

The regular meeting of the Putnam County Educational Service Center Governing Board was held on March 14, 2022, at 9:00 AM in the Putnam County Educational Service Center Office. The meeting opened with a moment of silence for the recent loss of ESC educators.

Approved the board agenda and any addendum(s) to agenda as presented, and to approve the minutes of the last meeting.

Approved to pay bills and the financial report as presented.

Administrative Report – Dr. Osborn

1. Recently, we suffered the loss of four of our ESC friends and family. Hancock County ESC Superintendent Larry Busdeker died February 23rd. Long-time friend and supporter of the ESC, and Ottawa Municipal Director, John “Jack” Williams also unexpectedly died March 2nd. On March 7th, our dear friend and colleague, Pat Smith, and her husband, Warren, lost their lives in an auto-truck accident. We want to take a moment to remember them and their many years of service and countless contributions to the residents in our area. We offer our thoughts and prayers to their families and friends.
2. The Putnam County Arts Festival was held on March 6th. The event was held at Miller City Local School; once again, the event was held in person. The students in the Band and the Choir provided a stellar performance. The art Show displayed hundreds of art projects with top art projects being awarded the Best of Show Ribbons. Congratulations to all the students who participated in the choir, band, and art show. Many thanks to their teachers for helping the students develop their talents. A special thanks to Curriculum Coordinators, Melissa Basinger and Gary Herman along with their administrative assistant, Katelyn Gerding, for their extra work to help plan and coordinate this outstanding event.
3. On March 3rd, Karen Maag, Andria Ryley, and Dr. Osborn was given a tour of the new MonArk ABA Center in Ottawa by co-founder Kristen Closson. We appreciated her kindness in sharing the value of their program with us.
4. On February 24th, Marcie and Jan Osborn participated in an OESCA webinar concerning the new preschool ratios and delivery model in effect this year. Public school preschool providers across the state are expressing great concern about components of the new operating standards and rules.
5. Since our last board meeting, our ESC facility’s sprinkler system passed inspection, our fire inspection of the ESC and Annex is also approved. The alarm system at the Annex was also tested and approved. Maintenance updates were successfully made at the Annex facility.
6. Four extended learning grants were submitted through the Putnam Educational Foundation. An additional grant was submitted by the Putnam County CIC with support from our ESC staff.
7. We appreciate an invitation by Leipsic Vocational Agriculture teacher, Don Barnhart to attend on March 22nd his Annual FFA Ag Day. Ag students from four counties are invited to Mr. Barnhart’s Vo-Ag event featuring over forty different presenters. Thank you Mr. Barnhart.
8. We have our Tentative Summer Migrant School schedule ready, along with most of our staffing positions filled. The Students will start June 20th at our program housed at Miller City School. On March 11th, Dr. Osborn via Zoom participated in the Statewide Summer Food Service Annual meeting.
9. On March 14th, Gary Herman and Jan Osborn are traveling with Putnam County CIC Director, Amy Sealts, to tour the Fostoria Learning Center program.
10. We wish the O-G Titan Boys Basketball Team continued success at the Boys State Tournament this week!
11. The quarterly speech therapist meeting hosted by Karen Maag was held on March 11th. Many important topics were covered, including IEP software, caseloads, workloads, and staffing. Also, current Medicaid funding was discussed.
12. The County High School Scholastic League Championship was held at the ESC on March 9th. Congratulations to the Miller City team for winning the event.
13. The seventh and eighth grade Quiz Bowl was held at the ESC on March 8th. The fifth and sixth grade Quiz Bowl was on March 10th.
14. On March 29th, a Special Event for families highlighting summer activities and services of children with Disabilities will be held at the ESC. Over fifteen providers will be providing information for families at the event.
15. Update on positive discussion items with local superintendents regarding ESC staff and current services.

Approved the employment of the following on an as needed basis, and approve the following personnel actions:

Summer Speech Therapy – Megan Westenbarger, Speech Language Pathologist, ESC.

Resignation - Accept the resignation of Michelle Moore, PreK Early Intervention Teacher at Leipsic Early Discovery Preschool effective at the end of her 2021-2022 contract.

ESC Annex Janitorial: Tami Arnone, substitute janitorial services, as needed, Wixey.

Approved the adoption of the 2022-2023 calendar for Putnam County ESC

Approved a resolution in honor of the All County Arts Festival.

Approved the renewal of membership in NWOET for the 2022-2023 school year.

Approved the updated policies as recommended by our NEOLA Consultant.

Reservations were taken for OSBA Spring Conference March 24th and Vantage All Boards Dinner, April 7th.