

REGION III SPECIAL EDUCATION COOPERATIVE**EXECUTIVE MEETING****August 24, 2022****CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Pat Anderson, Chairperson at 1:31 p.m. Roll was as follows:

Present: Dr. Kevin Bowman, Dr. Patrick Anderson, Dr. Jill Griffin (remotely), Mr. Mario Sherrell (remotely), Mr. Rob Miller, Keri Lakin-proxy Jerseyville (remotely)

Not in attendance: Mr. Brad Tuttle

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

Keri Lakin(Virtual)

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Mrs. Lenger informed the board she was unable to hire a SLP for this school year. She stated that Jodi Gilmore, SLP at Wood River-Hartford, is covering the Region III students placed at Lewis and Clark. Tammy Pickerill is receiving sub pay to cover the Region III students housed at EAWR. Nichole Ontis is covering the students at EAMS at a contractual rate and East Alton-Wood River High School is contracting with Therakids. We continue to seek applicants for a part-time speech pathology position.

Mrs. Lenger asked the board how their districts were handling COVID testing for their students. All districts are testing students if they have symptoms and want to be tested.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT**Financial**

Mrs. Lenger reported a comparison of the tuition bill for the past three years. Last year CLIP's first billing was \$27,072.00 and CLIP's first billing this year is \$21,553.89. She stated a couple of things that impacted the tuition bill is less staff and the retirement of a very experienced SLP. Moving forward, speech language services will be billed out hourly and will not be included in the tuition bill. The first billing for Journeys last year was \$26,294.69 and first billing this year is \$27,434.21. Mrs. Lenger also provided the hourly charges for related services. She informed the board that Audiology, VI and HI itinerants have been servicing more districts outside the cooperative. This helps cover the cost of these services.

Current Programs

Mrs. Lenger shared with the board the need for 2 teachers, a paraprofessional and a contract Occupational therapist. She also shared the classrooms within the programs including the staff and the number of students within each classroom. She stated she prefers to keep classroom size to 6 students. We currently have a total of 39 students, but have received calls about accepting more. She shared the hourly breakdown for the behavior coach for the year. The districts pay the salary for the behavior coach based on enrollment and need for her services. She informed the board she will update the behavior coach's hours monthly.

She provided the board with resignation letters from Sherri Williams and Carson Bailey. She informed the board that Sherri Williams has accepted a teaching position with Bethalto and Carson Bailey accepted an administration position with William BeDell-ARC as an assistant principal.

She informed the board about the Journeys building update. She stated she has been actively looking for a facility for 3 years now. We currently have a lease till the end of this school term. She stated she toured a parochial school yesterday with Dr. Anderson and they both agreed the repairs would be too costly. Dr. Anderson asked Mrs. Lenger to approach Brad Tuttle at Jersey district to see what our options were with the current building. Mr. Tuttle would

consider a proposal from the board about purchasing the building. He also stated he would consider continuing to lease the building. Dr. Jill Griffin encouraged Mrs. Lenger to look at all her options including adding on to the Region III office. Mrs. Lenger stated she had called the state about construction grants and was open to input and ideas. Dr. Jill Griffin suggested to Mrs. Lenger to consider contacting other parochial schools in Alton who have recently shut down. Mrs. Lenger mentioned that Todd Dugan, Superintendent at Bunker Hill, stated they may have space at their high school for the Journeys program.

Policy Update

Mrs. Lenger shared with the board the second reading of Policy updates. She also shared with the board Policy 7:180 which was not on policy press update, but stated the need to change the Complaint Manager from Chris Heffner to Melinda Kroeger.

Budget FY23

Mrs. Lenger shared the FY23 budget with the board. She stated that it was good to have a new person (Melinda Kroeger) to look at things from outside of education. She stated they were able to cut costs and distribute Evidence Based Funding more consistently in each program. She informed the board that we employ 1 interpreter for Bethalto, VI itinerant works 4 days a week. The SLP position will be billed hourly this year and is no longer in the CLIP tuition bill. The total tuition for all programs is \$1,725,048.00. The administrative budget total is \$281,155.00. Mrs. Lenger informed the board that the administrative secretary cost was charged back to the administrative side instead of OT/PT. The total budget is \$2,047,467.06 which is a decrease from the previous year.

CONSENT AGENDA/ACTION ITEMS

Mr. Rob Miller moved to approve the Consent Agenda including the bills, regular and closed session minutes, and renewal of contracts with districts outside the cooperative as presented. Dr. Jill Griffin seconded. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes 6-0. Motion carried.

Mr. Mario Sherrell moved to approve the employment of Kelli Schnelt, teacher, as presented. Mr. Rob Miller seconded. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes 6-0. Motion carried.

Dr. Jill Griffin moved to approve the employment of McKenzie Dixon, COTA, as presented. Mr. Rob Miller seconded. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes 6-0. Motion carried.

Dr. Jill Griffin moved to approve the leave of absence of Nichole Clowers as presented. Mr. Rob Miller seconded. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes 6-0. Motion carried.

Mr. Rob Miller moved to approve the Supplemental Savings Plan as presented. Dr. Jill Griffin seconded. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes 6-0. Motion carried.

Mr. Rob Miller moved to approve the Administrator and Teacher Salary report as presented. Dr. Jill Griffin seconded. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes 6-0. Motion carried.

Mr. Rob Miller moved to approve All Policies as presented. Dr. Jill Griffin seconded. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes 6-0. Motion carried.

Dr. Jill Griffin moved to approve closed session minutes, January-June 2022, remain closed. Mr. Rob Miller seconded. Roll call was taken with Member Voting, Yes 5, Abstain 1 (East Alton). Motion carried.

Dr. Jill Griffin moved to amend FY23 board meeting dates and change in time to 10am. Mr. Rob Miller seconded. Roll call was taken with Member Voting, Yes 6-0. Motion carried.

CLOSED SESSION

Dr. Jill Griffin moved to go into closed session at 2:07 p.m. Mr. Miller seconded the motion. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes, 6-0. Motion carried. Dr. Jill Griffin moved to come out of closed session at 2:21 pm. Mr. Rob Miller seconded. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes, 6-0. Motion carried.

Dr. Jill Griffin moved to approve the Principal FY22 salary rate for FY23, as presented. Mr. Miller seconded. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes 6-0. Motion carried.

Mr. Rob Miller moved to approve the Director's salary with a 3% increase as presented. Dr. Jill Griffin seconded. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes 6-0. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Rob Miller moved to adjourn the meeting at 2:27 p.m. Dr. Griffin seconded. Motion carried with Members Voting, Aye-6, Nay-0.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting for the Region III Executive Board will be held remotely, Wednesday, September 21, 2022 at 10:00 am.

Respectfully Submitted,



Katie Wieckhorst, Administrative Assistant



Dr. Pat Anderson, Chairperson

REGION III SPECIAL EDUCATION COOPERATIVE
EXECUTIVE MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 21, 2022

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Patrick Anderson, Chairperson at 10:07 am. Roll call was as follows:

Present: Dr. Jill Griffin, Mr. Mario Sherrell, Mr. Rob Miller, Mr. Brad Tuttle, Dr. Kevin Bowman, and Dr. Patrick Anderson

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no visitors present for public comment

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Mrs. Lenger shared the upcoming events at Region III including Teach, Train, Thrive, Olin Corporation, Madison County Advocacy Center and Chestnut Health Systems. Dr. Griffin asked if Journeys would be keeping a supply of Narcan at the school for use in case of a drug overdose. Mrs. Lenger replied yes, the Journeys staff will have a supply of Narcan at the school.

LEA DETERMINATION LETTERS

Mrs. Lenger stated that all districts should have received the LEA Determination letter. All districts met requirements this year. She is in the process of gathering information in the areas where districts lost points. She will have discussions with district coordinators about the data and the steps that need to be taken to improve scores.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mrs. Lenger shared the updated enrollment numbers with the board. Dr. Griffin asked which classrooms were full. She had received an email from Stephanie Renken, Southwestern School District coordinator, about the possibility of placing a student in one of their classrooms. Dr. Bowman stated they have an elementary student who needs significant behavioral support that needs a different placement. He stated in his previous district and cooperative, he would be able to place any student who needed services. Mrs. Lenger explained the make-up of that classroom. Since we could not find a teacher to fill an open position, 3 students with a primary disability of autism and 3 students with social emotional needs had to be placed in the same classroom. All of these students need a high level of support. Dr. Anderson explained some of the behaviors that he has observed because this classroom is within his building. He agreed these students need a high level of support.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Staff Shortage-Mrs. Lenger continued to discuss the issues surrounding the open positions including two teachers, a part-time SLP and a contract occupational therapist. Dr. Griffin suggested contacting Debbie Witsken, OT, who runs the COTA program at LCCC. Mrs. Lenger stated that she has already been in contact with her. Mrs. Witsken has been helping with the search for a contract therapist. Mrs. Lenger explained that we currently have 3 different SLPs covering the students in three different classrooms. She has met with a company who provides online services. The charge is \$95 per hour. She stated that remote services would not be beneficial for these students. We continue to search for a part-time speech therapist to hire.

Mrs. Lenger stated she would like to discuss strategies to increase the number of applicants so she is able to fill positions. She would like the board to consider recognition of years of experience for paraprofessionals. Dr. Bowman stated that Southwestern District is in the process of developing an MOU to make changes within their contractual language to allow for years of experience. The board asked Mrs. Lenger to talk with the cooperative attorney and look at the implications of the cost to move forward with this. Mrs. Lenger stated that she will bring the information to the board next month.

School Maintenance Grant

Mrs. Lenger stated she is getting estimates for work that needs to be completed at the Region III office, including replacement of the front and back doors. These doors are both rusting. The front door kick plate had to be removed in order for the door to close completely due to rust. Other items of concern are the gutters and subsequent holes around the foundation, parking lot resealing, insulation and water fountain upgrade. Mrs. Lenger reminded the board that the matching funds were split between the districts according to enrollment last year when the SMP grant was approved.

POLICY UPDATE

Policies 7:270 and 7.285 were read to include the cooperatives' ability to have undesignated epinephrine at Journeys School. The language was not included in the policies previously.

CLOSED SESSION

Mr. Tuttle made a motion to enter into closed session at 10:48. Dr. Griffin seconded the motion. Roll call was taken with all members in favor.

Mr. Tuttle made a motion to return to open session at 11:06. Mr. Sherrell seconded the motion. Roll call was taken with all members in favor.

REGION III BUDGET FY 23 SECOND READING

Mrs. Lenger asked if anyone had questions about the information presented during the public hearing meeting presentation of the FY23 Budget. There were no questions.

ACTION ITEMS

Mr. Sherrell moved to approve the consent agenda including the regular board meeting and closed session minutes from last month and the September bills. Dr. Griffin seconded. Roll call was taken with members voting 6-0 for approval.

Mr. Sherrell moved to approve employment of Leah Crook, paraprofessional, CLIP program. Dr. Griffin seconded the motion. Roll call was taken with members voting 6-0 for approval.

Mr. Sherrell moved to approve employment of Cathleen Davidson, paraprofessional, CLIP program. Dr. Griffin seconded the motion. Roll call was taken with members voting 6-0 for approval.

Mr. Sherrell moved to approve the retirement of Jacqueline Klockenkemper, Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant. Dr. Griffin seconded the motion. Roll call was taken with members voting 6-0 for approval.

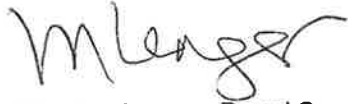
Mr. Sherrell moved to approve the FY 23 Region III Special Education Budget as presented. Dr. Griffin seconded the motion. Roll call was taken with members voting 6-0 for approval.

Dr. Griffin moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:22. Mr. Tuttle seconded the motion. All members in favor. Ayes-6 Nays-0

NEXT MEETING

The Governing Board Meeting is at Castelli's at 255, Fosterburg Road, 6:00 pm this evening.
The next board meeting will be held on October 19, 2022 at 10:00 am.

Respectfully submitted,



Messina Lenger, Board Secretary, Pro tem



Dr. Patrick Anderson, Chairperson

REGION III SPECIAL EDUCATION COOPERATIVE
PUBLIC HEARING MEETING
SEPTEMBER 21, 2022

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Patrick Anderson, Chairperson, at 10:04 am

Present: Dr. Kevin Bowman, Dr. Patrick Anderson, Dr. Jill Griffin, Mr. Mario Sherrell (remotely), Mr. Rob Miller (remotely), and Mr. Brad Tuttle

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

No visitors present

FY 23 BUDGET PRESENTATION

Mrs. Lenger presented a slide show of the FY 23 Budget for Region III Cooperative
There were no questions.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment

ADJOURNMENT

Dr. Jill Griffin moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Brad Tuttle seconded the motion. Members voted in favor Ayes 6 Nays 0

Menger


REGION III SPECIAL EDUCATION COOPERATIVE
GOVERNING BOARD MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 21, 2022

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Patrick Anderson, Chairperson at 6:15 pm. Roll Call was as follows:

Present: Mr. Kevin Bowman, Southwestern District 9
Donna Loy, Southwestern District 9
Dr. Patrick Anderson, Wood River Hartford District 15
Karen Ferguson, Wood River Hartford District 15
Dr. Jill Griffin, Bethalto District 8
Mr. Mario Sherrell, East Alton District 13
Kim Handler, East Alton District 13
Mr. Rob Miller, East Alton Wood River District 14
Stacy Tierney, East Alton Wood River District 14
Mr. Brad Tuttle, Jersey 100
Peggy Perdun, Jersey 100

Not Present: Todd Meiser, Bethalto District 8

Mrs. Lenger opened with quotes from parents, students and staff regarding the 10 year celebration of Journeys School this past year. She thanked the board for supporting the program and success of students.

Ms. Stacy Tierney moved to approve the August 2021-June 2022 minute and past actions of the Region III Special Education Executive Board as presented. Ms. Perdun seconded the motion. Roll call was taken with members voting Yes 5-0. Motion carried.

Mrs. Lenger presented the FY 23 Budget. There were no questions. Ms. Ferguson made a motion to approve the FY 23 Budget as presented. Ms. Donna Loy seconded the motion. Roll Call was taken with members voting Yes 5-0. Motion carried.

Ms. Tierney moved to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Ferguson seconded. Motion carried with members voting Aye 5, Nay-0.

Respectfully submitted,



Messina Lenger, Board Secretary, pro tem



Dr. Patrick Anderson, Chairperson

REGION III SPECIAL EDUCATION COOPERATIVE**EXECUTIVE MEETING****October 19, 2022****CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Pat Anderson, Chairperson at 10:02 a.m. Roll was as follows:

Present: Dr. Jill Griffin, Mr. Mario Sherrell, Mr. Rob Miller, Mr. Brad Tuttle, Dr. Kevin Bowman, Dr. Pat Anderson

Not in attendance:

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS: Kaitlynn Niemeyer

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Mrs. Lenger shared with the board that Tonya Duke, DHH Teacher, and Kristen Chumbley, Audiologist, presented at the Madison County Institute, "It's Not Your Grandpa's Hearing Aide." It was their first time presenting together and it was a great representation of Region III with the Regional Superintendent attending.

CLOSED SESSION

Mr. Brad Tuttle moved to go into closed session at 10:05 a.m. Dr. Jill Griffin seconded the motion. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes, 6-0. Motion carried. Dr. Jill Griffin moved to come out of closed session at 10:17 a.m. Mr. Brad Tuttle seconded. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes, 6-0. Motion carried.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT**Current Programs**

Mrs. Lenger shared with the board the current numbers of students and staff in each program. She stated that Southwestern just placed a new student at Journeys. She stated she did not update Kim Hood's numbers, but she would and then share it with the board.

Staff Shortage

Mrs. Lenger gave the board an update on the shortage of staff for Region III. She stated she plans to move Kelli Schnelt, Special Education Teacher, to Journeys to open up another classroom. This would allow for some space for additional students at Journeys. Brittany Carroll, Paraprofessional, will be a long term sub covering the classroom where Kelli Schnelt was previously.

School Maintenance Grant

She informed the board she is still waiting on a few more quotes for the maintenance grant. She did share the quote she received for replacing a few doors and adding weather stripping and new handles. The total for the door quote was just over \$7,000. She felt the company, Locks A-Z, was very honest and plans to use parts off the old doors to save money. She stated she received a bid for sealcoating, which is done every other year, for \$3,900. Mrs. Lenger also informed the board she had a gentleman get on the roof of the office building to check for leaks. He stated the roof looks great, however he suggested we remove an old antenna and patch the area so there is not any potential for leaks in the future. She also let the board know we are looking at getting gutter guards and a new water fountain.

Journeys Building Update

She stated she is still actively looking for a facility for Journeys. She has been working with a realtor and there isn't much out there. She suggested we extend the lease at Journeys. Brad Tuttle from Jersey 100 is expecting a decision on the current building by December. She said there is a potential of moving Journeys to a facility in the Bunker Hill school district, since they will be joining our cooperative next school year, but the facility would not be ready for a couple of years.

Administrative Fee Options

Mrs. Lenger shared with the board that Dr. Jill Griffin shared her concerns about the administrative fee being very costly for Bethalto once Jersey leaves the cooperative since we currently use the public enrollment formula. She shared a spreadsheet comparing projected FY 23 administrative costs using different formulas, including the current formula based on total enrollment numbers, a formula using Child Count numbers, a formula dividing Jersey's current fee evenly between districts then distributing the remaining amount using the total enrollment numbers and finally dividing the administrative fee evenly between districts.. She stated that the decision does not need to be made today and she would research further how other cooperatives figure their administrative cost. Mr. Sherrell stated he liked the idea of using the Child Count as the method for figuring the administrative cost and Mr. Miller agreed with evening out the administrative cost to put the focus on special education needs.

Bunker Hill request to join Region III Cooperative

Mrs. Lenger informed the board that Bunker Hill put the request to join the cooperative on their board agenda for the month. Bunker Hill currently has 7 students placed in a cooperative program. She stated that once Bunker Hill joins the cooperative they would need a part-time Psychologist and part-time coordinator. She asked the board if they would be willing to share one of their current Psychologists with Bunker Hill. She also informed the board that this would be Mary Pearson's last year at Region III as their Psychologist. The board suggested that Mrs. Lenger post the position now for the next school year. Mrs Lenger let the board know that after consulting the Auditor, capital assets were verified at \$260,683, therefore using the public enrollment formula, Bunker Hill's portion would be \$24,790. Bunker Hill would like the option to pay this fee over several years. The board discussed and did not have any objections to this.

Policy Update, Second Reading

Mrs. Lenger shared the second reading of Policy 7:270 Administering Medicines to Students and Policy 7.285 Anaphylaxis Prevention, Response, and Management Program.

CONSENT AGENDA/ACTION ITEMS

Mr. Mario Sherrell moved to approve the Consent Agenda including the bills, regular and closed session minutes, and Governing Board meeting minutes. Dr. Jill Griffin seconded. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes 6-0. Motion carried.

Mr. Mario Sherrell moved to approve All Policies as presented. Dr. Jill Griffin seconded. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes 6-0. Motion carried.

Dr. Jill Griffin moved to approve the Agreement with Bushue Hr, Inc., as presented. Mr. Brad Tuttle seconded. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes 6-0. Motion carried.

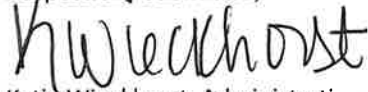
ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Mario Sherrell moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:46 a.m. Dr. Griffin seconded. Motion carried with Members Voting, Aye-6, Nay-0.

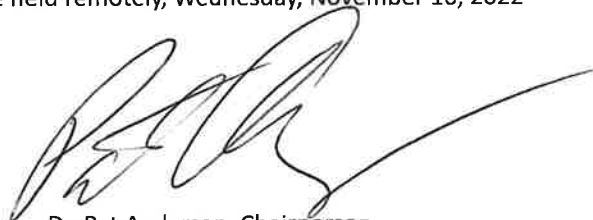
NEXT MEETING

The next meeting for the Region III Executive Board will be held remotely, Wednesday, November 16, 2022 at 10:00 am.

Respectfully Submitted,



Katie Wieckhorst, Administrative Assistant



Dr. Pat Anderson, Chairperson

REGION III SPECIAL EDUCATION COOPERATIVE**EXECUTIVE MEETING****November 16, 2022****CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Pat Anderson, Chairperson at 10:05 a.m. Roll was as follows:

Present: Dr. Jill Griffin, Mr. Mario Sherrell, Mr. Rob Miller, Mr. Brad Tuttle, Dr. Kevin Bowman, Dr. Pat Anderson

Not in attendance:

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS:**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

Mrs. Lenger shared with the board that the Journeys students will be participating in community service on Friday, November 18 at St. John's Church of Christ in Brighton. They will be assisting with a fish dinner. She informed the board that the students and staff at Journeys were going to make and donate 20 lap blankets to residents of a nursing home in Jerseyville for Christmas. Journeys has one student graduating early from EAWR High School and he is planning on attending Lewis and Clark Community College.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT**Personnel Needs for FY 24**

Mrs. Lenger reviewed with the board the classroom count for the next school year which includes the 7 students from Bunker Hill School district, which will be joining the cooperative next year. She stated the CLIP Program will consist of 2 elementary classrooms, 2 middle school classrooms, 1 high school classroom, and 1 post high school classroom. The Journeys program will consist of 3 classrooms. She let the board know that we will need to hire 4 teachers for the CLIP program as well as a Psychologist/Social Worker and a SLP. She informed the board we have 4 paraprofessionals who are in programs to get their degree in education. Dr. Griffin stated to Mrs. Lenger to find a way to support them so they stay within the cooperative once they graduate. She stated she plans on posting these positions by the end of the month.

Current Programs

Mrs. Lenger shared with the board the current numbers of students and staff in each program. She stated she did update Kim Hood's numbers and she is working with many teachers within the cooperating districts, especially within the Southwestern school district.

Journeys Building Update

Mrs. Lenger stated she was going to put Journeys lease on the agenda for next year, but Mr. Tuttle told her that they have decided the district is looking into using the building next year. She informed the board she had a conversation with Mr. Miller about moving Journeys to East Alton Wood River High School. Mr. Miller stated they have plenty of space. He just needs to have a conversation with his board and faculty and staff. He stated the area he has in mind for housing the Journeys program would need some modifications such as new doors. Mrs. Lenger stated that all of the potential sites she has viewed would need some modification completed for students to be housed there.

Administrative Fee Options

Mrs. Lenger shared information regarding administrative fee options. She shared a spreadsheet comparing projected FY 23 administrative costs using different formulas, including the current formula based on total enrollment numbers, a formula using Child Count numbers, a formula dividing Jersey's current fee evenly between districts then distributing the remaining amount using the total enrollment numbers and finally dividing the administrative fee evenly between districts. She expressed her understanding that if they used the child count numbers that some districts would see a significant increase and Bethalto would see a

decrease. Mr. Tuttle suggested they use a several year average of enrollment in cooperative programs for figuring the fee distribution. The cost for all related services would continue to be billed separately. Mrs. Lenger shared each district's last five years of enrollment vs. child count numbers. The board agreed to have more discussions at a later date.

Bunker Hill Resolution to join Region III Cooperative

Mrs. Lenger informed the board that Bunker Hill Board of Education voted 7-0 to join Region III Cooperative last month. She stated our attorney is making one last update to the resolution to accept Bunker Hill as a member of the cooperative. She notified the board last month that the Bunker Hills Superintendent, Todd Dugan, had requested paying the capital assets in installments so the attorney is adding this to the resolution. She also informed the board that the Region III Joint Agreement requires the Governing Board to approve the resolution so they will need to establish a Governing Board meeting date for their approval. She stated she would send the revised resolution to the board once she receives it for their review.

CONSENT AGENDA/ACTION ITEMS

Mr. Mario Sherrell moved to approve the Consent Agenda including the bills, regular and closed session minutes. Mr. Brad Tuttle seconded. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes 6-0. Motion carried.

Mr. Mario Sherrell moved to approve Memorandum of Agreement with the Region III Special Education Association IEA/NEA as presented. Dr. Jill Griffin seconded. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes 6-0. Motion carried.

Dr. Jill Griffin moved to approve the FY 23 School Maintenance Program Grant Application Submission as presented. Mr. Rob Miller seconded. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes 6-0. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

Dr. Jill Griffin moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:46 a.m. Mr. Mario Sherrell seconded. Motion carried with Members Voting, Aye-6, Nay-0.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting for the Region III Executive Board will be held on Wednesday, December 21, 2022 at 10:00 am.

Respectfully Submitted,


Katie Wieckhorst, Administrative Assistant


Dr. Pat Anderson, Chairperson

REGION III SPECIAL EDUCATION COOPERATIVE**EXECUTIVE MEETING****December 21, 2022****CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Pat Anderson, Chairperson at 10:05 a.m. Roll was as follows:

Present: Dr. Jill Griffin, Mr. Mario Sherrell, Mr. Rob Miller, Dr. Kevin Bowman, Dr. Pat Anderson

Not in attendance: Mr. Brad Tuttle

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS:**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

Mrs. Lenger informed the board that the Excess Cost Application template is on the ISBE website. The districts should start pulling together their information and the deadline is February 28, 2023. She let the districts know if they needed help, she was willing to assist them in completing this process.

Mrs. Lenger informed the board that she met with parents from the Bunker Hill CUSD 8. The parents were able to ask questions about our cooperative and our programs. The meeting was supposed to be 30 minutes and it lasted 2 hours. Mrs. Lenger stated the meeting went very well and the parents were very positive.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT**Current Programs**

Mrs. Lenger shared with the board the current number of students and staff in each program. She let the board know we had one student graduate and one student finish classes and go back to district to finish their work study. She stated there are a few openings at Journeys and has had a few inquiries from East Alton School District and East Alton-Wood River High School for Journeys and Southwestern School district for our elementary program. Mrs. Lenger informed the board she has updated Kim Hood's numbers. She stated that Kim Hood is very important to all the districts and the overall function of the classroom, not just behavior. Mrs. Lenger and the board discussed how to proceed next school year if they pull Kim Hood from her current position. Mrs. Lenger let the board know that they could sign a contract with Dr. Dixon for a certain amount of hours to fill Kim's position. The cost would be \$35.00 an hour for his services.

Administrative Fee Options

Mrs. Lenger informed the board that Melinda Kroeger, the bookkeeper, and herself had put together the last 8 years numbers to come up with an average as Mr. Tuttle had previously suggested. The average of each district that have used our programs as an option for the administrative fee. She also shared with the board using child count numbers and stated that made the most sense to her going forward once Jersey School District leaves cooperative. She also shared with the board what made up the administrative fee and stated that the salaries are the biggest part. She let the board know that we are always looking at our bills and ways to save money. She discussed with the board about moving a portion of the administrative assistant's salary back to OT and PT, since that position provides a lot of support to them. She stated to the board she will look at more ways to come up with a solution on dividing the administrative fee.

Staffing Needs for FY 24

Mrs. Lenger reviewed with the board the staffing needs for next school year. She stated she had interviewed 3 students from SIUE, but they all declined positions or went elsewhere. She informed the board that she had a conversation with Dr. Griffin about using Bethalto University for 3 of our students at the 12+ level, which would eliminate the need for a teacher at that level. She stated she will continue to look for teachers and she is going to do a table at the Illinois School Psychology Associates meeting in Springfield. She let the board know that Todd Dugan would be attending too.

Policy Update, First Reading

- 2:105 Ethics and Gift Ban
- 2:250 Access to Cooperative Public Records
- 3:10 Goals and Objectives
- 2:100 Governing & Executive Board Member Conflict of Interest
- 5:170 Copyright
- 5:190 Teacher Qualifications
- 5:220 Substitute Teachers
- 5:260 Student Teachers
- 5:280 Duties and Qualifications
- 5:320 Evaluation
- 6:20 School Year Calendar and Day
- 6:50 School Wellness
- 6:65 Student Social and Emotional Development
- 6:250 Community Resource Persons and Volunteers
- 6:255 Assemblies and Ceremonies
- 6:340 Student Testing and Assessment Program
- 7:100 Health, Eye, and Dental Examinations; Immunizations; and Exclusion of Students
- 7:285 Anaphylaxis Prevention, Response, and Management Program

CONSENT AGENDA/ACTION ITEMS

Mr. Mario Sherrell moved to approve the Consent Agenda including the bills and the regular session minutes. Dr. Jill Griffin seconded. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes 5-0. Motion carried.

Dr. Kevin Bowman moved to approve the change in board meeting date for February to Tuesday, February 14, 2023 at 10 a.m. Mr. Mario Sherrell seconded. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes 5-0. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

Dr. Jill Griffin moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:53 a.m. Mr. Mario Sherrell seconded. Motion carried with Members Voting, Aye-5, Nay-0.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting for the Region III Executive Board will be held on Wednesday, January 18, 2023 at 10:00 am.

Respectfully Submitted,

 Katie Wieckhorst, Administrative Assistant


 Dr. Pat Anderson, Chairperson

REGION III SPECIAL EDUCATION COOPERATIVE

EXECUTIVE MEETING

January 18, 2023

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Pat Anderson, Chairperson at 10:08 a.m. Roll was as follows:

Present: Dr. Kevin Bowman, Dr. Pat Anderson, Jen Weber(Proxy), Mr. Mario Sherrell, Mr. Rob Miller, Mr. Brad Tuttle

Not in attendance: Dr. Jill Griffin

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS: Donna Haget-Auditor, Jen Weber

AUDITOR'S REPORT FY22

Mrs. Donna Haget summarized the Fiscal Year 22 Audit. She stated there were no issues with the audit . She added there was a new lease requirement for this fiscal year. Since the cooperative leases their copiers, it was added to the audit report.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Mrs. Lenger informed the board that she plans to attend a job fair at SIUE on March 21. She stated she had 3 previous interviews for the teacher opening but none of them worked out. She also let the board know we have had 2 applicants for the psychology position.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Current Programs

Mrs. Lenger shared the current number of students and staff in each program. Mrs. Lenger informed the board she has updated Kim Hood's numbers on the spreadsheet presented.

CLOSED SESSION

Closed Session pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(5) The purchase or lease of real property for the public body, including meetings held for the purpose of discussing whether a particular parcel should be acquired

Mr. Mario Sherrell made a motion to enter into closed session at 10:14 a.m. Mr. Brad Tuttle seconded the motion. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes 6-0. Motion carried.

Mr. Brad Tuttle made a motion to come out of closed session at 10:26 a.m. Dr. Pat Anderson seconded the motion. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes 6-0. Motion carried.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Staffing for FY24, Update

Mrs. Lenger stated we currently have openings for 4-certified teachers, a speech language pathologist, a school psychologist and 4 paraprofessionals. She also discussed the possibility of offering tuition reimbursement to paraprofessionals who are seeking their teacher certification. She informed the board that we currently have 4 paraprofessionals in programs to achieve their teaching certification. Mrs. Lenger feels this is the best avenue for acquiring new staff. The current language we have in CBA pertains only to certified staff, reimbursing \$1,000 every other year for courses taken in education.

Administrative Fee Options

Mrs. Lenger informed the board that her suggestion for the administrative fee for FY24 would be to use the public enrollment and divide Jersey 100 administrative fee between all the districts. During FY25 and moving forward to use child count numbers. Rob Miller stated that Bethalto would see a reduction over 2 years where East

Alton-Wood River High school would have a large increase. Mrs. Lenger stated that BASSC charges twice the fee for non-cooperative districts using the cooperative services. Dr. Kevin Bowman's concern is how to keep larger schools from leaving the cooperative.

Policy Update, First Reading

- 2:265 Title IX Sexual Harassment Grievance Procedure
- 4:10 Fiscal and Business Management
- 4:55 Use of Credit and Procurement Cards
- 4:165 Awareness and Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse and Grooming Behaviors
- 5:120 Employee Ethics; Code of Professional Conduct; and Conflict of Interest
- 5:20 Workplace Harassment Prohibited
- 5:330 Sick Days, Vacation, Holidays, and Leaves
- 6:260 Complaints About Curriculum, Instructional Materials, and Programs
- 7:70 Attendance and Truancy
- 7:180 Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment
- 7:250 Student Support Services
- 7:290 Suicide and Depression Awareness and Prevention
- 7:340 Student Records

Policy Update, Second Reading

- 2:105 Ethics and Gift Ban
- 2:250 Access to Cooperative Public Records
- 3:10 Goals and Objectives
- 2:100 Governing & Executive Board Member Conflict of Interest
- 5:170 Copyright
- 5:190 Teacher Qualifications
- 5:220 Substitute Teachers
- 5:260 Student Teachers
- 5:280 Duties and Qualifications
- 5:320 Evaluation
- 6:20 School Year Calendar and Day
- 6:50 School Wellness
- 6:65 Student Social and Emotional Development
- 6:250 Community Resource Persons and Volunteers
- 6:255 Assemblies and Ceremonies
- 6:340 Student Testing and Assessment Program
- 7:100 Health, Eye, and Dental Examinations; Immunizations; and Exclusion of Students
- 7:285 Anaphylaxis Prevention, Response, and Management Program

CONSENT AGENDA/ACTION ITEMS

Mr. Mario Sherrell moved to approve the Consent Agenda including the bills and the regular session minutes. Mr. Brad Tuttle seconded. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes 6-0. Motion carried.

Mr. Rob Miller moved to approve the FY 22 Annual Financial Report as presented. Mr. Brad Tuttle seconded. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes 6-0. Motion carried.

Mr. Mario Sherrell moved to approve the Treasurer's Bond as presented. Mr. Rob Miller seconded. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes 6-0. Motion carried.

Mr. Brad Tuttle moved to approve keeping the closed session minutes July 2022-December 2022 closed. Dr. Kevin Bowman seconded the motion. Roll call was taken with members voting, Yes 6-0. Motion carried.

Mr. Mario Sherrell moved to approve Policy updates as presented in agenda item 9.0. Mr. Rob Miller seconded the motion. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes 6-0. Motion carried.

Dr. Kevin Bowman moved to approve the Administrative Fee Calculation for FY 24 and FY25 as presented. Jen Weber seconded. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes 5-0, with Mr. Brad Tuttle abstaining. Motion Carried.

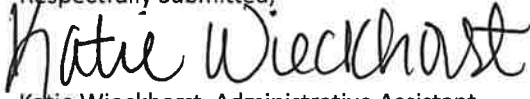
ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Brad Tuttle moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:52 a.m. Dr. Kevin Bowman seconded. Motion carried with Members Voting, Aye-6, Nay-0.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting for the Region III Executive Board will be held on Wednesday, March 15, 2023 at 10:00 am.

Respectfully Submitted,


Katie Wieckhorst, Administrative Assistant


Dr. Pat Anderson, Chairperson

REGION III SPECIAL EDUCATION COOPERATIVE**EXECUTIVE MEETING****February 21, 2023****CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Pat Anderson, Chairperson at 11:10 a.m. Roll was as follows:

Present: Dr. Jill Griffin(via Zoom), Mr. Mario Sherrell(Joined at 11:13 via zoom), Mr. Rob Miller, Mr. Mark Bearley(Proxy), Dr. Pat Anderson

Not in attendance: Mr. Brad Tuttle and Dr. Kevin Bowman

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS: Mark Bearley

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Mrs. Lenger shared the dates for the state assessments for each program. She also informed the board that Teri Engler, Region III Attorney, is offering training for LEAs through IAASE. She has two dates set and there is still a wait list so if our districts are interested she would be available to do training just for our cooperative.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT**Current Programs**

Mrs. Lenger shared the current number of students (43) and staff in each program. Mrs. Lenger informed the board she has updated Kim Hood's numbers on the spreadsheet presented.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**Journeys Building Update**

Mrs. Lenger stated that Robert Werden and Jim Nickerson, the Inspector from the ROE, went to inspect the First Presbyterian Church in Alton. Mrs. Lenger mentioned there would need to be some minor improvements and construction of classrooms before Journeys could move into the space. The windows would need to be covered with a protective film since they are single pane and additional smoke detectors would need to be added. The area of the church that would be used for classrooms would need to be divided into 3 rooms. Mrs. Lenger stated that there is not a gym on premises, but she would be contacting the Salvation Army and the YWCA to ask about using their gym for PE. She also mentioned that there is an outdoor space to put basketball rims on site. Mrs. Lenger said she is nervous about the timeline of securing the church, making the necessary changes and improvements, and moving the program to the church by August. It was suggested by Dr. Griffin to pay the Journeys teachers extra money to pack and move their classrooms. Mrs. Lenger informed the board she is planning on renting PODS for the Journeys transition.

Policy Update, Second Reading

2:265 Title IX Sexual Harassment Grievance Procedure

Updated: changes citations.

4:10 Fiscal and Business Management

Updated language regarding tax levy. We do not levy taxes at this time. No other changes recommended.

4:55 Use of Credit and Procurement Cards

After reviewing this policy, our office created a document for signature by all personnel who carry a Region III credit card certifying an understanding of the policy.

4:165 Awareness and Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse and Grooming Behaviors

Changes in language. No other changes recommended.

5:120 Employee Ethics; Code of Professional Conduct; and Conflict of Interest

Updated. No other recommended changes.

5:20 Workplace Harassment Prohibited

Update Complaint Manager.

5:330 Sick Days, Vacation, Holidays, and Leaves

Recommended citation and language changes per PRESS.

6:260 Complaints About Curriculum, Instructional Materials, and Programs

PRESSPlus2 Optional Sentence

7:70 Attendance and Truancy

Recommended updated language per PRESS.

7:180 Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment

Update Complaint Manager

7:250 Student Support Services

Establish a DCFS Liaison.

7:290 Suicide and Depression Awareness and Prevention

Legal References Updated

7:340 Student Records

Recommended changes in language adding DCFS as an entity that can challenge student records, when applicable.

Reduction In Force

Mrs. Lenger stated the only concern for reduction in force is the COTAs. She mentioned that she is going to have to look at the numbers and see how to proceed. She will keep the board updated and send necessary letters to staff by April 4, 2023.

Occupational Therapist Position

Mrs. Lenger informed the board that Kara McGarrahan, contract OT, terminated her contract. After reviewing current needs and staffing challenges, Mrs. Lenger stated she is going to post the position as full time and offer benefits. She attached a copy of the options she is considering for the board to review.

New Membership in Cooperative, Bunker Hill CUSD 8

Mrs. Lenger informed the board that a Special Governing Board meeting will need to be scheduled in order to request approval for Bunker Hill CUSD 9 to join the cooperative. The board discussed options for this meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA/ACTION ITEMS

Mr. Rob Miller moved to approve the Consent Agenda including the bills and the regular and closed session minutes. Mr. Mario Sherrell seconded. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes 5-0. Motion carried.

Mr. Rob Miller moved to approve the employment of ESY Certified and Non-certified staff as presented. Mr. Mario Sherrell seconded. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes 5-0. Motion carried.

Dr. Jill Griffin moved to approve the employment of Psychologist Brittany Sleik as presented. Mr. Rob Miller seconded. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes 5-0. Motion carried.

Mr. Mario Sherrell moved to approve Policy updates as presented in agenda item 5.2. Mr. Rob Miller seconded the motion. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes 5-0. Motion carried.

Mr. Sherrell moved to approve the Governing Board Meeting for March 15, 2023 at 6p.m. Mr. Rob Miller seconded. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes 5-0. Motion Carried.

ADJOURNMENT

Dr. Jill Griffin moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:58 a.m. Mr. Rob Miller seconded. Motion carried with Members Voting, Aye-5, Nay-0.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting for the Region III Executive Board will be held on Wednesday, March 15, 2023 at 10:00 am.

Respectfully Submitted,


Katie Wieckhorst, Administrative Assistant


Dr. Pat Anderson, Chairperson

REGION III SPECIAL EDUCATION COOPERATIVE**EXECUTIVE MEETING****March 15, 2023****CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Pat Anderson, Chairperson at 10:07 a.m. Roll was as follows:

Present: Dr. Jill Griffin, Mr. Mario Sherrell, Mr. Brad Tuttle, Dr. Kevin Bowman, Dr. Pat Anderson

Not in attendance: Mr. Rob Miller

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS: No visitors

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Mrs. Lenger informed the board that the TMC meeting will be held on May 19, 2023 at 1pm. She stated she would share the public notice with the coordinators to publish on their district websites. Emily Zipprich, Special Education Coordinator with East Alton - Wood River high school, visited the Journeys program early in March and had a great experience. Mrs. Lenger shared the quote Emily shared with her about her experience.

Mrs. Lenger shared information with the board she received from the Office of Education Programs in reference to students who are highly mobile. It stated that when one of these highly mobile students is marked for needing an assessment we need to accelerate the evaluation process before that student moves to another district to ensure they are receiving the services they need instead of being missed from moving from district to district. Mrs. Lenger stated she would pass this information along to the coordinators.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT**Current Programs**

Mrs. Lenger shared the current number of students (43) and staff in each program. Mrs. Lenger informed the board she has updated Kim Hood's numbers on the spreadsheet presented.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**Vision Itinerant Service Delivery**

Mrs. Lenger informed the board that Kristy Duckels, TVI, approached her with a proposal for a hybrid method to service delivery. She pointed out that it is very difficult to find teachers of the visually impaired. She stated that Kristy currently works 4 days a week. Kristy proposed she would like to work an additional 2 days a month from home for planning and preparation due to her caseload. She would also like to start transitioning to remote services for students who can tolerate this type of service delivery. Mrs. Lenger mentioned having Kristy do a trial period starting in the fall so she is able to prepare for this transition over the summer. Dr. Griffin stated she was open to it and liked the trial period idea. She also stated, Kristy might be able to give more to her students when she isn't spending so much time traveling between schools. Dr. Anderson asked if there is a way to monitor an individual when they are working remotely. Mrs. Lenger stated she would look into it, but she wasn't concerned with Kristy getting her work done.

Journeys Building Update

Mrs. Lenger stated that she met with the First Presbyterian Church members on Friday along with Architect, Randy Mitchell. Mr. Mitchell and Scott Mandrell, a church board member, visited Journeys school on Monday, March 13, 2023 to gain more information about the program and its needs. The church proposed a 5 year lease with a 3% increase yearly. Mrs. Lenger shared these figures with the board (Year 1- \$50,400, Year 2- \$51,912, Year 3- \$53,470, Year 4- \$55,074, Year 5- \$56,716) which would be divided over 12 months. Currently we are paying

\$20,000 in rent and \$25,000 in supplies. They are starting to discuss design. Mrs. Lenger stated that there is not a gym on premises, but she is in the process of setting up a meeting with the Salvation Army, about using their gym.

Resignation, Certified Teacher

Mrs. Lenger informed the board she received a resignation letter from Kelli Schnelt, first year teacher at Journeys. Mrs. Schnelt decided it wasn't a good fit for her and decided to resign.

Staffing Needs, Update

Mrs. Lenger stated she is still in need of 2 teachers next year for the CLIP program. She stated she is requesting approval of hiring Sarah Adler Bacus as a teacher to replace Maria Day. She also stated she is still looking for a SLP. She mentioned she sent an email out to local contacts at the Universities for assistance in her search. Mrs. Lenger informed the board she may need to use a contract agency for a SLP for remote services. If this is how Region III can acquire speech services then she recommends using a paraprofessional to be with the students when they are receiving their therapy. She mentioned she is currently in discussion with a candidate for the Occupational Therapy position which looks promising.

Director's Evaluation and Contract

Mrs. Lenger stated she is requesting a 2 year extension to her current contract, which has 1 year left on it. This would extend her contract through the 2025-2026 school year.

April Board Meeting, Change of Date and Time

Mrs. Lenger stated that Bunker Hill board meetings are on the same day as Region III board meetings, so she requested a change in the date and time of the April board meeting. She would like to invite Todd Dugan, Bunker Hill Superintendent, to welcome and celebrate Bunker Hill joining the cooperative.

CLOSED SESSION

Mr. BRAD TUTTLE moved to go into closed session at 10:33 a.m. Dr. Kevin Bowman seconded the motion. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes, 5-0. Motion carried. Mr. BRAD TUTTLE moved to come out of closed session at 10:45 a.m. Dr. Kevin Bowman seconded the motion. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes, 5-0. Motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA/ACTION ITEMS

Dr. Jill Griffin moved to approve Mr. Rob Miller as the 2023-2024 school year Executive Board President. Dr. Pat Anderson seconded. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes 5-0

Dr. Jill Griffin moved to approve the Consent Agenda including the bills and the regular minutes. Dr. Kevin Bowman seconded. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes 5-0. Motion carried.

Dr. Jill Griffin moved to approve the employment of Sarah Adler Bacus Certified staff. Mr. Mario Sherrell seconded. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes 5-0. Motion carried.

Dr. Jill Griffin moved to approve the Non-Renewal of Contract for Principal at Journeys. Dr. Kevin Bowman seconded. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes 5-0. Motion carried.

Dr. Jill Griffin moved to approve the Director's contract for 2 additional years ending in the 2025-2026 school year. Mr. Mario Sherrell seconded the motion. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes 4-0. Jersey abstained from vote, Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

Dr. Jill Griffin moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:03 a.m. Dr. Pat Anderson seconded. Motion carried with Members Voting, Aye-5, Nay-0.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting for the Region III Executive Board will be held on Friday, April 28, 2023 at 2:00 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Katie Wieckhorst, Administrative Assistant



Dr. Pat Anderson, Chairperson

REGION III SPECIAL EDUCATION COOPERATIVE
GOVERNING BOARD MEETING MINUTES
March 15, 2023

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Patrick Anderson, Chairperson at 6:15 pm. Roll Call was as follows:

Present: Dr. Jill Griffin, Bethalto District 8
Todd Meiser, Bethalto District 8
Dr. Patrick Anderson, Wood River Hartford District 15
Amy Allen, Wood River Hartford District 15
Mr. Mario Sherrell, East Alton District 13
Kacie Bamert, East Alton District 13
Mr. Rob Miller, East Alton Wood River District 14
Missy Gerner, East Alton Wood River District 14
Mr. Kevin Bowman, Southwestern District 9
Donna Loy, Southwestern District 9

Not Present: Brad Tuttle, Jersey 100

Dr. Pat Anderson opened by thanking everyone for attending and apologizing for the delay. He stated the reason for the meeting is to approve Resolution for Bunker Hill Unit District 8 to join Region III Cooperative. He informed everyone the Articles of Joint Agreement were available for review.

Todd Meiser moved to approve the Resolution for Bunker Hill Unit District 8 to join Region III Cooperative. Amy Allen seconded the motion. Roll call was taken with members voting Yes 5-0. Motion carried.

Amy Allen moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Todd Meiser seconded. Motion carried with members voting Aye 5, Nay-0.

Respectfully submitted,


Kathryn Wieckhorst, Board Secretary

Dr. Patrick Anderson, Chairperson



REGION III SPECIAL EDUCATION COOPERATIVE**EXECUTIVE MEETING****April 28, 2023****CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Pat Anderson, Chairperson at 2:08 p.m. Roll was as follows:

Present: Dr. Jill Griffin, Mr. Rob Miller, Dr. Kevin Bowman, Dr. Pat Anderson

Not in attendance: Mr. Mario Sherrell and Mr. Brad Tuttle

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS: Todd Dugan(Bunker Hill CUSD 8 Superintendent) and Joe Burgess(Clean Energy Design Group)

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Mrs. Lenger informed the board that Journeys graduation ceremony is being held at Journeys on May 12, 2023 at 10 a.m. She stated there are 4 graduates this semester, all 4 students are graduates of Bethalto CUSD 8.

Mrs. Lenger informed the board that two staff members were accepted into the Golden Apple Accelerator Program. Andy Allen, long term sub for Region III, and Jessica "Quill" Miller, Paraprofessional, will attend Blackburn College to complete a teacher licensure program. She stated both of the recipients are part of the Journeys team. This is a competitive 15 month program and Mrs. Lenger stated she is very proud of Andy and Quill.

Mrs. Lenger mentioned to the board that the TMC meeting will be held on May 19, 2023 at 1pm at the Region III office and Bunker Hill CUSD 8 will be included in the meeting. She stated the posting was published in The Telegraph on April 19, 2023. Mrs. Lenger informed the board they should publish the posting on their district website. She also let them know she shared the TMC Google folder with them.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**Solar Project, Clean Energy Design Group, Inc., Joe Burgess**

Joe Burgess shared with the board his proposal for solar panels at Region III. He stated that the contract would be a term of 15 years instead of 25 years at a rate of .04 cents. He mentioned that each contract is like its own solar company similar to an LLC. After the 15 years the panels belong to Region III unless they want them removed, he stated this is a verbal contract otherwise it would be considered a loan. At that time the production off the panels would go to Region III. He stated the net savings on our electric bill would be \$250,000.00 over the 15 years. Mrs. Lenger asked what the payoff was for Clean Energy Design Group. Mr. Burgess stated that the group applies for a grant which they receive a kickback from. He also stated that when the panels over produce they bank that production for the months when the panels under produce. Mr. Burgess stated they monitor the panels for safety reason and are alerted if there are any hazards. Rob Miller asked why more districts weren't taking advantage of the panels and Todd Dugan stated if you are the owner of the panels then there is a 30% rebate from PPA. The board stated they were not ready at this time to make a decision.

Resignation, Certified Teacher

Mrs. Lenger informed the board she received resignation letters from McKenzie Dixon, Certified Occupational Therapist, Rich Ramsay, Principal, and Bethany Sleik, School Psychologist. She mentioned McKenzie took a position with Jersey 100 for next school year and Bethany Sleik decided to stay in her current position with East Alton School District 13.

Billing for Behavior Coach for FY24

Mrs. Lenger stated since Kim Hood is going to be at Journeys school in a new role as the program facilitator next year they will need to hire a behavior coach. In order to fulfill this need Mrs. Lenger stated she will hire a registered behavior technician through Emergent Learning(Dr. Dixon). The cost for the behavior technician is \$35.00 an hour.

The districts will receive a bill for services actually rendered which is different from how we billed previously. Mrs. Lenger informed the board that Bethalto District 8 will not be utilizing the new behavior technician because they hired one within their districts. Mrs. Lenger will be meeting with the behavior technician next week with either Heather Strebel or Kim Hood to make sure she understands our needs. Mrs. Lenger stated she is also meeting with her to determine how the contract will look. The board asked what they are currently paying for Kim Hood's salary and what her plan is for paying her as the new facilitator. Mrs. Lenger stated she is planning on giving her a \$7,000 dollar stipend and she will move on the salary schedule once she completes her masters this spring. The board recommended giving Kim a larger stipend. Mrs. Lenger's plan for next year is to open 2 additional classrooms at the church and move Kim Hood into the role of Principal.

Staffing Needs, Update

Mrs. Lenger stated she is still in need of a teacher next year for the CLIP program. She also stated the original plan was to share a school social worker or psychologist with Bunker Hill for next school year. Since Bunker Hill hired a school psychologist she stated she posted the position as a social worker hoping to reach more applicants. Mrs. Lenger informed the board we are in need of this individual for counseling reasons for our students. Dr. Griffin stated she met with someone from Refuge to help with counseling services. She suggested that Mrs. Lenger reach out to them. Mrs. Lenger also stated she is still looking for a SLP. She informed the board she is trying to figure out how to use a SLPA. The SLPA would need to be supervised for 30 percent of her time with students and the supervisor would need to do IEP meetings and necessary paperwork for writing the IEPs. Tammy Pickerill isn't interested in working again next year because it is more than what she is wanting to work. Mrs. Lenger asked the board if they had an SLP in their districts that could oversee the SLPA. Dr. Anderson stated he recently hired a SLP full time for a part time position so there she may be able to supervise a SLPA for Region III.

Administrative Staff Salaries

Mrs. Lenger stated she recommends a discussion during the closed session.

Journeys Building Update

Mrs. Lenger stated she received a phone call from the board member she has been working with at the church and they informed her they approved the building project and the lease agreement. Construction is to start right away and it is being completed by Jun Construction. The current plan is for Journeys first day of school to be August 21, 2023. Dr. Griffin asked how Region III's bank accounts looked for covering the cost of the church building renovations for Journeys. Mrs. Lenger informed the board that our cash availability is adequate to cover \$50,000 from the account and the other \$50,000 is already in the FY24 budget for next school year. She stated the church will cover the first \$100,000 and the cooperative will cover the second \$100,000. She also stated the board asked for a longer lease than the original 5 years. They asked the lease be extended to 7-10 years.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Current Programs

Mrs. Lenger shared the current number of students and staff in each program. She stated we added a student, but we also had one leave. Mrs. Lenger informed the board she has updated Kim Hood's numbers on the spreadsheet presented. Mrs. Lenger clarified to the board how Kim Hood's hours are split between districts. She stated if Kim Hood is in one of the Region III programs her time is split among the students in that program.

CLOSED SESSION

Dr. Jill Griffin moved to go into closed session at 3:05 p.m. Mr. Rob Miller seconded the motion. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes, 4-0. Motion carried. Dr. Kevin Bowman moved to come out of closed session at 3:30 p.m. Dr. Pat Anderson seconded the motion. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes, 4-0. Motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA/ACTION ITEMS

Dr. Kevin Bowman moved to approve the consent agenda including the bills, regular board minutes and closed session minutes. Dr. Pat Anderson seconded. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes 4-0

Dr. Kevin Bowman moved to approve the authorization to prepare the FY24 budget. Mr. Rob Miller seconded. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes 4-0. Motion carried.

Dr. Kevin Bowman moved to approve the employment of ESY staff 23. Certified Staff, Tammy Pickerill, SLP and Non-certified staff, Amanda Dey, Harper Buhs, Amber Sims, McKenzie Dixon, Sierra LaTempt, Laura Kimbro, Paraprofessionals and Serena Whiteside, Individual Aide. Dr. Jill Griffin seconded. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes 4-0. Motion carried.

Dr. Jill Griffin moved to approve the Employment of 23-24 school year staff members. Non-Certified Staff, Laura Kimbro, Jamie Fosnock, Paraprofessionals, Serena Whiteside, Individual Aide. Certified Staff, Marissa Tegel, Certified Teacher and Kara Wolters, Occupational Therapist. Mr. Rob Miller seconded the motion. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes 4-0.

Dr. Jill Griffin moved to approve the Administrative Staff salaries for FY24 at a 2 percent increase. Dr. Kevin Bowman seconded the motion. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes 4-0.

Dr. Jill Griffin moved to approve the 23-24 school year board meeting dates as amended, with the August meeting being moved to August 2, 2023. Mr. Rob Miller seconded the motion. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes 4-0.

ADJOURNMENT

Dr. Jill Griffin moved to adjourn the meeting at 3:36 p.m. Dr. Kevin Bowman seconded. Motion carried with Members Voting, Aye-4, Nay-0.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting for the Region III Executive Board will be held on Wednesday, May 17, 2023 at 10:00 am.

Respectfully Submitted,



Katie Wieckhorst, Administrative Assistant



Dr. Pat Anderson, Chairperson

REGION III SPECIAL EDUCATION COOPERATIVE**EXECUTIVE MEETING****May 17, 2023****CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Pat Anderson, Chairperson at 10:10 a.m. Roll was as follows:

Present: Dr. Jill Griffin, Mr. Mario Sherrell, Mr. Rob Miller, Dr. Pat Anderson

Not in attendance: Mr. Brad Tuttle and Dr. Kevin Bowman

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS:**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

Mrs. Lenger informed the board that we have 27 students who qualify for extended school year services. Twelve of these students are from district programs who need ESY services. She stated there will be 3 elementary ESY programs at Parkside in Bethalto and one high school program at EA/WR high school. The Parkside program will be in attendance June 5-June 30, 2023 and EA/WR high school program Monday-Thursday, June 5-July 13, 2023 with the exception of the 2 holidays.

Mrs. Lenger mentioned to the board that she received an invite from Todd Dugan to attend a virtual product demonstration on a special education product. She stated she thought the product could be beneficial to our programs, so she will be sharing this information with the coordinators.

Mrs. Lenger informed the board that Kim Moore from Embrace was providing training to the coordinators on Friday. The training will cover changes to Medicaid and transportation reimbursement. She also stated that she is working with Kim Moore to get a training set up for Fall for all the districts to attend.

Mrs. Lenger discussed the RTO (Restraint and Time Out) Reduction Plans that were submitted last year. She reminded the board to submit the district's RTO Progress Report by July 1, 2023. She also stated that the state is now requiring all cooperatives to have a RTO Reduction Plan which is due by July 1, 2023.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**Press Policy Update:First Reading**

Mrs. Lenger shared with the board Policy 111 and asked if anyone had any questions or concerns. The board discussed having a policy committee to review policy updates in the future. It was stated that the recommendations by PRESS come from the PRESS Advisory Board and are sufficient to review and approve the policy updates.

RBT FY24

Mrs. Lenger informed the board she and Kim Hood met with a RBT (Registered Behavior Technician) recommended by Dr. Mark Dixon. This RBT is currently working with Triad and Highland School districts and is knowledgeable about behavior interventions. However, Mrs. Lenger stated she would like to post the position to fulfill the need for an individual with classroom experience. Dr. Griffin's concern is she will not be using the RBT in the same capacity since they have hired their own behavior coach. Mrs. Lenger stated she has allocated \$15,000 in tuition of the CLIP program to offset the cost of the RBT.

Staffing Needs, Update

Mrs. Lenger stated she had an interview yesterday for an open teaching position. It was a very positive interview. The applicant was offered the position and she accepted by email later in the evening. We still have an opening for an SLP and a Psychologist/Social Worker. Mrs. Lenger mentioned she spoke with Erin Bickle from Refuge. This agency is providing counseling services at Roxana and East Alton. Erin Bickle stated she would have to hire

someone to fill that need and it will be a 12 month position with a salary of \$83,000. Mr. Mario Sherrell stated it was more cost effective to use a Refugee counselor than hiring their own. Mrs. Lenger stated she and Dr. Anderson had discussed the option of hiring an SLP assistant and having the SLPs from each district supervise the assistant. Mrs. Lenger also stated she was going to ask Tammy Pickerill if she would continue doing therapy for EA/WR high school students. Mrs. Lenger spoke with the ROE about hiring an SLP assistant and they confirmed that no districts in the area are currently using one. The SLP assistant must have an associates degree and there are only 2 school programs in the state which are both up north.

Journeys Building Update

Mrs. Lenger received the lease agreement from First Presbyterian Church of Alton. She stated the attorney, Dawn Hinkle, had 2 suggestions on adding language about religious items not being allowed in the school area and the capability to terminate the lease if we get sued in regards to the religious nature of the leased premises. Mrs. Lenger stated that the church has not reviewed these changes. Mrs. Lenger informed the board that we have 3 pods at Journeys to be filled and then moved to the Region III office so they can be monitored by the cameras. The school start date plan for teachers is August 14 and students start on August 21, 2023. The current Journeys building needs to be vacated by May 31, 2023.

23-24 Journeys Calendar

Mrs. Lenger informed the board the school start date for Journeys is August 21, 2023. Mrs. Lenger also informed the board she added time to the Journeys school day so they are able to take two school improvement days which are ½ days. She stated she spoke with transportation at all districts to make sure they could accommodate these two ½ days.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Current Programs

Mrs. Lenger shared the current hours for Kim Hood. She stated her numbers reflected an overage of hours, but that will not be billed out to districts and is only by Kim's choice as a teacher to work over hours to get work completed.

CLOSED SESSION

Mr. Mario Sherrell moved to go into closed session at 10:48 a.m. Dr. Jill Griffin seconded the motion. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes, 4-0. Motion carried. Dr. Jill Griffin moved to come out of closed session at 10:58 a.m. Mr. Rob Miller seconded the motion. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes, 4-0. Motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA/ACTION ITEMS

Dr. Jill Griffin moved to approve the consent agenda including the bills, regular board minutes and closed session minutes. Mr. Mario Sherrell seconded. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes 4-0

Dr. Jill Griffin moved to approve the resolution to declare surplus items for the 3 chromebook charging carts. Mr. Rob Miller seconded. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes 4-0. Motion carried.

Mr. Rob Miller moved to approve the lease between the church and Journeys with any amendments if necessary for the term of 2023-2028. Dr. Jill Griffin seconded. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes 4-0. Motion carried.

Mr. Mario Sherrell moved to approve the 23-24 Journeys school year calendar as presented. Dr. Jill Griffin seconded the motion. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes 4-0.

ADJOURNMENT

Dr. Jill Griffin moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:02 a.m. Mr. Mario Sherrell seconded. Motion carried with Members Voting, Aye-4, Nay-0.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting for the Region III Executive Board will be held on Wednesday, June 21, 2023 at 10:00 am. .

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Katie Wieckhorst". The letters are cursive and somewhat stylized.

Katie Wieckhorst, Administrative Assistant

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Pat Anderson". The signature is highly stylized and cursive.

Dr. Pat Anderson, Chairperson

REGION III SPECIAL EDUCATION COOPERATIVE**EXECUTIVE MEETING****June 21, 2023****CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Pat Anderson, Chairperson at 10:05 a.m. Roll was as follows:

Present: Dr. Jill Griffin, Mr. Mario Sherrell, Mr. Rob Miller, Dr. Kevin Bowman, Dr. Pat Anderson

Not in attendance: Mr. Brad Tuttle

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS:**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

Mrs. Lenger informed the board that the district nurses take turns providing vision and hearing screenings for students at Journeys school. She stated that this year it is East Alton's turn to provide this service.

Mrs. Lenger mentioned to the board that following the Joint Agreement, Bethalto would be next in line to serve as the Chairman of the Board. However, due to other commitments on other boards, Dr. Griffin has recommended Rob Miller for the Chairman position for the 23-24 school year. Mr. Rob Miller accepted her recommendation.

Mrs. Lenger shared with the board the progress of the Professional Development Plan for the upcoming school year. She stated that the Region III staff would be joining the tri districts on August 14th for the Trauma Informed training.

Mr. Rob Miller asked Mrs. Lenger what the districts needed to complete for the RTO (Restraint and Time Out) Reduction Plans that were submitted last year. She stated the board needed to submit the district's RTO Progress Report, which is a form that needs to be completed and emailed by July 1, 2023.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**Press Policy Update: First Reading**

Mrs. Lenger shared with the board Policy for the criminal history record information known as Faith's Law. She mentioned BUSHUE has a program to use which cost \$32 per use. She asked the board if they will be using BUSHUE for this service. Dr. Jill Griffin stated they are unsure at this point which company they will be using. Mrs. Lenger informed the board she plans to use BUSHUE for this service.

Staffing Needs, Update

Mrs. Lenger informed the board she is still working on filling the SLP position. Mrs. Lenger stated she and Dr. Anderson had discussed the option of hiring an SLP assistant and having the SLPs from each district supervise the assistant. Mrs. Lenger stated she found an assistant with a contract agency and she negotiated the cost down from \$65 an hour to \$56 an hour. She mentioned the challenge is having an SLP supervisor at the high school. She stated she is having Stacy Bragg, owner of Apple Tree Therapy, working on finding a therapist for this role. She mentioned she has had discussions with Tammy Pickerill about continuing the therapy for EA/WR high school students, but she informed Mrs. Lenger she just wants to be done working. There are currently 8 students at the high school level. The supervisors would have to observe 30% for the first 90 days and do the initial baseline data and then it is 20%. She stated that the assistants caseload would consist of 1 day at East Alton and 1 day at Wood River Hartford and then 2 days helping the district SLP's on their caseloads.

Resignation of Non-Certified Staff

Mrs. Lenger informed the board she received a resignation letter from Jennifer Tapen, paraprofessional at Journeys, last week. She stated she will post for this position in the next couple of days.

Journeys Building Update

Mrs. Lenger stated the lease agreement with First Presbyterian Church of Alton is close to being finalized. She stated she is still talking with the attorney, Rob Werden and Dr. Anderson about some language changes and hopes to have the lease finalized by the end of the week. She mentioned everything at Journeys is progressing as it should and the classrooms are ready to be painted, and the bathrooms are getting torn apart. The school start date for teachers is August 14 and students start on August 21, 2023 and everything is on target to meet these dates. Mr. Rob Miller asked if there had been any change orders. Mrs. Lenger stated the only change order was to add on some IT work which cost \$2600. She stated Jun Construction was handling the work.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Current Programs

Mrs. Lenger shared program information for the 23-24 school year with the board. She stated there are currently 41 students who are to attend the CLIP and Journeys programs, but this depends on registration. She mentioned CLIP will have 5 classrooms and Journeys will have 3 classrooms. Mrs. Lenger stated she just received a referral today from Bethalto about an Administrative Placed student. She shared the breakdown of the 41 students by districts and there are 6 from Bethalto, 3 from Bunker Hill, 10 at East Alton, 11 EA/WRHS, 4 at Southwestern and 7 at Wood River Hartford.

Billing Estimates

Mrs. Lenger mentioned she is currently working on the budget. She stated her and the bookkeeper have started working on billing estimates for tuition programs. She shared with the board a comparison of FY23 with FY24 for the tuition.

Dr. Jill Griffin asked if Mrs. Lenger ever figured out the employment of a behavior coach from Dr. Dixon. Mrs. Lenger stated she is still working with Dr. Dixon and his assistant, Heather. She mentioned she did post for the position but has only received one phone call. She stated Dr. Dixon assured her he will provide her with a Behavior Coach. She informed the board the hourly rate is \$35 an hour.

Annual Report on Isolation and Restraint

Mrs. Lenger reported to the board that the programs had zero incidents this year. She shared with the board a comparison of the last 4 years. She stated the staff are more focused on de-escalation.

CONSENT AGENDA/ACTION ITEMS

Dr. Jill Griffin moved to approve the consent agenda including the bills, regular board minutes and closed session minutes and Commercial insurance renewal. Mr. Rob Miller seconded. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes 5-0.

Dr. Jill Griffin moved to approve the criminal history record information policy as presented. Mr. Rob Miller seconded. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes 5-0. Motion carried.

Dr. Jill Griffin moved to approve the employment of Jenna Brown, certified teacher. Mr. Rob Miller seconded. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes 5-0. Motion carried.

Dr. Jill Griffin moved to approve the employment of Ashley Weant, student support personnel. Mr. Rob Miller seconded the motion. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes 5-0.

Dr. Jill Griffin moved to approve the employment of Andy Allen, paraprofessional. Mr. Rob Miller seconded the motion. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes 5-0.

Dr. Jill Griffin moved to approve the change of date for the Governing Board meeting to September 21, 2023 at 6pm. Mr. Rob Miller seconded the motion. Roll call was taken with Members Voting, Yes 5-0.

ADJOURNMENT

Dr. Jill Griffin moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:37 a.m. Mr. Mario Sherrell seconded. Motion carried with Members Voting, Aye-5, Nay-0.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting for the Region III Executive Board will be held on Wednesday, August 2, 2023 at 10:00 am.

Respectfully Submitted,



Katie Wieckhorst, Administrative Assistant



Dr. Pat Anderson, Chairperson