



COOPERATIVE ASSOCIATION for SPECIAL EDUCATION

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Jim T. Nelson
Executive Director

BOARD BRIEFS

Friday, December 4, 2015

The December meeting of the C.A.S.E. Board of Directors was held on Friday, December 4, 2015, 9:00 a.m. at C.A.S.E.

CONSENT AGENDA

The Board approved the following items:

1. Approval of Minutes for November 6, 2015, Regular Session;
2. Approval of Accounts Payable for November, Payroll for November and December and Projected Payroll for December 2015;
3. Treasurer's Report, October 2015;
4. Personnel;
Resignations;
 - Laura Gobelman, Program Assistant assigned to Glenwood, submitted a letter of resignation effective November 22, 2015.
5. Contracts;
 - C.A.S.E. and NEDSRA FY 2016 Summer Proposal;
 - IASE Press Plus Renewal Contract FY 2016.

OTHER ACTION ITEMS APPROVED:

1. C.A.S.E. Policies and Procedures, Press Plus
 - 2.160 Board of Directors, Board Attorney
 - 2.260 Board of Directors, Uniform Grievance Procedure
 - 4.50 Operational Service, Payment Procedure
 - 5.50 General Personnel, Drug and Alcohol Free Workplace
 - 5.170 General Personnel, Copyright
 - 7.10 Students, Equal Educational Opportunities
 - 7.310 Student, Restrictions on Publications
 - 8.10 Community Relations, Community Relations Goals
 - 8.80 Community Relations, Gifts to the Cooperative
2. C.A.S.E. FY2016 Extended Year Program Projected Budget

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION, DISCUSSION, AND/OR FUTURE BOARD APPROVAL:

C.A.S.E. POLICIES AND PROCEDURES; FIRST READ, PRESS PLUS

The C.A.S.E. Policies and Procedures were presented to the C.A.S.E. Board of Directors for first read. They will be included in the January 8, 2016 C.A.S.E. Board Packet for approval.

- 2.20 Board of Directors, Types of Board Meetings
- 4.170 Operational Services, Safety
- 5.90 General Personnel, Abused and Neglected Child Reporting
- 5.100 General Personnel, Staff Development Program
- 7.100 Students, Health, Eye, and Dental Examinations; Immunizations; and Exclusion of Students
- 7.130 Students, Students Rights and Responsibilities

7.140 Students, Search and Seizure

7.340 Students, Student Records

8.30 Community Relations, Visitors to and Conduct on School Property

SPECIAL EDUCATION TRANSPORTATION BID

Mr. Brendel provided a brief updated report on the transportation bid with timetable. Ms. Tabbert thanked Mr. Brendel for his work with the transportation bid.

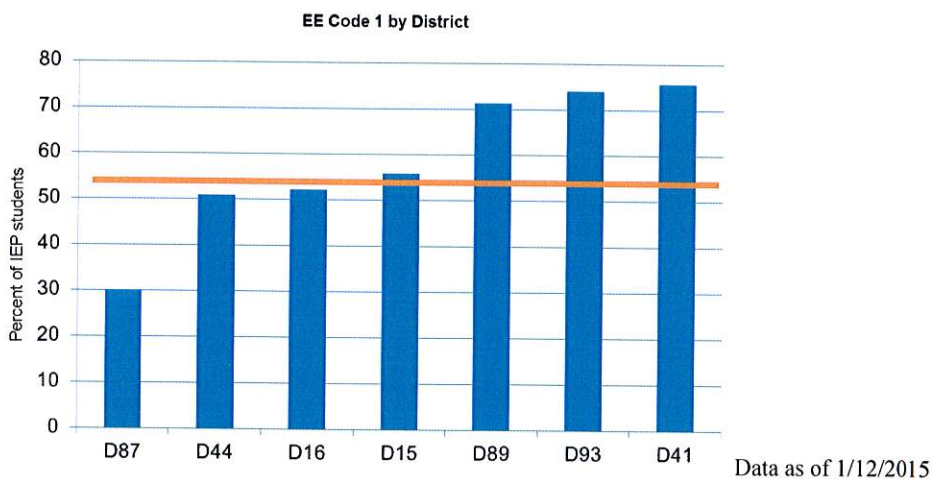
REQUEST FOR STAFF DEVELOPMENT

Mr. Nelson provided the Board of Directors with a *Request for Staff Development* form for districts to request professional development at any time for a number of special education topics. He is proud of his staff and their expertise.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Nelson stated the December IDEA Child Count is due on December 11, 2015, via iePoint. The data is used for both funding and measurement on State Performance Plan indicators 4, 5, 6, 9, 10, 13 and 20.

Also the Illinois State Performance Plan (SPP) establishes a minimum of 54% for EE code 1 (Inside regular classroom 80% or more of the day). The state average is 53.6% for the 2014-2015 school year and the average for the seven C.A.S.E. districts is 58.57%.



Mr. Nelson recapped news from the C.A.S.E. Itinerant Services:

- Our Itinerant Services team is including low incidence staff from neighboring cooperatives and school districts in two linkage meetings per year. The Hearing meeting was held on November 9 and the Vision meeting on November 16. At these meetings we welcomed 12 DHH teachers and 13 Vision teachers from a variety of organizations in northern Illinois. Conversations focused on the SLO process, technology, PARCC, addressing bilingual services and technology.

Mr. Nelson recapped news from Glenwood:

- Five students are in part-time transitions to their home schools
- Two students will begin full-time attendance at their home school for the second semester
- Parent-teacher conferences: 16 families participated. We were able to accommodate six of our families' schedules by holding conferences outside of regular hours and by phone conference. Home visits and phone calls were made by high school team members to families of students who are at risk of failing to graduate.

- Barb Robinson, D87 Job Coach, and our high school team, completed a community service themed learning activity. It included visiting a local nonprofit organization and preparing meals for needy families. The trip included exploration of job skill related learning targets.
- Dr. Jill Engle, with the Consortium for Educational Change, completed two rounds of instructional coaching with members of the Glenwood team targeting Tier III assessment practices.
- Enrollment is increasing. We are receiving referrals at the primary, middle, and high school levels.
- Glenwood staff prepared Thanksgiving meals for students and some of our community's neediest families. High school students volunteered to serve the feast.

Mr. Nelson reported with simultaneous departure of a number of our central office staff gives us a unique opportunity to restructure. We are currently reevaluating the central office job descriptions, roles, and responsibilities. The needs of our students and of our member districts are constantly changing, and we're using this opportunity to ensure we continue to offer the most appropriate and the highest quality special education services for our students and member districts.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- On December 3, C.A.S.E. hosted, "Evidence Based Approach to Social Emotional Learning: Creating Emotionally Intelligent Schools," with Dr. Marc Brackett. This event held at Glenbard South High School, taught participants about RULER, an evidence-based approach to social emotional learning developed by researchers at the Yale Center for Emotional Intelligence. Researchers have shown that schools using this approach foster emotional intelligence skills among educators and students, improve academic performance and problem solving skills, and enhances their overall school climate.
- This fall C.A.S.E. also held sessions on
 - ADOS-2, the diagnostic assessment used to identify students on the autism spectrum
 - Positive Behavior Interventions
 - Digital Literacy Tools
 - Writing Individualized IEP Goals with the Help of the VB-MAPP
 - "Legal Bootcamp" presented by Darcy Kriha from Franczek Radelet for Special Education Administrators Principals and LEAs."
 - SIMS Writing Strategy series (a continuing offering)
 - Co-Teaching series (a continuing offering)
- Sharing C.A.S.E. expertise and talent
 - "AAC Continuum (Low/high tech) and Core and Fringe Vocabulary" Presented by Tricia Sharkey at the DuPage County Speech Language Hearing Association on October 24.
 - "Adapted Physical Education Curriculum Development and Planning", Presented by Tara McCarthy at the Illinois Association for Health and Physical Education (IAHPERD) Conference on November 20.
 - "Story Telling in the Digital Age" presented by Tricia Sharkey and Kathy Sledz at the Illinois Education and Technology Conference November 5-6. Shared apps used to create digital stories, websites that support literacy development, and resources for investigating and evaluating educational apps.

Netchemia will discontinue our current Internet-based IEP program at the end of the 2015-2016 school year. C.A.S.E. and member districts have been working hard for many months to determine best options. Numerous vendors were considered, interviewed, and studied. Each member district will use the system that best matches their needs.

Districts 15, 16, 44, 89, and 93 have selected Hawthorn Service Tracker. District 41 will continue using their existing student information system module. The district 87 committee is currently making their final determination. We are all committed to making this transition as smooth as possible. We hope the new systems will allow us to discontinue some of the behind-the-scenes databases currently required.

Mr. Nelson thanked Cindy D'Ambrosio and Dr. Crysta Morrissey who had been a tremendous help in sifting through all the variables and analyzing the systems.

CLOSED SESSION:

Purpose I:

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 as mandated by 5ILCS 120/2 (c)(1).

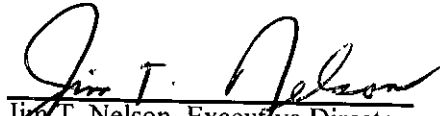
Purpose II:

The purchase or lease of real property for the use of the public body, including meetings held for the purpose of discussing whether a particular parcel should be acquired. 5 ILCS 120-2(c)(5).

No action was taken as a result of Closed Session.

OTHER BUSINESS:

The next meeting of the C.A.S.E. Board of Directors will be held on Friday, January 8, 2016, 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