



## SPECIAL EDUCATION DISTRICT OF MCHENRY COUNTY

### COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MINUTES

September 16, 2020

The meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m.

Present: Ms. Karen Parks, Dr. Burns, Ms. Kim Egerstaffer Dr. Linda Dujmovich and Mr. Bryan Millard.

Approval of Minutes: Dr. Linda Dujmovich moved to approve and, Ms. Karen Parks seconded to approve the minutes from the August 19, 2020 meeting. Motion carried.

#### **Old Business:**

**CPI Certification Courses:** Dr. Burns reviewed with the Board the schedule for the CPI Certification Courses. There will be three fall courses and three spring courses. The courses will consist of an Intro Course, a Renewal Course and a Verbal De-escalation Course. There will be a \$40.00 dollar charge. Carol Kalas, Judy Sijersen and Melissa Galan will be providing the courses via GotoMeeting.

**Service Delivery Update:** Dr. Burns gave an update on Service Delivery. Concerns regarding IEP's and delivery of services to students. With the executive order to shut down by the Governor, concerns of expediting an IEP came into question. Will there be enough instruction time, will all recommendations be met, are services being delivered correctly are some of the concerns.

#### **New Business:**

**B.I.R.G. (Brain Injury Group) Class Action Lawsuit:** Dr. Burns informed the Board that at the end of July, attorneys from the Brain Injury Rights Group in New York filed a class action lawsuit in the U.S. District Court, in which they have named all school districts and State departments of education in the United States as defendants. The complaint alleges that school closures since the spring of 2020 due to the Covid-19 pandemic have violated the rights of all students with disabilities under the IDEA, Section 504, and Title II of the ADA. The plaintiffs claim all students with disabilities are owed a variety of remedies, including independent educational evaluations at public expense, compensatory education services to address any decline in school development, entirely new IEPs, payment for any services secured by parents during the time of school closures, and punitive damages.

**R.O.E. Recommendations for FY 21 RSSP Staff Salaries:** Dr. Burns discussed with the Board the Recommendation for R.O.E. FY 21 RSSP Staff Salaries. Dr. Burns presented the information to the Board regarding Staff salary increases. Rachel Blich from the Boon/Winnebago R.O.E. has been brought on as a financial assistant. Rachel will be included on all financial reports regarding the RSSP Program. Dr. Burns reviewed the recommendations for the staff pay increases as presented and recommend its passage.

**Special Education Accountability and Support System:** Dr. Burns reviewed with the Board the Illinois State Board of Education – Special Education Accountability and Support System. The focus of the Accountability and Support System is to improve educational results and functional outcomes for all children with disabilities and to ensure that the State meets the program requirements under this part, with a particular emphasis on those requirements that are most closely to improving educational results for children with disabilities.

## **Finance:**

**August Financial Reports:** Financial statements for August were reviewed noting the percentages of revenue and expenses compared to the budget for each fund as of August 31, 2020, 17% of the FY 2021 budget is complete. Revenues are received at 35.45% and expenditures are received at 35.91%. Total Outstanding Receivables were \$11,085.87 for all funds. Revenues for the Education Fund are received at 39.67% while expenditures are at 35.91%. Outstanding Receivables as of August 30, 2020 were at \$0.00. Operations & Maintenance revenues are received at 14.55% of budget while expenditures are at 8.10%. Outstanding Receivables as of August 30, 2020 were at \$7,502.63. Cash as of August 30, 2017 total \$4,346,986.72 for all funds.

**Bill List:** The September bills totaled \$ 30,990.80. Of this total, 0.00% of the total bills were payments back to member districts. IDEA reimbursements claimed by member districts total \$0.00. Administration is recommending the approval of the September Bills and reasonable and customary bills through September 30, 2020.

**NICOR GAS Bill – IEC:** SEDOM received a gas bill from Nicor Gas as opposed to the IEC. An e-mail went out to Glen Grimm who is our contact at the Illinois Energy Consortium. Glenn informed us that our natural gas accounts are still enrolled with the IEC natural gas program, so now we just have to figure out why Nicor Gas just out of the blue started sending the utility transportation charges invoice for the Nicor Gas account. He would be investigating this matter and will contact us to let us know what he finds out.

## **Facilities:**

**S.M.P.G. Update:** Dr. Burns informed the Board that everything is on target. There will be a BID meeting in October.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:58 p.m.

The Next meeting of the Committee of the Whole will be held on Wednesday, September 21, 2020 at **1:30 p.m.** in the SEDOM Board Room.