

MACON PIATT SPECIAL EDUCATION DISTRICT (MPSED)
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES – THURSDAY, January 17, 2019
Richland Community College –National Sequestration Education Center (NSEC 121)
Decatur, Illinois

Chairman Vic Zimmerman called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. Member roll call was taken.

Members Present: Damian Jones (*Vice Chair*), Sheila Greenwood, DeAnn Heck, Brett Robinson,
(10 present) Paul Fregeau, Dan Brue, Vic Zimmerman (*Chairperson*), Travis Roundcount,
Bob Meadows, Kristen Kendrick-Weikle
Members Absent: Amanda Geary, John Ahlemeyer
Also Present: Kathy Horath, Sarah Evans, Vickie Vieth (*Secretary*), Matt Snyder, Jill Reedy,
Bret Hitchings
Public Participation: None

Chairperson Zimmerman entertained the motion to approve minutes from the 12/20/2018 meeting. Supt Brue motioned to approve the Executive Board minutes as presented, seconded by Supt Jones. Voice Vote: All in favor

Call to **CLOSED Session** at 8:01 a.m. by Supt Robinson's motion, seconded by Supt Greenwood to discuss possible litigation, appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees. Voice Vote: All in favor.

Return to Open Session at 8:04 a.m. by Supt Brue's motion, seconded by Supt Roundcount. Voice Vote: All in favor.

Roll Call Action Items

A. Personnel and Administrative Appointments

After a brief summary of personnel, no questions were raised. Supt Heck motioned to recommend the Executive Board advise Decatur Public Schools, as administrative district for MPSED, that the employees presented be recommended as listed, seconded by Supt Greenwood. Chairperson Zimmerman called for a Roll Call Vote. The motion carried with (10) Ayes: Jones, Greenwood, Heck, Robinson, Fregeau, Brue, Zimmerman, Roundcount, Meadows, Kendrick-Weikle. (0) Nays; (2) Absent.

B. Funding Formula for FY20

The draft formula previously brought last month was in your packet again this month. There have been no changes, questions, or any objections. This formula has been discussed in the finance committee meeting 2 or 3 months prior to bringing a draft. The only difference is the Medicaid shift where OT/PT services is being moved into administration. A question/suggestion was raised regarding running a 'model' to see what/how this would affect individual districts. Kathy believes it would be a 'wash' but models can be done. Each district will see more revenue since each district will be managing their own grant. Supt Roundcount motioned to recommend the approval of the FY20 Formula for Determining Member District's Proportionate Share of the Operating Expenses of MPSED, seconded by Supt Jones. Chairperson Zimmerman called for a Roll Call Vote. The motion carried with (10) Ayes: Jones, Greenwood, Heck, Robinson, Fregeau, Brue, Zimmerman, Roundcount, Meadows, Kendrick-Weikle. (0) Nays; (2) Absent.

- C. **Regular Meeting Time of MPSED Executive Board – NO CALL TO VOTE.** Changing the meeting time during the middle of the semester (or mid-year) may not necessarily be wise was the suggestion. It was discussed about putting it back on the agenda in May or August.

Director's Report

- A. Finance Update – in your packet is the Treasurer's Report. The cash balance does not reflect the mid-year payment to Decatur for half of the administrative agent fees and the room rental agreement. Next month the balance will be less since it will reflect these expenses.
- Next Finance Committee Meeting January 24, 2019 – we will be discussing more of the IDEA grant requirements so your district bookkeepers/ grant managers can keep up with those changes. ISBE has decided to change the extension window. Since the change is coming and we have been preparing for it this year, we are going to continue with our original timeline.
- B. Decatur Facilities Changes and MPSED Programs Update – The SEAP program will be going to the Harris facility and will likely keep the same hours (8 am – 1:30 pm). The Essential Skills elementary program (Severe and Profound) which is currently at Harris will be moving to the Hope Academy building – just about ½ mile down the road. The Life Skills program – at Harris – will be going to Enterprise Elementary on the southwest side of Decatur. The specialized RISE program which is the behavioral challenged Life Skills population will move to Parsons Elementary which is on the northwest corner of Decatur. The Middle School programs at Thomas Jefferson will be transplanted to Stephen Decatur campus – on the north side of Decatur. Special Ed High School programs will stay the same. Hearing Impairment will stay at Enterprise. We do realize this is quite a transportation change for districts. We wanted to make sure that you the districts were aware before sharing with your transportation people. Hours/times may need to be changed. An issue that may need to be addressed is regarding the RISE program. By moving it to Parsons, it is possible there are siblings who would benefit from going to Parsons to save on transportation costs. We will see how this plays out with individual districts who have RISE students.
- C. Reduction-In-Force (RIF) Timeline – Resolutions designed by lawyers will be brought in next month for non-renewal and RIF of MOU employees. The resolutions will be ratified by Decatur board in March. Minimal non-renewals but the MOUs are the retired teachers and this is the last year for MOU. We are still going to need to hire retired people but unsure if they will work for less money. Concerned mostly for psychologists and social workers. We have three MOU psychologists plus another one retiring this year. No prospects on hiring for next year as of yet. It has been posted, advertised, and colleges close by have also posted. The options for next year psychologists to have bigger assignments with less interventions – only completing evaluations and essential job functions.
- D. Early Childhood Administration – proposing Lindsey Kocher's job assignment to be completely Pershing next year. She has been with us for over 6 years as a part-time SpEd Administrator and her job has evolved over time. More and more Early Childhood concerns have been popping up. Moving her job assignment to only Pershing would allow her to focus on transition / change of placement – addressing things that are happening from the county to the program. In the future, I would like to see this position evolve to a full-time Early Childhood job since I think it is a needed position. At this point, we are not ready for full-time but this is what I am recommending down the road for administration. For next year, Lindsey will stay as part time but her whole, single job assignment will be Pershing.

- E. Indicator 10 Update – Bement was tagged for disproportionality of white students – too many white kids with IEPs. We have turned in our self-assessment. What has come out of this situation as we were reviewing was perhaps that a communication structure needs to be revised with our Speech Language Pathologists – including our county SLPs. Bement’s SLP was using outdated criteria. We will need to be more explicit with the procedural updates. Many superintendents shared approval of requiring speech pathologist to attend 2 meetings a year. This will allow procedural updates and interface with each other.
- F. Child Count Certification in I-Star – this is just a reminder that we will need each district to certify child count after data is finalized. LaToya is still working on finalizing them – attempting to enter parochial kids and early childhood students (walk-in speech) that are not enrolled in SIS. These will need to be entered for an accurate child count. A district superintendent expressed desire about receiving this information prior to March. When SLPs or teachers send in information, LaToya makes changes to the iStar system. As long as all of your district students are correctly enrolled in SIS (including parochial and speech walk-ins), LaToya should be able to send a fairly accurate list.

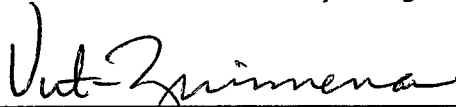
Additional Discussion:

- Regarding Embrace (previously called Power IEP). First clarification was given regarding the use of FileMaker. FileMaker will not be shut down but will continue to be utilized for SpEd forms, mileage, etc. It will NOT be used for IEPs. Regarding Embrace, we are hearing mixed reviews. Most people love the new program – it is very user friendly and easy to enter information. The individuals that seem to be complaining the most are the ones who do not want to be troubled with IEPs. Embrace will be the IEP program for all meetings – any time there is a new meeting event, it is supposed to be written in Embrace. By the end of this year, all of our SpEd students should be in this system. Each district superintendent may be able to review meetings in Embrace for each and every one of your SpEd students by the end of this year. Same thing for 504s, it is available for your principals to use so you can monitor 504s and make sure they are compliant. If you do not already have access to Embrace, we can give you access.

Adjournment: Hearing no further questions or discussions, Supt Brue motioned to adjourn this meeting of the Macon Piatt Special Education District Executive Board, seconded by Supt Robinson.
 Voice Vote: All in favor – Meeting adjourned at 8:25 a.m.

Handouts: *Draft December Minutes*
 Vendor Checks (Electronically sent)
 Personnel Appointments
 FY20 Formula for Determining Member District’s Proportionate Share
 December Treasurer’s Report
 HBUG memo


****Next Meeting of the MPSED Executive Board will take place 8:00 a.m. on Thursday, February 21, 2019 at Richland Community College National Sequestration Education Center (NSEC) building.**



 MPSED Cooperative Board Chairperson

2-21-19

 Date Approved



 MPSED Cooperative Board Secretary

2/21/19

 Date Approved