



SPECIAL EDUCATION DISTRICT OF MCHENRY COUNTY

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MINUTES

August 21, 2024

The meeting was called to order at 8:07 a.m. once a fourth board member was present.

Ms. Neiss, Dr. McTague and Dr. Damisch were not in attendance and were excused.

Approval of Minutes: Board Member Parks motioned to approve the minutes of the July 24, 2024, Meeting. Motion carried.

Old Business

- Dr. Burns discussed the FY 24 Audit completion and some of the suggestions and or considerations that were mentioned within the audit.
- Dr. Burns discussed the recent G.B.D. Meeting and that a significant portion of the meeting focused on where SEDOM would be located and what costs this might incur with regard to the loss of O/M revenue in 9 years and the costs of having a new office location that was undermined. The board discussed the possibility of moving to the owned classrooms in H158 and the direction of the board was to continue to seek an agreement for purchase for the classrooms. A question was asked about how many cooperatives were in a similar position as SEDOM and without any students. At present it is estimated that there “6” cooperatives across the state that do not have any student programs and that it is unclear how many staff members each of these cooperatives employ. Dr. Burns discussed the ending of the F.D.S.E. Cooperative and the Kendal County Cooperative but that the P.A.S.E.C. emerged from the ashes of P.A.S.E.C. which serves 4 of the original Kendal County Cooperative Districts. At present as long as one district wills SEDOM to exist it will exist however the district that will SEDOM exist may need to define additional services for SEDOM to serve as an assessment fee is likely in the 5-9 year future.
- Dr. Burns discussed that the current audiological booth was placed in its current location in 2006, and it is unclear if this was its original location or if it was moved from a prior location. The booth can handle “3” moves before it is at risk of a loss of functional integrity as the pieces would not be durable enough to handle being disassembled and reassembled more than 3 times.

NEW Business

- Dr. Burns discussed the current levels of ISBE staff and its correlation to the grant approval and amendment process which was described by an ISBE employee as being a “man power shortage”.
- Dr. Burns discussed several upcoming professional development opportunities.
- Dr. Burns discussed the cessation of allowing retired employees to purchase the employee dental and vision care unless by contractual agreement which was recommended by the benefits care coordinator and an overall reduction in cell phone costs.
- Dr. Burns again discussed the interest in the cooperative purchasing an IEP software program used by all member districts and the benefits of such but that the desire for individual district control of the contract and software was the only reason that it could not be implemented.
- Facilities Item
 - Dr. Burns led a full discussion on the issues associated with the classrooms in Huntley and the need to begin planning for where SEDOM will be based out of in 9 years.

Financial Reports: Dr. Burns discussed the recent and monthly financial activities and summary of the cooperative.

Disbursement List: Dr. Burns discussed recent expenditures and the current disbursement report.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:26a.m.

The Next meeting of the Committee of the Whole will be held on Wednesday, September 18, 2024, at 8:00 a.m. in the SEDOM Board Room.