C.A.S.E.
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COOPERATIVE ASSOCIATION for SPECIAL EDUCATION

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Jim T. Nelson
Executive Director

BOARD BRIEFS

Friday, January 9, 2015

The January meeting of the C.A.S.E. Board of Directors was held on Friday, January 9, 2015, 9:00 a.m. at C.A.S.E.

Dr. Perdue commended and thanked Mr. Nelson, Ms. D'Ambrosio and Ms. Furbush for providing information and their expertise with the CCSD 89 Special Education Audit.

CONSENT AGENDA

The Board approved the following items:

1. Approval of Minutes for December 5, 2014, Regular and Closed Session;
2. Approval of Accounts Payable for December and January, Payroll for December and Projected Payroll for January 2015;
3. Treasurer's Report, November 2014;
4. Annual State of Affairs FY2014;
5. Personnel;
   - **Employment;**
     - Erin Moll, Program Assistant assigned to Glenwood on January 5, 2015, for the remainder of the 2014/15 school year. This position is necessary in order to fill a vacancy;
     - Laura Glenz, Occupational Therapist, assigned to Districts 41 & 93 on January 6, 2015, for the remainder of the 2014/15 school year. This position is necessary in order to fill a vacancy.
   - **Termination of Contract**
     - Termination of Contract for Cumberland Services, effective January 31, 2015, for C.O.T.A. Occupational Therapist services provided.
   - **Letter of Intent to Return from Leave of Absence**
     - Robin Scantlen, leave of absence for the 2014/15 school year, has submitted a letter of intent to return to C.A.S.E. for the 2015/16 school year.

OTHER ACTION ITEMS

1. C.A.S.E. Policies & Procedures, Second Read
   - 6.65 Student Social and Emotional Development
   - 6.70 Teaching About Religions
   - 6.120 Education of Children with Disabilities
   - 6.150 Home and Hospital Instruction
   - 6.190 Extracurricular and Co-Curricular Activities
   - 6.240 Field Trips and Recreational Trips
   - 6.250 Community Resource Persons and Volunteers
2. C.A.S.E. FY2015 Extended School Year Program Projected Budget
3. C.A.S.E. Legal Counsel, Engler, Baasten & Sraga
4. Fiscal Year 2016 Budget Assumptions and Timelines

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION, DISCUSSION, AND/OR FUTURE BOARD APPROVAL
TECHNOLOGY AUDIT
C.A.S.E. is completing a 3-year Technology Audit. This audit is currently in discovery mode and more information will be presented in future Board Meetings.

C.A.S.E. POLICIES AND PROCEDURES – FIRST READ
7.50 Students, School Admissions, Eligibility for Services
7.80 Students, Release Time for Religious Instruction/Observance
7.140 Students, Search and Seizure
7.185 Students, Teen Dating Violence Prohibited

Mr. Nelson mentioned the above policies were drafted by Press Plus and reviewed by C.A.S.E. administration and final review by Engler, Baasten and Sraga.

DIRECTORS REPORT

Mr. Nelson stated the Administration team will meet 2-3 times in February and March to complete the action plan for the Strategic Plan. A first read will be presented to the C.A.S.E. Board on April 10, 2015 and final approval on May 8, 2015.

C.A.S.E. Itinerant Services
Mr. Nelson mentioned two hearing itinerant teachers have started an after-school sign language club at Columbus West Elementary School in Cicero. This club has the largest membership of any of the school-sponsored activities with over 200 participants. The sign language club performed holiday carols for the school and community on December 18.

Mr. Nelson reported the final IDEA grant awards include a state-wide reduction of $202,307. ISBE will not be recalculating allocations for fiscal year 2015. Reportedly, ISBE will instead reduce funding to its discretionary internal IDEA projects.

This week marks the final week at Glenwood of the first semester and the master schedule has been revised for the high school to offer courses that our students need to fulfill graduation requirements. We have completed the upload of student information necessary for the PARCC and are registered for the upcoming trial. Glenwood will administer all PARCC tests via computer and our tech readiness is rated at level "9" which is the highest level of readiness. We currently have 3 high school students projected to graduate at the conclusion of the second semester and are preparing multiple students for full or part-time transition to their home schools for the second semester.

C.A.S.E. celebrated the season of giving by collecting hats, gloves, scarves, and socks to support the Hesed House shelter program. We enjoyed seeing the collected items adorning the C.A.S.E. holiday tree before sending them off to the grateful clients of Hesed House.

Mr. Nelson stated Cindy D'Ambrosio will meet with Special Education District Administrators to assess staffing patterns and needs for the 2015/2016 school year. In the event there is a Reduction in Force (RIF) the C.A.S.E. Board will take action on March 6 for licensed and April 10 for support staff.

In December the District Special Education Directors discussed federal and state regulations and the least restrictive educational environment (LRE). The discussion focused on possible ways to increase LRE opportunities, potentially combine programs, and stretch services to meet the needs of lower-incident students in general education settings. Consensus was also established to refer to MIP and GIP as self-contained programs for 2015-2016 and beyond. Further discussions and a proposed implementation plan will occur on this topic.

C.A.S.E. completes an annual Needs Assessment as required for both the IDEA grants and the ISBE/DuPage County compliance visit(s). Each district receives district-specific data as well as a C.A.S.E. composite. The survey gathers input from general and special education teachers, parents, service providers, administrators, and private and parochial schools. The results from the survey drive the professional development activities for the next year which are submitted in the IDEA grant. A proposal from the District Special Education Directors and the C.A.S.E. leadership team is to reduce the number of questions and focus specifically on professional development needs, parental input, and concerns regarding special education services. The survey is planned for February. A simplified survey would fully comply with ISBE requirements.

COUNTY WIDE INSTITUTE DAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2015
Ms. D'Ambrosio reported a robust selection of professional development for the County Wide Institute Day. There was a discussion of which districts will attend this year.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT, 2nd SEMESTER OFFERINGS
Ms. D'Ambrosio provided a report of all professional development that will be offered in the second semester.

FY2015 EXTENDED SCHOOL YEAR
bookC.A.S.E., Chapter Two is the theme for FY2015 Extended School Year. An *ESY 2015 Teacher/Staff Information* handout was provided. ESY dates are from June 16 to July 16, 2015, and will run from Monday thru Thursday. K – 8 classes will be held at Heritage Lakes and Carol Stream Schools in CCSD 93, and high school classes will be held at Glenbard North in District 87.

EXCESS COST
Excess Cost Sheets are due to the state by January 30, 2015. Jerry Brendel will complete a portion of the form and district Business Managers will complete. Mr. Nelson will attend the Business Manager meeting on Monday, January 12.

CLOSED SESSION
Purpose: Personnel - The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1).

No action was taken as a result of closed session.

The next meeting of the C.A.S.E. Board of Directors will be held on Friday, February 6, 2015, 9:00 a.m. in the Board Room. Recipients of this notice may request more information on any of these topics by calling C.A.S.E. at 630-942-5600.

Jim T. Nelson, Executive Director