

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

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

MARCH 28, 2023

The Southern Ohio Educational Service Center Governing Board met on Tuesday, March 28, 2023, at 6:30 p.m. for its regular monthly meeting. Members present were Ms. Gausman, Mr. Hill, Mr. Hixson, Dr. Kirby, Mr. Lane, Mr. Mount, Ms. Ruth, and Mr. West, along with Beth Justice, Superintendent. The guests present were Kim K. Adams, Curt Bradshaw, and Amanda Ely.

APPROVAL OF THE MEETING AGENDA (Resolution #4685)

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

The board members present unanimously approved the motion. Vice President of the Board, Dr. Kirby declared the motion carried.

MINUTE APPROVAL (Resolution #4686)

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

The board members present unanimously approved the motion. Vice President of the Board, Dr. Kirby declared the motion carried.

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

SOUTHERN OHIO ESC SHARED EXPERTISE

Human Capital Work Group: Kim K. Adams and Curt Bradshaw, SOESC

Ms. Adams and Mr. Bradshaw shared the Battelle for Human Capital framework wheel. They have engaged all stakeholders and gathered feedback on what a problem solver, collaborator, relationship builder, and life-long learner means to them. They shared a Portrait of a SOESC Professional handout that describes a problem solver, collaborator, relationship builder, and life-long learner. They discussed how they plan to roll it out to staff. Their focus for the 2023-2024 school year is to ensure alignment between competencies, job descriptions, and interview processes. They will seek additional individuals to invite to the Human Capital Work Group. A primary focus is to find and recruit, and a secondary focus is to grow and keep. They plan to do a mid-year review of evaluation tools.

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GREAT OAKS ITCD REPORT

Mr. Lane reported that the Great Oaks Board met on 3/8/2023. The agenda for the meeting was kept light due to the extended travel times for most board members.

No executive session was held to update the board on contract negotiations with GOPO, but it was reported that negotiations had reached an impasse, and a mediator will likely be assigned by SERB to resolve the impasse. Often a fact finder (or finders) may be assigned to assist in the process.

Routine monthly business was conducted.

An Application and Returning Seniors Report was provided, and a copy of the report is attached for your review. Note that Laurel Oaks has the 2nd largest anticipated enrollment of the four campuses, and a majority of the eighteen junior-level programs offered for the 2023-2023 school year at Laurel Oaks are at capacity.

LEGISLATIVE LIAISON REPORT

Ms. Ruth referenced the following items from an OSBA newsletter called "Success":

Sadness and hopelessness rise among teen girls.

The survey data reveals that the percentage of teen girls experiencing persistent feelings of hopelessness or sadness increased from 36% in 2011 to 57% in 2021, almost double the rate of boys and the highest level reported in the past decade, the CDC said. President of the National PTA, Anna King, encouraged schools "to adopt practices and establish safe, supportive and inclusive learning environments for all of our students."

Ms. Ruth then referenced several items from "The Link" as follows:

The Ohio Senate passed Senate Bill (SB) 1 by a vote of 26-7.

The companion bill in the Ohio House is House Bill (HB) 12 and mirrors the language of SB 1. Testimony in the House Primary and Secondary Education Committee will continue over the next few weeks.

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LEGISLATIVE LIAISON REPORT (Cont.)

House priory bill looks to reform property taxation and income tax rates. The bill pertains to income and property taxes and would do the following:

- Repeals the graduated income tax rates that apply to nonbusiness income and instead levies a flat tax rate of \$360.69 plus 2.75% on all income over \$26,050.
- Decreases, from 35% to 31.5%, the percentage of real property's value that is subject to taxation
- Indexes that 31.5% so that it decreases in proportion to the increase in inflation.
- Repeals the 10% tax rollback on nonbusiness property.
- Modifies the 2.5% homestead tax rollback to equal a flat \$125 property tax credit for all owner-occupied homes.
- Establishes an enhanced homestead exemption for certain long-term homeowners who qualify for the general homestead exemption.
- Indexes, for all homestead exemptions, the amount of exemption so that the exemption, and resulting tax savings, increases in proportion to the increase in inflation.

Representative Adam Mathews made the following statement, regarding the intent of the bill, "Our four goals are to lower all our income taxes to a flat rate of 2.75%, disentangle our property taxes from our income taxes, protect homeowners both now and in the future, and ensure our local communities receive the quality services they expect."

Recently introduced legislation:

- HB 6, sponsored by Rep. Jena Powell, would enact the Save Women's Sports Act to require schools, state institutions of higher education, and private colleges to designate separate single-sex teams and sports for each sex.
- HB 8, sponsored by Reps. D.J. Swearingen and Sara Carruthers, which would enact the Parents Bill of Rights to require public schools to adopt a policy on parental notification on student health and well-being and instructional materials with sexually explicit content.
- HB 9, sponsored by Reps. Gayle Manning and Mary Lightbody would establish the Grow Your Own Teacher Program; establish a loan repayment program for eligible teachers; make changes to teacher licensing and professional development; and make an appropriation.
- HB 38, sponsored by Reps. Willis Blackshear Jr. and Jessica Miranda would allow school districts to permit students to take up to three mental health days away from school each school year.

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LEGISLATIVE LIAISON REPORT (Cont.)

- HB 47, sponsored by Rep. Richard Brown, would require the placement of automated external defibrillators (AEDs) in each public and chartered nonpublic school and each public recreational facility and require the Ohio Department of Health to develop a model emergency action plan for the use of AEDs.
- HB 68, sponsored by Rep. Gary Click, would prohibit certain procedures to alter a minor child's sex; and designate this act as the Ohio Saving Adolescents from Experimentation Act.
- HB 70, sponsored by Reps. Sarah Fowler Arthur and Jennifer Gross would require schools to adopt a policy regarding the administration of over-the-counter drugs.

SB 66, sponsored by Sen. Catherine D. Ingram, would require public and private schools to transmit a transferred student's records within five school days.

Ms. Justice asked Ms. Ruth if she could contact our local representatives and see if they would be willing to attend a future board meeting.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Mr. Mount (fulfilling Treasurer's duties), with assistance from Ms. Ely, reviewed the monthly reports with the Board.

It was asked if a column could be added to the Disbursement Summary Report to describe what the payment was for (M for Mileage).

APPROVAL OF PAID BILLS (Resolution #4687)

It was moved by Mr. West and seconded by Mr. Hixson that the paid bills for the previous month be approved as presented, for a total of \$813,141.37.

The board members present unanimously approved the motion. Vice President of the Board, Dr. Kirby declared the motion carried.

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TREASURER DISCUSSION ITEMS

Reminder Financial Disclosure Forms Due May 15, 2023:

- If you would like a paper form, please let me know; otherwise, you can fill out and submit your form online.

Fiscal Office Update:

- We are continuing the process regarding planning for services for the 2023-2024 school year so that I prepare cost estimates for member school districts, including Region 14, for FY2024.
- I will be out of the office beginning March 27-31. My granddaughter was born on March 16 (she's beautiful!), and I will be helping this week as my daughter is still recovering from the birth and has some health restrictions. Amanda Ely will assist Mr. Mount with my report during the board meeting. If you have any questions when I am scheduled to be on vacation, please call (937) 382-6921 and dial extension 1023 for Rhonda Cochran or extension 1022 for Amanda Ely.

Professional Development:

- On March 3rd, I attended the Sunshine Laws Certified Training Webcast provided by the Ohio Attorney General's Office. Each session included an in-depth analysis of Ohio Public Records Act, and a brief review of Ohio's Open Meetings Law.
- On March 3rd, the fiscal team attended the Redesign "Reports and Finding Information" Training Webex. This training provided tips and tricks to generate reports and find information in the Redesign software.
- On March 20th, the fiscal team will meet with representatives from Peoples Bank. Scott Keller, Investment Officer, and Beth Tracy, Vice President, Trust & Business Development Officer, will meet with us to review our investments in both our General and Waddell investment funds.
- On March 22nd, the fiscal team will attend a roundtable at MVECA. This will allow us to learn from others regarding the Redesign software (accounts payable, payroll, budgeting, etc.).

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PERSONNEL CONTRACT RESIGNATIONS: ESC (Resolution #4688)

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

ESC RESIGNATION(S)

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Contract Type</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>	<u>Comments</u>
Tolle, Kathy	Physical Therapist	Certificated	6/2/2023	R14 ~Will be moved to an Administrator contract
Trowbridge, Megan	ESC/SST Autism/Low-Incidence Disabilities Consultant & Asst. Dir of Related Services	Certificated Administrator	8/1/2023	R14

The board members present unanimously approved the motion. Vice President of the Board, Dr. Kirby declared the motion carried.

PERSONNEL CONTRACT AGREEMENTS: ESC (Resolution #4689)

Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Justice, it was moved by Mr. Hill and seconded by Mr. Mount 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:

ESC CONTRACT AGREEMENTS

<u>Name</u>	<u>Tentative Position</u>	<u>Contract Dates</u>	<u>Length</u>	<u>Days</u>	<u>Degree</u>	<u>Schedule/Step/Rate</u>	<u>Contract Type</u>	<u>Comments</u>
Bailey, Jody	SST Consultant Autism/Low-Incidence Specialist Related Services Supervisor	2023-2024	1 Year	204	Masters	Schedule B/ Step 20/ \$78,408.00	Certificated Administrator	R14
Bailey, Jody	SST Consultant Autism/Low-Incidence Specialist Related Services Supervisor	2023-2024	1 Year	21	Masters	Schedule B/ Step 20/ \$8,071.00	Supplemental	R14
Bailey, Jody	DHH Team/Team Leader Supervisor	2023-2024	1 Year	As Needed	Masters	No Schedule/ No Step/ \$3,740.00	Supplemental	R14

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ESC CONTRACT AGREEMENTS (Cont.)

Name	Tentative Position	Contract Dates	Length	Days	Degree	Schedule/ Step/Rate	Contract Type	Comments
Barlow, Greg	SST Consultant	2023-2024	1 Year	155	Masters	Schedule B/ Step 10/ \$50,365.00	Retired Certificated/ Administrator	R14 R/R
DeBoard, Janie	Substitute Teacher	2022-2023	1 year	As Needed	No Degree on Schedule	No Schedule/ No Step/ \$130 per diem	Limited	ESC (SOLC)
Stauffer, Kimberly	Educational Health Aide	2022-2023	1 Year	As Needed	No Degree on Schedule	No Schedule/ No Step/ \$22 per hour	Limited	ESC (ACOV- Peebles Elementary)
Williams, Angela	Early Childhood Itinerant Teacher	2023-2024	1 Year	184	Masters	Itinerant M/ Step 14/ \$67,810.00	Certificated	R14
Williams, Angela	Early Childhood Itinerant Teacher	2023-2024	1 Year	8	Masters	Itinerant M/ Step 14/ \$2,948.00	Supplemental	R14

EAST CLINTON SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS

1. Durham, Michael 2. Goodin, Kaleb (*temporary Non-Bachelor*) 3. Tomlin, Benjamin

The board members present unanimously approved the motion. Vice President of the Board, Dr. Kirby declared the motion carried.

APPROVAL OF SOUTHERN OHIO ESC/REGION 14 WORK CALENDAR (#4690)

Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Justice, it was moved by Mr. West and seconded by Mr. Hixson to approve the work calendar for FY2024 as presented for Southern Ohio ESC/Region 14.

The board members present unanimously approved the motion. Vice President of the Board, Dr. Kirby declared the motion carried.

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APPROVAL OF POLICY MANUAL REVISIONS (#4691)

Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Justice, it was moved by Mr. Mount and seconded by Mr. West to approve the following policy manual updates:

Policy Manual Updates:

BDDA	Notification of Meetings
JHG	Reporting Child Abuse and Mandatory Training

The board members present unanimously approved the motion. Vice President of the Board, Dr. Kirby declared the motion carried.

SUPERINTENDENT INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

Superintendent Justice shared the following with the Board:

1. Finance Committee – EPC will not release insurance rates until late Spring. The Board will schedule a work session when rates are known.
2. Franklin B. Walter All-Scholastic Award –On April 18, 2023, a ceremony will be recognizing four students, one from each County SOESC serves.
3. Exceptional Achievement Award – The 40th year will occur in person on April 27, 2023, at Hillsboro Elementary at 6:00 p.m.
4. Superintendent Search Update – Chosen by ACOV to conduct their search. Ms. Justice will meet with the board on April 3 to review the next steps. She is hopeful to have it completed by the end of May.
5. Redistricting Update – Pam Leist reached out to ODE. ODE didn't do what they were supposed to, so we are waiting to hear back from them, but it could mean new legislation. Ms. Justice suggested that board members wait to get signatures.
6. Move Update – Carpet will be removed, and laminate flooring will be installed in the new SOLC area, so things are being stored in the hallways until the project is complete.
7. SOLC Update – Great response to adding elementary levels, possibly two classes.
8. Board Packets – Beginning in April, the board packets will be mailed instead of emailed.

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ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Mr. Hixson and seconded by Mr. West to adjourn to meet again in regular session on **Tuesday, April 25, 2023, at 7:00 p.m.**, at Southern Ohio Educational Service Center, Wilmington.



BOARD PRESIDENT



TREASURER