MINUTES OF GOVERNING BOARD MEETING

WILLIAMSON COUNTY SPECIAL EDUCATION DISTRICT

March 4, 2022

Regular WCES Conference Room 7:30 A.M.

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GOVERNING BOARD MEMBERS

\_\_\_\_PRESENT ABSENT\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Kathy Clark, Unit 1 Chris Cullum, Unit 1

Keith Oates, Unit 2

Sy Stone, Unit 3

Nathaniel Wilson, Unit 4

Keith Liddell, Unit 5

Cindy Gibbons, Unit 2

Chris Blumenstock, Unit 3

Steve Robinson, Unit 4

David Schwartz, Unit 5 via Zoom

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

Jami Hodge

Jenny Malanowski

Durenda Fuchs, WCEA

Chairman Kathy Clark called the meeting to order at 7:30 a.m.

Roll call was taken with Mrs. Clark, Dr. Oates, Mr. Stone, Mr. Wilson, Mr. Liddell, Ms. Gibbons, Mr. Blumenstock, and Mr. Robinson present. Mr. Schwartz present via Zoom.

There was no visitor participation.

Director’s Report:

**Special Education:**

* Enrollment Trends discussed with data presented indicating enrollment for students with disabilities has gone down but significant needs have gone up. Funds are based on December 1 Child Count for the following year. General Education enrollment is down through Covid; however Carterville continues to grow in enrollment numbers.
* Numbers for percentages in special education are high compared to the national and state average. These numbers are improving throughout our district
* SLP speech only numbers are improving but still high in some districts
* Percentage of time in special education numbers need to be reduced. Behaviors are an issue contributing to time in special education
* Space is an issue and specialized programs cannot have as many students
* Paraprofessionals are hard to find. Licensure is an issue. New proposed legislation is allowing 90 days to complete a paraprofessional test and lowering age requirement to 18

**PreK:**

* Funding – no loan required
* Legislation talk through the Build Back Better Plan for free PreK for everyone (all day).
* Limited space.

**CTE:**

* WCES is an admin agent for CTE
* Accountability requirements have increased
* Programs for pathways. Example include JC with an Educator Pathway (through John A Logan) allowing 12 college credit hours to be transferrable to SIU
* Herrin and Marion both have similar programs for PreK-aged children
* Amber George at HHS nominated for Teacher of the Year

Mr. Blumenstock made the motion to accept the minutes of the last Governing Board meeting on September 10, 2021, as presented. Motion was seconded by Mr. Schwartz

Members Clark, Oates, Stone, Wilson, Liddell, Gibbons, Blumenstock, Robinson and Schwartz voted “yea”. Motion carried.

Mr. Schwartz made the motion to accept the employment of personnel by the Executive Board September 2021 through February 2022 as presented in Attachment 2. Mr. Blumenstock seconded the motion.

Upon roll call, Members Clark, Oates, Stone, Wilson, Liddell, Gibbons, Blumenstock, Robinson, and Schwartz voted “yea. Motion carried.

Mr. Blumenstock made the motion to accept the re-employment of WCES certified personnel for 2022-2023 school year as presented in Attachment 3. Mr. Schwartz seconded the motion.

Upon roll call, Members Clark, Oates, Stone, Wilson, Liddell, Gibbons, Blumenstock, Robinson, and Schwartz voted “yea”. Motion carried.

Mr. Blumenstock made the motion to accept the re-employment of WCES non-certified personnel for 2022-2023 school year as presented in Attachment 4. Mr. Schwartz seconded the motion.

Upon roll call, Members Clark, Oates, Stone, Wilson, Liddell, Gibbons, Blumenstock, Robinson, and Schwartz voted “yea”. Motion carried.

Mr. Schwartz made the motion to accept the re-employment of WCECC certified personnel for the 2022-2023 school year as presented in Attachment 5. Mr. Blumenstock seconded the motion.

Upon roll call, Members Clark, Oates, Stone, Wilson, Liddell, Gibbons, Blumenstock, Robinson, and Schwartz voted “yea”. Motion carried.

Mr. Blumenstock made the motion to accept the re-employment of WCECC non-certified personnel for the 2022-2023 school year as presented in Attachment 6. Mr. Schwartz seconded the motion.

Upon roll call, Members Clark, Oates, Stone, Wilson, Liddell, Gibbons, Blumenstock, Robinson, and Schwartz voted “yea”. Motion carried.

Mr. Blumenstock made the motion to accept the minutes of the Executive Board from September 2021 through February 2022 as presented in Attachment 7. Mr. Schwartz seconded the motion.

Members Clark, Oates, Stone, Wilson, Liddell, Gibbons, Blumenstock, Robinson, and Schwartz voted “yea”. Motion carried.

Mr. Schwartz made the motion to accept the minutes of the WCECC Executive Committee from September 2021 through February 2022 as presented in Attachment 8. Mr. Blumenstock seconded the motion.

Members Clark, Oates, Stone, Wilson, Liddell, Gibbons, Blumenstock, Robinson, and Schwartz voted “yea”. Motion carried.

Mr. Schwartz made the motion to accept the minutes of the WCTE Board of Control from September 2021 through February 2022 as presented in Attachment 9. Mr. Blumenstock seconded the motion.

Members Clark, Oates, Stone, Wilson, Liddell, Gibbons, Blumenstock, Robinson, and Schwartz voted “yea”. Motion carried.

No miscellaneous remarks

Mr. Blumenstock made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Schwartz seconded the motion.

Members Clark, Oates, Stone, Wilson, Liddell, Gibbons, Blumenstock, Robinson, and Schwartz voted “yea”. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:05 a.m.

MINUTES ATTESTED TO:

Kathy Clark, Chairman Cindy Gibbons, Secretary

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