

**ATHENS-MEIGS EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER  
REGULAR MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 27, 2023**

The Governing Board of the Athens-Meigs Educational Service Center held a Regular Meeting on Wednesday, September 27, 2023, at the Chauncey Office, located at 21 Birge Drive, Chauncey, Ohio.

President Jeff Koehler called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

A moment of silent reflection was held and the Pledge of Allegiance recited.

Roll call:

Mr. John G Bailey	Present	Mr. Jeff Koehler	Present
Mr. Mick Davenport	Present	Mr. Jeffrey Vogt	Present
Mr. John Depoy	Absent	Mr. Steve Wheeler	Present
Mr. Gary Dicken	Present	Mr. Mony Wood	Present
Ms. Connie Dugan	Absent		

Ex-officio Members: Mr. Covert Absent Mr. Grippa Present

**23-106.** Mr. Dicken moved to approve the minutes of the Regular Governing Board Meeting held on September 13, 2023. Mr. Wood seconded the motion.

Roll call:

Mr. John G Bailey	Yes	Mr. Jeff Koehler	Yes
Mr. Mick Davenport	Yes	Mr. Jeffrey Vogt	Yes
Mr. John Depoy	Absent	Mr. Steve Wheeler	Yes
Mr. Gary Dicken	Yes	Mr. Mony Wood	Yes
Ms. Connie Dugan	Absent		

Motion carried.

Mindy Ausseresses, ECE Coordinator, and Kim Swart, Assistant ECE Coordinator, presented to the Governing Board information about Federal Hocking LSD's program Little Lancers. Little Lancers is a program for families with children from birth to age 5 to promote healthy development. Federal Hocking works with Hopewell Health and local libraries. The Program is ran by a paid coordinator and high school student volunteers. Ms. Ausseresses and Ms. Swart will be meeting with community partners to see what assistance can be offered to other schools wanting to start their own similar program.

**Goal 1 - The AMESC Governing Board will maintain well-informed members by holding monthly question and answer sessions on a variety of AMESC-related topics, including:**

**September: Insurance presented by Teresa McGinnis, Treasurer**

Ms. McGinnis provided the Governing Board Members with information regarding the ESC's commercial insurance policy along with the Binder. Information regarding the employee insurance coverage, premiums, and the number of active policies per plan were also distributed.

**Public Participation**

None

**Head Start Reports and Recommendations**

**23-107.** Mr. Wheeler moved to approve the following Head Start Reports and Recommendations as presented by Heather Wolfe, Superintendent:

- A. Approve Monthly Financial Reports.

Mr. Dicken seconded the motion.

Roll call:

Mr. John G Bailey	Yes	Mr. Jeff Koehler	Yes
Mr. Mick Davenport	Yes	Mr. Jeffrey Vogt	Yes
Mr. John Depoy	Absent	Mr. Steve Wheeler	Yes
Mr. Gary Dicken	Yes	Mr. Mony Wood	Yes
Ms. Connie Dugan	Absent		

Motion carried.

**State Support Team Region 16 Director's Reports and Recommendations**

No items for Board action at this time.

**Executive Session**

None.

**Treasurer’s Reports and Recommendations**

**23-108.** Mr. Wood moved to approve the following Treasurer’s Reports and Recommendations as presented by Teresa McGinnis, Treasurer:

- A. Accept the donation of \$200 from the Holzer Giving Committee for Preschool supplies.

Mr. Bailey seconded the motion.

Roll call:

Mr. John G Bailey	Yes	Mr. Jeff Koehler	Yes
Mr. Mick Davenport	Yes	Mr. Jeffrey Vogt	Yes
Mr. John Depoy	Absent	Mr. Steve Wheeler	Yes
Mr. Gary Dicken	Yes	Mr. Mony Wood	Yes
Ms. Connie Dugan	Absent		

Motion carried.

**Superintendent’s Reports and Recommendations**

**23-109.** Mr. Wheeler moved to approve the following Superintendent’s Reports and Recommendations as presented by Heather Wolfe, Superintendent:

AMESC

- A. Adopt the following Resolution:

WHEREAS, on June 30, 2023, the 135th Ohio General Assembly passed the state’s biennial Operating Budget for FY 24-25 (“Amended Substitute House Bill 33” or “H.B. 33”), and Governor DeWine signed the legislation into law on July 3, 2023; and

WHEREAS, Amended Substitute House Bill 33 makes significant structural changes to the Ohio Department of Education, including renaming the Department of Education as the Department of Education and Workforce (“DEW”), creating the position of a director of education and workforce who will be appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate, establishing within the DEW the Division of Career-Technical Education and the Division of Primary and Secondary Education, each of which will be led by a deputy director appointed by the director of education with the advice and consent of the Senate, creating the “Department of Children and Youth,” creating the position of a director of children and youth, and transferring most of the powers and duties of the State Board of Education and the Superintendent of

Public Instruction to the DEW, the Director of Education and Workforce, the Department of Children and Youth, and/or the Director of Children and Youth; and

WHEREAS, most of the State Board of Education and/or Superintendent of Public Instruction's powers prior to the effective date of H.B.33 will now fall under the auspices and/or jurisdiction of the DEW, the Director of Education and Workforce, the Department of Children and Youth, and/or the Director of Children and Youth, the State Board of Education retains the following duties: (1) adopt requirements for educator licensure; (2) process and issue educator licenses; (3) investigate and resolve educator misconduct complaints; (4) evaluate background checks, evaluate eligibility for licensure and participate in the retained applicant fingerprint database program; (5) determine school district territory transfer disputes; and (6) administer the teacher and school counselor evaluation systems; and

WHEREAS, during the period of transition and until such time as respective roles are clearly delineated, the Board of Education desires to recognize and give full effect to the structural changes made by H.B, 33 and align its practices accordingly;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education that any and all references to the "Department of Education," "Ohio Department of Education," "Department," or "ODE" contained in the Board's existing policies and corresponding administrative guidelines and forms, shall, after the effective date of HB 33 (i.e., on or about October 2, 2023), mean the "Department of Education and Workforce" ("DEW") or the "Department of Children and Youth" for all purposes set forth and described in HB 33.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that to the extent that existing Board policies and corresponding administrative guidelines and forms reference the "State Superintendent of Public Instruction" and/or the "State Board of Education," such references, after the effective date of HB 33, shall be mean the "Department of Education and Workforce" ("DEW"), the "Director of Education and Workforce," the "Department of Children and Youth" and/or the "Director of Children and Youth" as applicable and appropriate and as set forth and described in HB 33.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, until such time as the Board's existing policies and corresponding administrative guidelines and forms are updated to reflect the changes set forth above, the Superintendent shall act and direct other school staff to act and carry out their responsibilities in a manner consistent with HB 33 and the above-identified provisional changes to Board policies and corresponding administrative guidelines and forms.

Mr. Dicken seconded the motion.

Roll call:

Mr. John G Bailey	Yes	Mr. Jeff Koehler	Yes
Mr. Mick Davenport	Yes	Mr. Jeffrey Vogt	Yes
Mr. John Depoy	Absent	Mr. Steve Wheeler	Yes
Mr. Gary Dicken	Yes	Mr. Mony Wood	Yes
Ms. Connie Dugan	Absent		

Motion carried.

**23-110.** Mr. Bailey moved to approve the following Superintendent's Reports and Recommendations as presented by Heather Wolfe, Superintendent:

AMESC

- B. Approve the extension of the Subgrant Agreement between the Athens County Department of Job and Family Services and the Athens-Meigs ESC with effective dates of October 1, 2022 through September 30, 2024. Funds will provide resources for the continuation of the career coaching programs (originally approved 11/16/22, #22-145 for effective dates of 10/15/22-9/30/23).

AMESC / Trimble

- C. Amend the resignation of Nevaeh Gonzalez to reflect the position as being a 1:1 Paraprofessional at Beacon School serving a Trimble Local student (originally approved as a 'Paraprofessional at Beacon School' 9/13/23, #23-104).

Athens City

- D. Accept the resignation of Timby Ashcraft, 1:1 Paraprofessional at Beacon School serving an Athens City student, with her last day of employment being September 26, 2023.

Meigs

- E. Approve rescinding the Contract for the 23/24 school year, plus 15 days in the summer, to Jaunita Webb, Attendant.
- F. Approve a Service Contract to Jaunita Webb to provide round trip transportation of her child, a Meigs Local student, to the New Story School in Albany, effective for the 2023-2024 school year, plus 15 days in the summer, at the rate of \$18,000.00 plus mileage. Terms and conditions determined by Meigs Local.

AMESC

- G. Approve the Business Advisory Council Plan for Academic Year 2023-2024.
- H. Approve a Professional Development Service Proposal with Montgomery County ESC to provide Introduction to Restorative Practices and Circles on October 24, 2023, at a total cost of \$1,400.00, with funding provided by the Extended Learning and Learning Recovery grant.
- I. Approve an Agreement between the Meigs County Board of Developmental Disabilities and the Athens-Meigs ESC to fund a stipend up to \$2.00 per hour to supplement the Paraprofessional's and Attendant's hourly rate provided the employee's hourly rate does not exceed \$14.00. Agreement is effective for the time period of August 1, 2023 through July 31, 2024 and is available to paraprofessionals and attendants that assist in instruction in the classrooms at Carleton School.
- J. Approve an unpaid leave of absence to Morgan Jaeck, ECE Paraprofessional, for the time period of October 26, 2023 through January 4, 2024.

Athens City

- K. Approve a One Year Contract (2023 through 2024) to Levi Brown, as a 1:1 Paraprofessional serving an Athens City student at Beacon School, effective October 2, 2023, nine months (187 days prorated) at the rate of \$13.50 per hour, plus a \$2.75 per hour stipend as per the Agreement with ACBDD, no benefits, being contingent upon proper certification, continued funding and need.

Eastern

- L. Amend the hourly rate of pay for the following 1:1 Paraprofessionals due to approval of the MCBDD (Carleton School) stipend, being retroactive to the beginning of their 2023-2024 Contracts, with all other terms and conditions remaining the same. Funds for stipend and all associated expenses provided by MCBDD:

Employee	Original Hourly Rate	New Hourly Rate
1. Ciera Barton	\$12.48 (8/9/23; 23-092)	\$12.48+\$1.52 stipend totaling \$14.00 per hour
2. Cathy Coates	\$12.48 (8/9/23; 23-092)	\$12.48+\$1.52 stipend totaling \$14.00 per hour

Head Start

- M. Approve a One Year Contract (2023 through 2024) to Haylie Jones, part time Center Assistant at Little Storm Early Learning Academy, twelve months (257 days prorated), effective October 9, 2023, at the rate of \$13.00 per hour, no

benefits, being contingent upon proper certification, continued funding and need.

- N. Approve a One Year Contract (2023 through 2024) to Bryanna Miller, Early Head Start Teacher Assistant at Little Storm Early Learning Academy, twelve months (257 days prorated), effective October 9, 2023, at the rate of \$14.00 per hour, no benefits, being contingent upon proper certification, continued funding and need.

Southern-Meigs

- O. Amend the hourly rate of pay for the following 1:1 Attendant due to approval of the MCBDD (Carleton School) stipend, retroactive to the beginning of her 2023-2024 Contract through her last day of employment being September 1, 2023, with all other terms and conditions remaining the same. Funds for stipend and all associated expenses provided by MCBDD:

Employee	Original Hourly Rate	New Hourly Rate
Winter Sellers	\$11.97 (8/9/23; 23-092)	\$11.97+\$2.00 stipend totaling \$13.97 per hour

Southern – Perry

- P. Accept the resignation of Erin Fulk, Paraprofessional, with her last day of employment being October 20, 2023.

Mr. Davenport seconded the motion.

Roll call:

Mr. John G Bailey	Yes	Mr. Jeff Koehler	Yes
Mr. Mick Davenport	Yes	Mr. Jeffrey Vogt	Yes
Mr. John Depoy	Absent	Mr. Steve Wheeler	Yes
Mr. Gary Dicken	Yes	Mr. Mony Wood	Yes
Ms. Connie Dugan	Absent		

Motion carried.

**Legislative Report**

Mr. Bailey inquired about the \$7,500 scholarships mentioned in the OSBA Journal. Ms. Wolfe explained that they are for individuals who will pursue a career in a Teaching field through the CCP Path or for current Teachers who are willing to obtain an Intervention Specialist Certification.

## **Tri-County Career Center Report**

None.

## **Old Business**

Mr. Bailey attended the Eastern LSD Board meeting and conveyed that the Eastern LSD Board of Education is appreciative of how well the ESC Administrative team is working with the Eastern LSD Administrative team.

## **New Business.**

Mr. Koehler suggested that the Governing Board have a picture taken of the Board at an upcoming meeting.

The next regular Athens-Meigs ESC Governing Board Meeting is scheduled to be held on Wednesday, October 11, 2023, 6:00 p.m., at the Athens-Meigs ESC, 21 Birge Drive, Chauncey, Ohio.

**23-111. Time 6:41 p.m.** Mr. Dicken moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Wheeler seconded the motion. Without objection, the meeting was adjourned.

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President

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Treasurer