

## OGLE COUNTY EDUCATIONAL COOPERATIVE EXECUTIVE BOARD MEEETING

The Executive Board of the Ogle County Educational Cooperative met at the Administration Building in Byron on May 21, 2009 at 9:35 a.m.

Mr. Taylor called the meeting to order. The following members answered the roll call: Mr. Zick (AFC), Dr. Fostiak (BY), Dr. Mayberry (ES), Mr. Taylor (FO), Mr. Bob Prusator (ME), Dr. Mattingly (OR), Mr. Todd Prusator (RE), Mr. Craven (RT), Ms. Bua (ST).

Also present: Mr. Noble, Ms. Bettina Wiltse, and Mr. Matt Meyers  
Mr. Stott arrived at 9:38 a.m.

Mr. Taylor requested all board members to be present for the Byron hearing scheduled on June 23<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Taylor requested a motion to approve the minutes of the April 16, 2009 Executive Board meeting. Dr. Mayberry motioned and it was seconded by Dr. Mattingly. The motion was unanimously passed with Dr. Fostiak abstaining.

Mr. Taylor requested a motion to approve the financial statement and the payment of bills.

Dr. Mayberry motioned, and Ms. Bua seconded.

Ayes: Mr. Craven, Ms. Bua, Dr. Mayberry, Dr. Mattingly, Mr. Todd Prusator, Mr. Stott, Mr. Bob Prusator, Mr. Taylor, Mr. Shepherd, Mr. Zick, and Dr. Fostiak.

Nays: None

Motion Passed

Mr. Noble presented the resignation of Ms. Anne Risen, Special Education Coordinator, Ms. Ashley Gendreau, School Social Worker, and Heather Ridgen, Occupational Therapist at the conclusion of the school year.

Mr. Noble recommended employment for Ms. Rhonda Russell, Secretarial position at the Chana Education Center. Rhonda will be replacing Dana Cox who was promoted to the OCEC Bookkeeper position.

Dr. Mayberry moved to approve acceptance of resignation of Ms. Anne Risen, Ms. Ashley Gendreau, and Ms. Heather Ridgen and the employment of Ms. Rhonda Russell.

Mr. Craven seconded the motion.

Abstain: Dr. Fostiak

Ayes: Dr. Mayberry, Dr. Mattingly, Mr. Zick, Mr. Stott, Mr. Todd Prusator, Mr. Bob Prusator, Mr. Craven, Ms. Bua, Mr. Taylor

Motion Passed

Ms. Bettina Wiltse presented information on the STEP program with topics covering Transition Planning, connection with outside agencies for students in OCEC and local district programs, and Functional Assessments. Goals for students in the STEP program include; students to be in the workforce, basic safety on the job site, attendance at work site, job reference, and achieve permanent placement in a full time position. Working within the STEP program allows the student to receive up to 2 credits towards their graduation. In FY09, STEP served 91 children within all districts.

Mr. Noble recommended the approval of a report card for the Life Skills Program to be used in the fall of 2009. Anne Risen and a team of OCEC Life Skill teachers have created a quarterly report card to be sent home to parents. Teachers will complete the report card each quarter and a copy will remain in the student's permanent file. The report card will not replace the quarterly report on goals and objectives that are required. This report will be in addition.

Mr Craven moved to approve the Life Skill report card. Dr. Mayberry seconded the motion.

Ayes: Mr. Zick, Dr. Mattingly, Mr. Stott, Dr. Mayberry, Mr. Todd Prusator, Mr. Bob Prusator, Mr. Craven, Ms. Bua, Dr. Fostiak, and Mr. Taylor.

Nayes: None

Motion passed

Mr. Noble provided a yearly report on special education data. Each year ISBE provides special education data including all districts in Illinois on students with an IEP. The data compares districts in the cooperative as well as to state averages. There has been a decrease in students over the last four years.

Mr. Noble recommended the approval of the First Student Transportation contract renewal for FY10. Presented were a 1 year contract at 3.5% increase based on a maximum of 175 regular year school days and a 2 year contract at 3.25% increase based on the same number of days. Mr. Noble recommended the 2 year contract to be approved. Mr. Mattingly asked when was the last time we sought other company estimates for competitive bidding because there has been an increase each year with First Student. Mr. Noble stated that this has not been done since his employment with OCEC. Mr. Mayberry asked if the company could be contacted to request a drop in percentage or to negotiate the cost with First Student. The board would like Mr. Noble to contact First Student to see if they would lower the percentage then possibly bid out the transportation cost if there were no changes with the First Student Contract.

There was no motion to approve the contract with First Student. This will be brought back to the table at the June board meeting.

Mr. Noble recommended the approval to increase the number of OCEC Certified School Social Workers by 1 FTE. This would bring the total of OCEC Social Workers to five. The total cost for this position will be approximately \$58,000 with \$9,000 revenue in personnel reimbursement the following year. Mr. Noble presented handouts comparing 4 SSW's w/o Byron to 5 SSW's w/o Byron. Dr. Fostiak stated Byron will not need the Social Work Services of Joan Baumer in FY10. Byron will be operating their own program. The FY10 budget was calculated with an additional Social Worker without Byron using a SSW. Dr. Mayberry noted it does not reduce the expenses if Byron doesn't use the SSW services.

Dr. Mattingly motioned to approve the additional Social Worker for FY10. Dr. Mayberry Seconded the motion.

Abstained: Dr. Fostiak

Ayes: Mr. Todd Prusator, Mr. Bob Prusator, Dr. Mattingly, Mr. Zick, Mr. Craven, Mr. Stott, Ms. Bua, Dr. Mayberry, Mr. Taylor.

The motion was passed.

Mr. Noble recommended the approval of the FY10 IDEA and Preschool grant expenditures. Mr. Noble stated there was a decrease in each district subgrant pending the outcome of Byron's petition. Byron is not in the equation with their total IDEA of \$325,000 escrowed until the results of the hearing. Mr. Mattingly stated they are working with less money and with increased expenses. This adversely affects the children educationally and financially.

Mr. Noble presented information of the tentative FY10 budget. We will be receiving additional ARRA money which is not included at this time in the FY10 budget. Mr. Noble prepared a handout explaining the increase and decrease within each program. There was a 1.4% decrease in the overall budget. The Life Skills program cost was decreased due to reducing the AFC Life Skills classroom and shifting of students. Dr. Mattingly noted the Oregon district is having difficulty moving classrooms to accommodate space for additional Life Skill classrooms. Portables may have to be added which would increase the O&M cost.

Mr. Noble presented handouts with suggested expenditures for the ARRA grant funds which included Web Based IEP, Audiometer, Smart Boards, SIMS Training, Chana Roof Repair, Driveway Sealing, Phone Speaker System, and Unique Learning System, a curriculum for the Life Skills program. The handout also listed subgrant amounts

payable to each district from the ARRA grant with and without Byron in the equation. Up to 50% of the subgrant allocation can be used as local funds (supplanting) current expenditures. The ARRA grant is available for 2 years. This is being built into the e-fund system which is not available yet on IWAS. The ARRA grant will be brought back to the table at the June board meeting.

At 10:58, the Executive Board meeting adjourned. Mr. Craven motioned to move to adjourn the Executive Board. Mr. Todd Prusator seconded the motion.  
Vote to adjourn the meeting was unanimous.

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Lowell Taylor, President

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Tammy Moser, Recording Secretary