



MEEKER AND WRIGHT SPECIAL EDUCATION COOPERATIVE
Board Meeting - Joint Powers Board #0938
Tuesday, September 26, 2023 - 6:30 pm
Meeting Minutes - Official

Present: Amy Johnson, Gena Jacobson, Jessica Johnson, Colleen Carlson, Kelsey Puncochar, Cindy Miller

Others Present: Melissa Hanson, Heidi Hennen, Kim Geurts, Jill Sundblad, Stephanie Harbulak-Barron

Excused: Julie Rae Pennertz

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:33 p.m.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

The board recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. Approval of Meeting Agenda

A motion to approve the meeting agenda was made by Gena Jacobson and seconded by Kelsey Puncochar. Motion carried unanimously.

IV. Consent Agenda

A motion to approve the consent agenda was made by Colleen Carlson and seconded by Kelsey Puncochar. The board unanimously approved the consent agenda which included:

- Minutes of Previous Board Meeting
- Minutes of Special Board Meeting held on September 7, 2023
- Bills for Payment and other financial reports
- Personnel Items as follows:

Resignation of the following staff:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Megean Friederichs	1.0 FTE Teacher Trek	September 20, 2023
Chase Liestman	Paraprofessional Eastern Wright	August 23, 2023
Nicole Powell	Paraprofessional Cornerstones	September 4, 2023



Employment of the following staff:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Bailey Bakkelund	1.0 FTE Temporary Paraprofessional Eastern Wright	September 13, 2023
Jack Dobbs	Short Call Teacher Substitute	August 21, 2023
Marcelle Kramer	0.6 FTE Floating Paraprofessional	August 30, 2023
Tamara Mickles	Substitute Paraprofessional All Programs	September 7, 2023
Arianna Paul	1.0 FTE Special Education Paraprofessional-Cornerstones	September 6, 2023
Anne Uecker	Substitute Paraprofessional All Programs	September 25, 2023
Megan Woods	1.0 FTE Special Education Paraprofessional-Sholund	August 29, 2023

Contract Changes/Approvals/Position Changes

Lane Change: Rebecca Buttke, Physical Therapist, Effective August 14, 2023

Lane Change: Alexis Cerrato, School Psychologist, Effective August 21, 2023

Lane Change: Brian Johnson, Social Worker, Effective August 28, 2023

Lane Change: Elizabeth Karels, Teacher of the Blind/Visually Impaired, Effective August 28, 2023

Lane Change: April McGee, Speech/Language Pathologist, Effective July 1, 2023

Lane Change: Kelly Nowacki, Physical Therapist, Effective August 28, 2023

Lane Change: Hailey Sinda, Occupational Therapist, Effective August 28, 2023



Position Change: Laura Skouge, from 1.0 FTE Temporary Paraprofessional to 1.0 FTE Special Education Paraprofessional, Village Ranch, Effective August 21, 2023

Lane Change: Caitlin Snow, Speech/Language Pathologist, Effective July 1, 2023

Lane Change: Hope Sykora, Special Education Teacher, Effective August 28, 2023

Lane Change: Trent Wheatley, Special Education Teacher, Effective August 28, 2023

V. Informational Items

- A. Stephanie Harbulak-Barron gave an overview of her position as the Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment Specialist.

Kelsey Puncochar excused herself from the meeting.

VI. Reports

A. Executive Director Report

General Updates - Information was shared about a few topics including: 1) the possibility of a federal government shutdown and how MAWSECO may be impacted, 2) data from the MDE on complaints from the past year, and 3) information sent out from an advocacy group regarding the legislation pertaining to transition services to age 22.

MAWSECO Employees & Staffing - MAWSECO staffing needs were reviewed including how these openings impact programs and districts.

B. Business Manager Report

Student Activity Account - Update was provided on the student activity account in the STEP program.

Negotiations - Planning for at-will contracts will move forward this week with information being provided to the committee and employee meetings commencing upon approval of parameters.

FY24 District Business Manager Meetings - Monthly meetings with the district business managers began on September 21st. These meetings will coincide with the



Executive Advisory Committee meetings so as to communicate things happening and decisions made as a unit.

C. Alternative Program Administrator Report

Journeys

Jill Sundblad, Assistant Director of Special Education Programs, gave updates regarding staffing and student enrollment. Staff are excited about the new curriculum and having a solid scope and sequence with materials to support students' learning. Students completed beginning of the year assessments which will assist staff with curriculum planning and placement.

Step

Staff have been planning for a "PAES Lab" for students to develop their work skills before practicing in the community. The students have opened a 'coffee shop' which will allow them to work on learning how to take and complete orders, deliver items, follow directions, and learn about money. The vending job has also started back up to have students learn about inventory, determine when and how to restock, count money, and how to complete tracking slips.

Trek

MAWSECO continues to work on filling paraprofessional positions. The school year began with six students. Staff are hopeful to be able to have some students transition back to their resident districts as they've made wonderful progress within the program.

VII. Action Items

A. Old Business

1. A motion to approve the listed policy changes was made by Jessica Johnson and seconded by Gena Jacobson. Motion carried unanimously.

Policies included: 406.p, 410, 413, 414, 504, 506, 515, 526, 529, 532, 534, 602, 706, 722

B. New Business

1. A motion to approve the resolution to approve the School Resource Officer Contract was made by Colleen Carlson and seconded by Cindy Miller.



Roll Call Vote: Gena Jacobson, Aye; Cindy Miller, Aye; Amy Johnson, Aye;
Colleen Carlson, Aye; Jessica Johnson, Aye.
Motion carried unanimously.

2. A motion to approve the ratification of the 2023-2025 Meeker Wright Special Education Cooperative Supervisor Collective Bargaining Agreement was made by Jessica Johnson and seconded by Gena Jacobson. Motion carried unanimously.
3. A motion to approve the ratification of the 2023-2024 Meeker Wright Special Education Cooperative Supervisor Step Placement MOA was made by Cindy Miller and seconded by Jessica Johnson. Motion carried unanimously.

VIII. Discussion Items

- A. The board discussed recruitment and retention of employees.
- B. The board discussed the member districts' special education leadership model and supported the completion of a review of the current needs in relation to the present organizational structure.

IX. Future Board Meetings

- A. October 30, 2023, 6:30 p.m., Regular Meeting, MAWSECO Education Center, Howard Lake (*originally scheduled for October 24, 2023*)
- B. November 28, 2023 p.m., Regular Meeting, MAWSECO Education Center, Howard Lake
- C. December 19, 2023 p.m., Regular Meeting, MAWSECO Education Center, Howard Lake

X. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

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