

OGLE COUNTY EDUCATIONAL COOPERATIVE EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

The Executive Board of the Ogle County Educational Cooperative met at the Administration Building in Byron on February 24, 2011 at 9:30 a.m. Mr. Taylor called the meeting to order. The following members answered roll call: Mr. Craven (RT), Mr. Zick (AFC), Mr. Taylor, (FO), Dr. Kokaska (CR), Mr. Bob Prusator (ME), Dr. Mayberry (ES) and Mr. Stott (KI).

Also present: Mr. Noble, Mr. Terry Schuster and Mr. Greg Martin.

Members absent: Mr. Todd Prusator (RE), Mr. Mahoney (OR), Dr. Fostiak (BY), Mr. Rademacher (PO) Ms. Bua (ST) and Ms. Nelson (AM).

Mr. Greg Martin from Focus House provided information from a recent meeting with county officials. With looking at the future with a decrease in revenue and an increase of expenses for FY12, the county officials looked at services required and concluded if it was prudent to continue services at Focus House. Mr. Martin was asked by the county board to seek other options of revenue and to talk with school Superintendents to see if funds are available at the district level. In the past Focus House received Orphanage Act funds from ISBE which may not be available in the future. He asked how this impact may affect districts if Focus House was closed. Students could still be placed at the expense of the districts paying the bill because Orphanage Act funds will not be available to offset the costs. There would be an immediate impact on Rochelle Township High School's staff. Currently the county provides Focus House with funds in the amount of \$921,000 which covers the cost of most salaries and Orphanage Act pays for the educational portion. Mr. Martin said the current FY11 costs have been cut back including personnel. The Focus House budget is December 1st through November 30th. Mr. Martin is in the process on providing information to districts from 1975 to present date on students who attended Focus House by school district. Discussion followed.

Mr. Bob Prusator left the meeting at 9:45 a.m. Mr. Martin left the meeting at 10:10 a.m.

There was no update from the Regional Office of Education.

Mr. Taylor requested a motion to approve minutes of the January 20, 2011 Executive Board Meeting. Mr. Stott motioned and Mr. Zick seconded the motion. All were in favor of the motion. The motion was unanimously passed.

Mr. Taylor requested a motion to approve the financial statement and payment of bills. Mr. Stott made a motion to approve the financial statement and the payment of bills and Mr. Craven seconded the motion.

Ayes: Mr. Stott, Mr. Craven, Dr. Mayberry, Mr. Zick, Dr. Kokaska and Mr. Taylor.

Nays: none

The Motion passed.

Mr. Noble requested the RTI presentation by Mr. Terry Schuster be postponed until the March meeting for the full board to hear the presentation. Mr. Terry Schuster left the meeting at 10:15 a.m.

Mr. Noble requested the board to approve personnel leave, resignations, retirement and employment. Ms. Kay Tallyn, Low Incident Coordinator, has submitted her letter of intent to retire with TRS. Ms. Tallyn is a part-time employee working 70 days per year and will continue working with OCEC. She will not receive any benefits in FY12. Ms. Amy Brass is being recommended for employment as a part-time School Psychologist for FY12 working 3 days per week. Ms. Tonya Rains, Nurse/Paraprofessional at Chana Education Center, has submitted her letter of resignation. Ms. Rains has accepted a position at Rochelle Nursing Home. Mr. Stott made a motion to approve the director's recommendation on the retirement request of Ms. Tallyn, employing Ms. Brass and the resignation request of Ms. Rains. Mr. Craven seconded the motion.

Ayes: Mr. Craven, Mr. Taylor, Mr. Zick, Mr. Stott, Dr. Mayberry, and Dr. Kokaska.

Nays: None

The motion was unanimously passed.

Mr. Noble recommended the board to approve the first reading on Board Policies. The final approval of the Board Policies would be made with the next Governing Board meeting. He stated the following policies have been newly added or amended by the Illinois Association of School Boards. 2:100; OCEC Board: Board Member Conflict of Interest, 4:60-AP1; Operational Administration: Administrative Procedure – Purchases, 4:110-AP2 Operational Services: Admin. Procedure – Bus Driver Communication Devices, 4:160; Operational Services: Environmental Quality of Building and Grounds, 5:100 General Personnel: Staff Development Program, 5:190; Professional Personnel: Teacher Qualifications, 5:280 Educational Support Personnel: Duties and Qualifications, 5:290; Educational Support Personnel: Employment Termination and Suspensions, 6:20; Instruction: School Year Calendar and Day, 6:50; Instruction: School Wellness, 6:60; Instruction: Curriculum Content, 6:60-AP; Instruction: Admin. Procedure – Comprehensive Health Education Program, 7:20; Students: Harassment of Students Prohibited, 7:180; Students: Preventing Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment, 7:190; Student Discipline, 7:190-AP5; Students: Student Handbook – Electronic Devices, 7:190-AP6; Students: Admin. Procedure – Guidelines for Investigating Sexting Allegations, 7:190-AP6, E1; Students: Exhibit – Letter to Parents/Guardians about Preventing & Reducing Incidences of Sexting, 8:30; Community Relations: Visitors to and Conduct on School Property.

Mr. Stott motioned to approve the Board Policies as presented by the director and Mr. Zick seconded.

All were in favor of the motion. The motion unanimously passed.

Mr. Noble requested the board to approve the FY12 school calendar. The Calendar presented mirrors that of the Oregon School District. Mr. Craven motioned to approve the FY12 school calendar as presented by the director and Dr. Kokaska seconded. All were in favor of the motion. The motion unanimously passed.

Mr. Noble provided the board with an update on the projected classroom programming for the 2011-2012 school year for students attending OCEC programs. A hand out was provided at the board meeting of expected students who will be returning to or beginning in OCEC programs. Based on enrollment and current requests for placement it is anticipated the classes will remain the same for the beginning of the year. There has been an increase in the enrollment in the BD Program. The RSSP program will be discussed at the March meeting. The RSSP program funding is currently in the state budget. Mr. Craven commented on the importance of the RSSP program with the positive impact it has on students and the success of students graduating.

Mr. Noble provided the board an annual update on students who are currently in out-of-district placement. The out-of-district placement expense is in the central cost portion of the district billing at approximately \$492,000. The OCEC receives revenue from the state for approximately \$176,000.

Mr. Noble requested the information of local building "EE" codes be postponed until the March meeting for all members to hear the presentation.

Mr. Noble shared information on a proposed amendment to reduce special education personnel reimbursement. If approved, special education clerical staff and custodial staff would no longer be allowed to be claimed for personnel reimbursement. At this time each individual accounts for \$3,500 of reimbursement. The Amendment would also reduce speech paraprofessionals from \$9,000 to \$3,500. The OCEC personnel reimbursement would decrease \$22,000. OCEC would use grant funds to cover the loss of revenue funds.

Mr. Noble provided the board with information on Medicaid reimbursement each district has received to date in FY11. The report also listed the reimbursement each district received since FY08. In FY12, OCEC will use Medicaid funds for a level funded budget.

Mr. Noble recommended the executive minutes of January through June 2010 to remain closed. Mr. Stott moved, with a second by Mr. Zick to keep the executive minutes of January through June 2010 closed.

Roll call vote:

Ayes: Mr. Zick, Dr. Kokaska, Mr. Craven, Mr. Stott, Mr. Taylor and Dr. Mayberry

Nays: None

The motion passed.

The board did not go into executive session.

At 10:36 a.m. the Executive Board Meeting adjourned. Mr. Stott motioned to adjourn the Executive Board Meeting and Mr. Zick seconded the motion.

Vote to adjourn the meeting was unanimous.

Lowell Taylor, President

Tammy Moser, Recording Secretary