



SPECIAL EDUCATION DISTRICT OF MCHENRY COUNTY

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MINUTES

September 18, 2024

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

Ms. Neiss, 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 continued the discussion on SEDOM 2035 and mentioned that the question as to where SEDOM would be located, and the related costs would have a large impact on the financial planning of SEDOM. Dr. Burns mentioned that if they were given space by a member district or utilized its classrooms in H158 than SEDOM could go forward in its current capacity much longer than if it had additional costs associated with renting a space and paying for traditional operations and maintenance related costs. Dr. Burns mentioned that if the costs were high than the member districts would have to consider paying a larger membership fee for the same amount of services unless the member districts would agree for SEDOM to perform additional services on their behalf in order to justify an increased membership fee. The Board discussed the possibility of an additional inter-cooperative meeting and the possibility of Dr. Burns attending individual member district board meetings with regard to this specific topic.
- Dr. Burns discussed that the book “The Anxious Generation” is growing in importance within the educational world and that the school social workers would be engaged in a book review this year. Board Member McTague mentioned that McHenry HS 156 had recently did this as well and the topics in the book are very relative to recent decisions regarding access to cell phones in school.

NEW Business

- Dr. Burns discussed the 9-17-24 PPS Directors meeting and mentioned that there was a difference of opinion regarding the act of allowing a pre-school student that was recommended for a half time program to access specific parts of the IEP and not the entire half day program. The difference of opinion relates to different legal opinions on the importance of 2017 Guidance issued by ISBE and its impact on a request made by a pre-school parent for part time status. Dr. Burns mentioned that this was the second time in seven years that we had a difference of opinion due to different legal interpretations and that such conversations were good for learning as a group.
- Dr. Burns discussed the recent resolution between the O.C.R. and the 4-Rivers Special Education Cooperative as it relates to law enforcement referrals and board policy.
- Dr. Burns discussed other related items discussed in various professional development activities and future activities that were of interest and importance.

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 8:46a.m.

The Next meeting of the Committee of the Whole will be held on Wednesday, October 16, 2024, at **8:00 a.m.** in the SEDOM Board Room.