as Teachers. This model is effective at reducing child abuse and maltreatment, as well as improving parent-child interactions, and focusing on enhancing parent-child interactions. The home visitors (Alysa, Irene and Jackie) have begun seeing families in Districts 15 and 89.

We have 18 families in the full Prevention Initiative Program, which consists of biweekly home visits, invitation to group sessions, ongoing developmental screenings for the children, and referrals and help in connecting to needed resources in the community (for the whole family—Early Intervention if needed, food pantries, job assistance, ESL classes, etc. etc.) The families come from all 5 district areas so far. We continue to conduct outreach and child find activities to recruit more families.



Glenbard Early Childhood Collaborative

Bright and Early Grant – CASE received the 5-year Bright and Early grant from the Dupage Federation. Grant recipients attended a reception held at the Foundation office on June 27th. This grant will allow CASE to continue its work in bringing together community organizations and members to assist in integrating services and supports to local families in our area.



Transportation

Thank you to all districts who have permitted Hopewell to put signs up advertising for new drivers. Training is underway and Hopewell is confident that this year will start strong. Transportation for ESY went exceptionally well – Hopewell staff were onsite to help at the beginning, office staff were responsive and overall there were few issues throughout the summer. A full transportation report from Hopewell is attached.

CASE Update

Mary will provide a brief overview/report out of current happenings.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary Furbush

Update from Hopewell Transportation

July 30, 2018

All Staff Training Session

On July 20th Hopewell Transportation held “Back to School” training at Glenbard South High School. All employees attended the following sessions.

- De-escalation of student conduct-Presented by Jen Tate from CASE
 - Techniques on remaining calm and speaking to students in a calm assertive tone.
- Safety Equipment-Presented by Hopewell Safety Team
 - All staff members were trained on the use of safety equipment including vested seatbelts, booster seats, car seats and buckle buddies.
 - This session continued into the following week where Hopewell safety team worked with drivers and aides on proper securement of wheelchairs.
- Radio Etiquette/New Policies-Presented by Hopewell Staff
 - Employees were re-trained on 10-Codes for radio
 - Discussed new point policy for driver attendance
- Pre-trip Inspection-Presented by Hopewell Safety Team
 - Review of new pre-trip inspection books and how they should be completed
- Employee Benefits-Presented by Hopewell Staff
 - Review of Hopewell 401K program and Paid Time Off for all employees

Employee Retention/Recruiting

We are excited to be offering the following benefits for the first time this year:

- 401K plan with 3% employer match for all employees
- Employees who have worked for Hopewell Transportation for 4 years or less will be paid for four holidays this year. Employees who have worked for Hopewell Transportation for 5 or more years will be paid for six holidays.
- All employees will receive 2 paid sick days each year
- Employees will receive monthly bonuses for perfect attendance

Communication to Families

- Back to School parent letters will be sent to CASE for approval on August 2nd.
- Once approved, letters will be mailed home on August 6th.
 - Letter will contain Hopewell policies and contact information.
- Phone calls to parents with information on pick up and drop off time will be made prior to the start date of the child’s school.