# EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

# WILLIAMSON COUNTY SPECIAL EDUCATION DISTRICT

## December 8, 2023

### Regular WCES Conference Room 9:00 A.M.

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EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS

Present Absent

Mrs. Kathy Clark, Unit I Mr. Sy Stone, Unit III

Mrs. Becky Moss, Unit II Mr. Nathaniel Wilson, Unit IV

Mr. Keith Liddell, Unit V

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

Jami Hodge, WCES Director

Jenny Malanowski

Kristi White, WCEA

Sarah Barnstable, Asst. Superintendent Unit V

Rory Conran, CEO Menta

Lynne Nicolas

Mary Hernandez

Jason Kudelka

Chairman Liddell called the Executive Board meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Roll call was taken with Mrs. Clark, Mrs. Moss, and Mr. Liddell in attendance.

Visitor Participation:

* Kristi White, President for WCEA, asked for consideration for a county wide in-service day to be considered as superintendents were preparing calendars

Dr. Rory Conran briefed superintendents on Menta highlighting the following information:

* Partnership with family, school district and agencies to provide services
* Not for Profit
* Never refused services in 51 years
* Centralia opened and looking at Agape school for a more locally based opening
* State Board of Ed updates given
* Model serving our area – dependent on the student (Action Plan – person-centered plan)
* Therapeutic Environment
* Age ranges are K-22 (K-12 model)
* Can facilitate gen ed students and can be flexible and several scenarios were discussed
* Credit Recovery and GED training
* Looking at Agape but need updates in the school portion to bring up to code
* Has traveling educators, paras, therapists
* Transports students on their own bus
* Building right now is biggest hurdle
* Rates are reasonable
* IEP team decision and parents have to agree to send a student there

Mrs. Clark made a motion to approve the minutes of the budget hearing and regular meeting on November 9, 2023 as presented. Mrs. Moss seconded the motion.

Members Clark, Moss, and Liddell voted “yea.” Motion carried.

Mrs. Moss made the motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Mrs. Clark seconded the motion.

Upon roll call, Members Clark, Moss, and Liddell voted “yea.” Motion carried.

Mrs. Moss made a motion to approve the Board Policy Update #113. Mrs. Clark seconded the motion.

Upon roll call, Members Clark, Moss, and Liddell voted “yea.” Motion carried.

Mrs. Moss made the motion to accept the personnel report as presented. Mrs. Clark seconded the motion.

-Rachel Milam – hire as an LBS1 certified teacher for the 23-24 school year

-Renee Lowe – hire as a paraprofessional for the 23-24 school year, pending finalization of paperwork, TB, physical, verification of fingerprints and EHR

-Maci Batteau – hire as a COTA for the FY24 school year

-Stevie Brown – letter requesting maternity leave beginning 1-6-24 through 4-1-24

-Natalie Beichner – resignation email dated November 29, 2023 to be effective December 14, 2023

-Dwayne Moore – medical request leave letter dated December 4, 2023 and beginning December 26, 2023

Upon roll call, Members Clark, Moss, and Liddell voted “yea”. Motion carried.

Transportation Invoice for November 2023 was presented for informational purposes

Mrs. Moss made a motion to accept the Opengate Quote as presented and Mrs. Clark seconded the motion

Upon roll call, Members Clark, Moss, and Liddell voted “yea.” Motion carried.

Directors Report:

-EC – level funding

-PreK – Grants to expand PreK were denied as presented

-November 30 the Department of Ed released joint policy that all EC should be full inclusion – no separate class. What will Illinois do?

-CTE Funding Formula

-Special Ed caseload updates

-PreK has lost enrollment due to half day programming

-Herrin only district that required intervention with special ed numbers

-Excess Costs

-Sub rate increases

-STRIVE/STRUCTURE classroom concerns and possible solutions but must have access to same aged peers

Mrs. Clark made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Mrs. Moss seconded the motion.

Members Clark, Moss, and Liddell voted “yea”. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 10:27 a.m.

MINUTES ATTESTED TO:

Keith Liddell, Chairman of the Board Kathy Clark, Secretary to the Board

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