

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE GOVERNING BOARD OF NSSEO

The February 10, 2015, meeting of the NSSEO Governing Board was called to order by President Frank Fiarito at 7:00 p.m. at NSSEO Administration, 799 West Kensington Road, Mt. Prospect, IL. Present were Governing Board Members Kathy Edmonds, Board alternate from District 21, Carol Botwinski, Eileen Kowalczyk, Board alternate from District 57, Anna Klimkowicz and Jim Perkins. Debbi McAtee, Chuck Williams, Dennis Composto and Janice Krinsky were absent.

In attendance from the NSSEO staff were Bryan Bolger, Cathi Ivack, Hassan von Schlegell, Jill Anderson, Kathleen McCord, Kim Dungan, Mary Ann McGinn, Melissa Swanson, Nancy Milne, Pam Radford, Sheryl Goldman, Sue Mahoney, Judy Hackett, Julie Jilek, and Cathy Kostecki. Others in attendance were administrative representatives Marsha Schultz, District 21; Donald Angelaccio, District 23; Cassie Black, District 57; Jan Morgan, District 214; NSSEO staff members; Ronnie Cornell, Jack O'Neal, Jessica Pierson and John Bialek, NSSEA President.

MINUTES OF REGULAR SESSION DATED JANUARY 13, 2015

It was moved by Anna Klimkowicz and seconded by Jim Perkins to approve the minutes of the regular session dated January 13, 2015. On roll call vote - Ayes: Kowalczyk, Perkins, Edmonds, Klimkowicz and Fiarito. Abstain: Botwinski. Nays: None.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

SPOTLIGHT ON NSSEO SHINING STARS

An important part of our interview process at NSSEO, is to learn what influences have contributed to candidates' interest in a career in special education. As we "*Continue the Story*" to provide Continuous Improvement to our students, member districts, parents, community and staff, Cathy Kostecki introduced NSSEO staff members Ronnie Cornell, Jessica Pierson and Jack O'Neal who shared with the Board their unique life experiences that influenced their decisions to pursue careers in special education.

Ronnie Cornell teaches at Kirk School. Ronnie's desire to help others and her brother Ian were the reasons she chose to become a special education teacher. Ronnie and her brother are two years apart, and have always been very close. Ronnie shared the profound impact Ian has made on her life. Ian is a student at Kirk School with very complex needs. Ronnie has been involved at Kirk School since she was nine years old. Thanks to Ian, Ronnie is proud to make a difference in the lives of other NSSEO students.

Jessica Pierson is a teacher at Hersey High School in the D/HH program. Jessica reflected on her experiences in high school and the challenges she faced as a student with a hearing loss. With help from a high school theatre teacher and a college professor, their inspiration led her to pursue a profession in education. Jessica began her career as a paraprofessional supporting a student with autism who taught her so much. This experience propelled her to pursue a teaching career with the deaf and hard of hearing.

Jack O'Neal's story is interwoven with his brother Marty, a Kirk School graduate. They shared a poem with the Board that is particularly meaningful to them and their family called the "Dignity of Risk". The poem asks the questions that relate to the life choices and challenges for adults with disabilities. Jack went into special education because of how conflicted he felt when he left home to play sports and other activities,

realizing that Marty did not have the same choices or opportunities. Those situations inspired Jack to enter into special education and assist people with disabilities allowing them to live lives of self-determination and success.

CONSENT AGENDA

President Fiarito asked if there were any items on the consent agenda that the board members wanted to remove for separate consideration. There were none. Consent agenda items consisted of the disbursement list dated February 2015, procurement card automatic payment; personnel transactions dated February 10, 2015; payroll expenditures by fund for the January 15 and January 30, 2015 payrolls, non-resident student placement requests and Northeastern, Harper College and Columbia College of Chicago Affiliation Agreements.

DISBURSEMENT LIST DATED FEBRUARY 2015

It was moved by Kathy Edmonds and seconded by Anna Klimkowicz to approve the disbursement list dated February 2015, in the amount of \$3,432,775.90. On roll call vote - Ayes: Kowalczyk, Perkins, Botwinski, Fiarito, Klimkowicz and Edmonds. Nays: None.

PROCUREMENT CARD AUTOMATIC PAYMENT

It was moved by Kathy Edmonds and seconded by Anna Klimkowicz to approve the debit transaction of \$3,022.96 to BMO Financial Group on February 10, 2015. On roll call vote – Ayes: Kowalczyk, Perkins, Botwinski, Fiarito, Klimkowicz and Edmonds. Nays: None.

PERSONNEL TRANSACTIONS DATED FEBRUARY 10, 2015

It was moved by Kathy Edmonds and seconded by Anna Klimkowicz to approve the personnel transactions dated February 10, 2015, which included the hiring and termination of staff (a copy of which is made a part of these minutes) as presented. On roll call vote – Ayes: Kowalczyk, Perkins, Botwinski, Fiarito, Klimkowicz and Edmonds. Nays: None.

PAYROLL EXPENDITURES BY FUND

It was moved by Kathy Edmonds and seconded by Anna Klimkowicz to approve the payroll expenditures by fund for the January 15 and January 30, 2015 payrolls. On roll call vote - Ayes: Kowalczyk, Perkins, Botwinski, Fiarito, Klimkowicz and Edmonds. Nays: None.

NON-RESIDENT STUDENT PLACEMENT REQUEST

It was moved by Kathy Edmonds and seconded by Anna Klimkowicz to approve the request for placement of a non-resident student at Timber Ridge School for the remainder of the 2014-15 school year with all educational costs to be paid by the students' district of residence. On roll call vote – Ayes: Kowalczyk, Perkins, Botwinski, Fiarito, Klimkowicz and Edmonds. Nays: None.

NORTHEASTERN, HARPER and COLUMBIA COLLEGE OF CHICAGO AFFILIATION AGREEMENTS

It was moved by Kathy Edmonds and seconded by Anna Klimkowicz to approve the Affiliation Agreements between NSSEO and Northeastern University, Harper College and Columbia College of Chicago for clinical experience placements. On roll call vote – Ayes: Kowalczyk, Perkins, Botwinski, Fiarito, Klimkowicz and Edmonds. Nays: None.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION

Dr. Hackett stated that NSSEO had received a request under the Freedom of Information Act from Mark Pavlis, Assistant Director-LMC, and provided the requested information.

NATIONAL/STATE NEWS

Dr. Hackett provided an update on the on-going work in progress at the National and State level.

IASA VISION 20/20 UPDATES

Dr. Hackett spoke on the current progress on IASA's Vision 20/20.

NSSEO MID-YEAR PROGRESS REPORT ON BOARD GOALS FY 2014-15

Dr. Hackett provided a mid-year progress report highlighting activities and growth measures for the objectives under each of the NSSEO's Board goals which were approved at the August 2014 Board meeting. Goal 1 - Continuous Improvement: Problem Solving, Performance Evaluation, Instructional Practices, Assessment, Transition Process, School Safety and Security, iStar/IEP Training and Technology; Goal 2 – Student Achievement: Social/Emotional, Self Determination, Literacy and Math; Goal 3 – Partnerships: Communication Matrix Community of Practice, ENGAGE.CONNECT.GROW ; and Goal 4 – Fiscal Responsibility: NSSEO Budget/Facility Plan

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

Dr. Pam Radford shared a power point presentation highlighting the January Institute Day sessions. The presentation contained video clips of educators sharing what they learned from the sessions and how they plan to incorporate in their districts.

Dr. Radford also shared highlights of the professional development opportunities that occurred from January 15th through January 29th for NSSEO member districts and programs. Topics focused on facilitating changes in educator practices that will result in improved learning. On-site training and coaching was tailored to specific district needs.

An updated overview of course offerings scheduled for 2014-2015 was also presented.

NSSEO BUSINESS DEPARTMENT UPDATE

NSSEO FOUNDATION UPDATE

Julie Jilek stated that the NSSEO Foundation is having a raffle in conjunction with the Annual Spring Annual Spring Showcase of Arts and Crafts at Kirk School on Saturday, March 7th and Sunday, March 8th. Also heard that Bob Hess, Director of the NSSEO Foundation will be participating in a 13K cross country fundraising experience benefiting the NSSEO Foundation.

FINANCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE UPDATE

Julie Jilek presented highlights of the January 28, 2015 meeting of the Finance Advisory Committee, at which enrollment projections, staffing projections and reserves were reviewed as well as other factors with potential impact on the budget. The next Finance Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for March 4th.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Newsletters from the Speech-Language/Assistive Technology Program, and Sunrise Lake Outdoor Education Center were presented.

Other informational items included: position vacancies/current FTE enrollment; the activity fund report dated 12/1/14 - 12/31/14; NSSEO Health Insurance, TRS and IMRF wire transfers; and second quarter financial report.

NEW BUSINESS

There were no items to discuss.

CLOSED SESSION

No closed session.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Kathy Edmonds and seconded by Anna Klimkowicz to adjourn the February 10, 2015, regular meeting of the NSSEO Governing Board at 8:10 p.m. On roll call vote – Ayes: Kowalczyk, Edmonds, Botwinski, Fiarito, Perkins and Klimkowicz. Nays: None.

Carol Botwinski, Secretary

Frank Fiarito, President

/lm

Attachment

brdmtg mar 15
minutes 2.10.15