

**MINUTES OF THE SOUTHERN OHIO
EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER GOVERNING BOARD MEETING**

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

APRIL 25, 2023

The Southern Ohio Educational Service Center Governing Board met on Tuesday, April 25, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. for its regular monthly meeting. Members present were Ms. Gausman, Mr. Hill, Mr. Hixson, Dr. Kirby, Mr. Lane, Mr. Mount, Mr. Peck, Ms. Ruth, and Mr. West, along with Beth Justice, Superintendent, and Rachel Meyer, Treasurer. The guests present were Curt Bradshaw and Shelley Bailey.

Mr. Peck thanked Dr. Kirby for filling in for him at the last meeting.

APPROVAL OF THE MEETING AGENDA (Resolution #4692)

It was moved by Mr. Hill and seconded by Mr. Mount to approve the agenda as revised.

The board members present unanimously approved the motion. President of the Board, Mr. Peck declared the motion carried.

MINUTE APPROVAL (Resolution #4693)

It was moved by Mr. Lane and seconded by Ms. Ruth that the March 28, 2023, meeting minutes be approved as presented.

The board members present unanimously approved the motion. President of the Board, Mr. Peck declared the motion carried.

The meeting was opened for public participation; none was received.

SOUTHERN OHIO ESC SHARED EXPERTISE

Ms. Bailey disseminated the SOLC brochure and indicated she felt like she was just here being introduced as the new principal! She then made the following report:

When we started in August, the SOLC had 13 students in grades 6-12. We have added ten students this school year. Currently, we have 19 students from five districts (Blanchester, East Clinton, Clinton-Massie, Miami Trace, and WCH).

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SOUTHERN OHIO ESC SHARED EXPERTISE (Cont.)

Next, there have been a few changes this school year. The reset process for students changed and has been very successful. We also added Independent Fridays to our calendar. About one time per month, students stay home and complete their work, and the teachers get an extra day of professional development. Teachers are getting extra PD, and student behavior has improved during the 4-day weeks. I could talk about many fun and exciting things happening at the learning center, but I will focus on a few things from each month.

September – wildlife officers from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources came to teach safety while using bows and arrows with our students. Students play archery once a week during the nice weather weeks in the community room with Mr. Hargrave.

October – Mr. Quinn, our campus monitor, joined the team, and what a blessing he has been to the learning center. We also had a car show, and students dressed up for a trunk or treat.

November – we hosted a veteran day program and listened to stories from the Vietnam War. We also had a Thanksgiving Meal with the students and staff at the SOESC.

December – a gentleman from the Air Force came to talk to the high schoolers. We also had a visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus. The teachers and students also had a door decorating contest for the holidays. Ms. Miller's homeroom won!

January – I nominated Ms. JoAnne Lindsey, who won the 2023 C4 Awards Education Category, for her work at the SOLC.

February – Dr. Leasure and the students made pinecone bird feeders to hang in the trees.

March – the decision was made to add grades 1-5 to the learning center. There is a huge need for mental health and self-regulation beginning much younger. My ultimate goal is to give the kids tools to self-regulate, go back to their home school and be successful, and stay out of the judicial system. We currently have four kids on the roster and anticipate the class will be full before school starts.

April – we acquired more space and got new flooring in the middle of the building. The rooms will be full and utilized before August! The learning center also had cameras and sensors installed. We also have been testing this month. End-of-course assessments for high school and state testing for grades 6-8. I have also been interviewing mental health agencies to find the right partnership for the next school year.

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GREAT OAKS ITCD REPORT

The Great Oaks Board of Directors met at the Board's central office in Sharonville on April 12, 2023. Mr. Lane shared he had four items of business to report which should be of interest.

- Staff are being sought to teach six new satellite programs to be added for the 2023-24 school year. Four of the latest programs will be in SOESC districts. These include Digital Graphics at Miami Trace, Agriculture Science at Washington Court House, and two new programs at Clinton-Massie, Culinary Foundations and Gateway to Technology.
- Negotiations with GOPO are proceeding slowly. A federal mediator has been appointed, and meetings have begun. The federal government pays for the mediator. The Board is close to announcing a salary increase for 2023-24 for nonunion employees.
- Governor DeWine's most recent budget proposal includes a combined \$300 million for career centers. If passed, the budget would send \$100 million to the Career Tech Equipment grant program and \$200 million to the Career Tech Construction program. There are 49 career centers in Ohio.
- Finally, the Laurel Oaks Senior Ceremony will be held on May 23, 2023, at the Patriot Center at Southern State in Hillsboro.

LEGISLATIVE LIAISON REPORT

Mrs. Ruth referenced the following items from "The Link":

Senate Bill (SB) 1, sponsored by Sen. Bill Reineke (R-Tiffin), which would rename the Department of Education as the Department of Education and Workforce (DEW) and would create the position of Director of Education and Workforce. The bill also would reform the functions and responsibilities of the State Board of Education and the Superintendent of Public Instruction. This bill passed out of the Ohio Senate and is currently in the House Economic and Workforce Development Committee. The bill has had two hearings.

HB 127, sponsored by Rep. Sara Fowler Arthur (R-Ashtabula), which would revise the law regarding the home education of children.

HB 135, sponsored by Reps. Thomas Hall (R-Madison Township) and Rodney Creech (R-West Alexandria), which would require school districts to grant students excused absences from school for participation in 4-H and FFA programs and activities.

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LEGISLATIVE LIAISON REPORT (Cont.)

HB 139, sponsored by Reps. Bill Roemer (R-Richfield) and Joseph A. Miller III (D-Amherst), which would increase the penalties for assault if the victim is acting as a sports official or the assault is committed in retaliation for the victim's actions as a sports official.

HB 147, sponsored by Reps. Fowler Arthur and Adam C. Miller (D-Columbus), which would make changes to teacher licensure revocation, teacher hiring practices, and conduct unbecoming to the teaching profession.

SB 87, sponsored by Sen. Kent Smith (D-Euclid), which would establish the day of each general election as a legal holiday for which government employees receive paid leave.

Ms. Ruth then referenced an item in an OSBA newsletter called "Success" as follows: autism disorder has risen in 8-year-olds since 2020. Next, she referenced an article in OSBA's "Briefcase" whereas of April 7, schools can once again count on the ability to legally conduct raffles. Lastly, she reported she attended the School Board 101 session earlier this year and there it was recommended that Board members should get to know their elected officials. She did contact Bob Peterson and Shane Wilkin and they will attend the board meeting in July.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Treasurer Ms. Meyer, reviewed the monthly reports with the Board.

APPROVAL OF PAID BILLS (Resolution #4694)

It was moved by Mr. Hixson and seconded by Dr. Kirby that the paid bills for the previous month be approved as presented, for a total of \$959,102.99.

The board members present unanimously approved the motion. President of the Board, Mr. Peck declared the motion carried.

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APPROVAL OF INVESTMENTS (Resolution #4695)

It was moved by Mr. Hill and seconded by Ms. Gausman to approve the following investment as transacted by Treasurer Meyer:

Date	Fund	Firm	Maturity Date	Rate	Amount
3/23/2023	General	Goldman Sachs CD	05/13/25	3.000%	\$ 71,704.50

The board members present unanimously approved the motion. President of the Board, Mr. Peck declared the motion carried.

APPROPRIATION MODIFICATION AND AMENDMENTS (Resolution #4696)

It was moved by Mr. Lane and seconded by Ms. Ruth to approve the following appropriation modifications and amendments as presented.

[See Minute Pages #2089 - #2090]

The board members present unanimously approved the motion. President of the Board, Mr. Peck declared the motion carried.

TREASURER DISCUSSION ITEMS

Fiscal Office Update:

- I am in the process of preparing cost estimates for member school districts for services, including Region 14, for FY2023 and FY2024. Once we know our insurance renewal figures and salary increase percentages, I can finalize the cost estimates and get them out to our member districts.
- The week of April 11^h, Amanda and I sent out the 5th of 6th invoices for the year for SOESC and Region 14 services. There will be one more invoice for services this school year in June when a reconciliation of all services takes place.

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TREASURER DISCUSSION ITEMS (Cont.)

Professional Development:

- On April 11th, I attended the Sunshine Laws Training provided by the Ohio Attorney General's Office.
- On April 13th, I attended the Spring Assembly Meeting at MVECA. An update on services and fees was discussed.
- On April 25th, I will attend Legal Updates for School Administrators provided by attorneys from Ennis Britton.
- On April 27th, I will attend a BWC Monthly Employer Update Webinar. The discussion will include the estimated annual premium letter, online claims investigation tools, important dates, and monthly safety tips.

Ms. Meyer thanked Mr. Mount and Ms. Ely for filling in for her last month.

PERSONNEL CONTRACT RESIGNATIONS: R14/ESC (Resolution #4697)

Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Justice, it was moved by Ms. Gausman and seconded by Mr. West to approve the resignation of the following personnel:

R14/ESC RESIGNATION(S)

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Contract Type</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>	<u>Comments</u>
Adams, Kim A.	Director of Teaching and Learning	Certificated	7/31/2023	SOESC
Brumley, Cortnee	Student Monitor	Classified	4/14/2023	SOESC West Union HS
Carman, Tyler	Long Term Substitute	Certificated	5/31/2023	SOLC
Howell, Jenni	Intervention Specialist	Certificated	6/30/2023	SOLC

The board members present unanimously approved the motion. President of the Board, Mr. Peck declared the motion carried.

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PERSONNEL CONTRACT AGREEMENTS: R14/ESC (Resolution #4698)

Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Justice, it was moved by Mr. Mount and seconded by Mr. Hixson that the Board approves employment contracts for the following personnel subject to the provision of ORC 3319.02, ORC 3319.08, and/or ORC 3319.081. All personnel is subject to assignment by the Superintendent, and all contracts are subject to continuation of existing local, state, and/or federal funding; proper licensure; Ohio Department of Education highly qualified teacher per current job assignment; Ohio Bureau of Criminal Background Investigation Check; and Federal Bureau of Investigation Background Check:

R14/ESC CONTRACT AGREEMENTS

Name	Tentative Position	Contract Dates	Length	Days	Degree	Schedule/Step/Rate	Contract Type	Comments
Armstrong, Paula	Occupational Therapist	2023-2024	1 Year	195 Days	Master's	Related M Step 13 \$88,411.00	Administrator	R14
Bailey, Shelley	Southern Ohio Learning Center Principal	2023-2024	1 Year	204 Days	Master's	MA(B) Step 25 \$80,428.00	Administrator	SOESC
Douglas, Kimberly	School & Student Services	2023-2026	3 Year	204 Days	Master's	MA(B) Step 25 \$80,428.00	Administrator	SOESC
Gehring, Megan	Adapted Physical Education Specialist	2023-2026	3 Year	184 Days	Master's	Itinerant M Step 14 \$67,810.00	Administrator	R14
Gehring, Megan	Adapted Physical Education Specialist	2023-2024	1 Year	15 Days	Master's	Itinerant M Step 14 \$5,528.00	Supplemental	R14
Pierson, Jennifer	SST Consultant	2023-2024	1 Year	204 Days	Master's	MA B Step 17 \$76,388.00	Certificated	R14
Tolle, Kathy	Physical Therapist	2023-2024	1 Year	190 Days	Master's	Related M Step 13 \$86,144.00	Administrator	R14

The board members present unanimously approved the motion. President of the Board, Mr. Peck declared the motion carried.

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PERSONNEL CONTRACT AMENDMENT: R14/ESC (#4699)

Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Justice, it was moved by Mr. Lane and seconded by Ms. Gausman to approve an amendment to the following employment contract for the following personnel:

R14/ESC CONTRACT AMENDMENTS

Name	Position	Contract Dates	Change 1	Change 2	Comments
Stauffer, Kimberly	Educational Health Aide	2022-2023	Change hourly rate from \$22.00 per hour to \$33.00 per hour	Effective March 23, 2023	Per district request

The board members present unanimously approved the motion. President of the Board, Mr. Peck declared the motion carried.

APPROVAL OF OUT-OF-STATE TRAVEL (#4700)

Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Justice, it was moved by Mr. West and seconded by Mr. Hill to approve out-of-state travel for **Tara Prater** to attend the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA) Conference & Expo in Kansas City, MO, on April 20-23, 2023.

The board members present unanimously approved the motion. President of the Board, Mr. Peck declared the motion carried.

APPROVAL OF OUT-OF-STATE TRAVEL (#4701)

Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Justice, it was moved by Ms. Ruth and seconded by Ms. Gausman to approve out-of-state travel for **Taylor Reed** to attend the #SocialSchool4EDU Mastermind Retreat in New Auburn, WI, on June 26-28, 2023.

The board members present unanimously approved the motion. President of the Board, Mr. Peck declared the motion carried.

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WADDELL SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS (#4702)

Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Justice, it was moved by Mr. Lane and seconded by Mr. Hixson that the following 11 students in the Blanchester, Clinton-Massie, and East Clinton graduating class be approved as the 2023 Gaylord E. and Barbara K. Waddell Scholarship Recipients. Said scholarships shall be for one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) and be governed by the stipulations and guidelines previously established and recorded in the Clinton County Board of Education minutes. *Please keep these names confidential until graduation.*

Waddell Scholarship Recipients

<u>Blanchester</u>	<u>Clinton-Massie</u>	<u>East Clinton</u>
Makayla Lanham	Kaden Kimple	Trinity Bain
Regan Knight	Jenna Hanlon	Gretchen Boggs
Rebekah Davenport	Ella Mefford	Dakota Collom
		Nathan Ellis
		Kami Whiteaker

The board members present unanimously approved the motion. President of the Board, Mr. Peck declared the motion carried.

SUPERINTENDENT INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

Superintendent Justice shared the following with the Board:

1. Redistricting Update – Ms. Justice continues working with legal counsel; new maps are developed and will be submitted to ODE for approval.
2. Franklin B. Walter All-Scholastic Award –ESC staff attended and spent time with winners.
3. Superintendent Search Update – ACOV search is underway with several applicants.
4. Clinton-Massie Superintendent Search – President of the Board, Jeremy Lamb, asked that we provide assistance with their Superintendent Search. Ms. Conroy will assist.
5. Website – Currently being migrated and under construction. Mr. Osborne is working on this project.
6. June Board Meeting – Ms. Justice shared the possibility of changing the June board meeting to June 20, 2023 at R14/Hopewell Center.

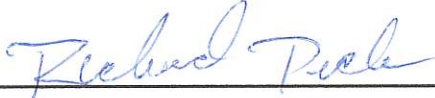
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ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Mr. Hixson and seconded by Mr. Hill to adjourn to meet again in regular session on **Tuesday, May 23, 2023, at 7:00 p.m.**, at Southern Ohio Educational Service Center, Wilmington.



BOARD PRESIDENT



TREASURER

SOUTHERN OHIO EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER
 FY 2023 PERMANENT APPROPRIATIONS

Notes:

General Fund - Tuition Reimbursement for all staff collectively \$13,000.00
 General Fund - Board Service Fund set at \$7,500.00 on a calendar year basis

Termination Benefits Fund - Unemployment, Severance, and Vacation Payouts

Contingencies:

General Fund - Emergency Fund - 4 months of expenses \$1,570,000.00
 General Fund - Building Fund \$275,000.00 - continue to add \$25,000 per year, budget permitting, per 6/25/19 board direction
 Hopewell General Fund - Emergency Fund - 3 months of expenses \$910,000.00
 Hopewell General Fund - Building Fund \$30,000.00 - (security system, updates, repair, etc...)
 Hopewell General Fund - Termination / Retirement Benefits setaside \$46,370.00

Transfers: (To be made - more information to follow)

Termination Benefits Fund - \$35,000