



**Minutes of the SWCCCASE  
Board of Directors Meeting  
April 17, 2024**

- CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL** A meeting of the Board of Directors of the Southwest Cook County Cooperative Association for Special Education was called to order at 9:03 a.m. on Wednesday, April 17, 2024.
- On roll call, the following members were found to be present:  
Ms. Droba (D117), Mr. Veihman (D118), Dr. Sala, Mr. Charleston (D146),  
Dr. Brunson, Dr. Ticknor, Dr. Sikora, and Dr. Nolting  
Absent: Ms. Fountain (D113A), Dr. Roth, and Dr. Meighan.
- RECOGNITION OF PUBLIC** Karyn Kempke, Union President
- REMOVE AGENDA ITEM 3 - FY23 AUDIT PRESENTATION AND AGENDA ITEM 11.4 - LED LIGHTING FROM AGENDA** A motion was made by Dr. Brunson and seconded by Dr. Ticknor to remove item 3, FY23 Audit Presentation, and item 11.4, LED Lighting from the April 17, 2024 agenda.
- Upon roll call, the following voted aye: Ms. Droba, Mr. Veihman, Dr. Sala, Mr. Charleston, Dr. Brunson, Dr. Ticknor, Dr. Sikora, and Dr. Nolting. Nays, none, whereupon the chairperson declared the motion carried.
- PLACEMENT OF ITEMS ON THE CONSENT AGENDA** A motion was made by Dr. Nolting and seconded by Dr. Sikora, that upon the recommendation of Dr. O'Neil, that the following items be considered under a consent agenda, unless otherwise requested by the Board: Approval of the open and closed session minutes of the April 17, 2024, Board of Directors Meeting, Invoices and Payroll, Resignation of Professional Personnel, Resignation of Educational Support Personnel, Request for Leave of Absence, Board Policies - First Reading, and Medicaid Billing Services.
- Upon roll call, the following voted aye: Ms. Droba, Mr. Veihman, Dr. Sala, Mr. Charleston, Dr. Brunson, Dr. Ticknor, Dr. Sikora, and Dr. Nolting. Nays, none, whereupon the chairperson declared the motion carried.
- CLOSED SESSION** A motion was made by Dr. Brunson and seconded by Ms. Droba to enter into a closed session at 9:06 a.m. to discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the Cooperative or legal counsel for the Cooperative, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee or against legal counsel for the Cooperative to determine its validity. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1), as amended by P.A. 93-0057, and the purchase or lease of real property for the use of the

Cooperative, including meetings held for the purpose of discussing whether a particular parcel should be acquired. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(5).

Upon roll call, the following voted aye: Ms. Droba, Mr. Veihman, Dr. Sala, Mr. Charleston, Dr. Brunson, Dr. Ticknor, Dr. Sikora, and Dr. Nolting. Nays, none, whereupon the chairperson declared the motion carried.

A motion was made by Dr. Brunson and seconded by Dr. Sikora to return from closed session at 9:23 a.m.

Upon roll call, the following voted aye: Ms. Droba, Mr. Veihman, Dr. Sala, Mr. Charleston, Dr. Brunson, Dr. Ticknor, Dr. Sikora, and Dr. Nolting. Nays, none, whereupon the chairperson declared the motion carried.

#### REPORT OF THE BUSINESS MANAGER

#### STATEMENT OF POSITION AND REVENUE

Mr. Shumway presented the statement of position, revenue and expenditures for the period ending March 31, 2024.

#### REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

#### COOPERATIVE HIGHLIGHTS

Dr. O'Neil shared several highlights from various programs which included the Career Fair at Braun on April 9, 2024. There were 14 participants from unions, local community colleges and local businesses. Students at Morton Gingerwood participated in an egg hunt and a visit from the Easter Bunny. Melissa Ferriter and her intern Julie Wojtowicz created artwork for the Illinois PCA annual art display held in Aurora, Illinois. The CD Satellite PBIS Universal Team met in March and finalized their project work to revamp their behavior management flowchart. CD Satellite had 3 students who participated in the Spring Choir Festival at Fulton.

DESTINY hosted an AAC Games Night that was attended by students and their families as well as DESTINY staff and their families. This event gave families the opportunity to practice AAC use and modeling in the context of a fun and engaging activity. The DESTINY Prom will be held during the day on April 26th for all OFHS DESTINY Students during Proud PE.

The DHH middle and high school students attended the Continually Honing Advocacy Makes Prizewinners (CHAMPS, formerly known as Advocate of

the Year - AOY) on April 11th. The students submitted their work to be chosen as the winner of a cash prize to be used for a class or camp related to Deafness, education, or advocacy. As a runner up prize, an Apple Watch will be given. We've been notified that one of our LHS students has won that prize! The event was coordinated by our retired DHH Supervisor, Brenda Schmidt. Walk 4 Hearing will be Sunday, September 29, 2024.

Sayard Bass, AT Specialist, will have an article published in the ASHA Leader on May 15th on SLPs and Assistive Technology.

Transition has many events happening which include a Family Fun Kickball Night on April 19, 2024, the Student Lock In on May 3, 2024, and the Aging Out Celebration on May 23, 2024.

**ATTORNEY FEES**

Dr. O'Neil reported that Engler, Callaway, Baasten & Sruga, LLC fees will be increased to \$265 per hour for partners and \$245 per hour for associates effective July 1, 2024.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The Board of Directors of the Southwest Cook County Cooperative Association for Special Education approved the minutes from the March 13, 2024 Board of Directors Meeting.

**APPROVAL OF INVOICES AND PAYROLL**

The Board of Directors of the Southwest Cook County Cooperative Association for Special Education approved the March/April invoices in the amount of \$886,719.37. The March payroll in the amount of \$2,327,372.93 and the estimated amount of \$2,200,000 for the April payroll.

**RESIGNATION OF PROFESSIONAL PERSONNEL**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Program</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Husar, Kaila	SLP	DESTINY	6/30/2024
Massaro, Tana	Social Worker	Braun	5/24/2024

**RESIGNATION OF EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT PERSONNEL**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Program</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Leer, Carolyn	Paraeducator	DESTINY	5/24/2024
Rhead, Leah	Interpreter	DHH	3/28/2024

**REQUEST FOR  
LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Program</u>	<u>Type of Leave</u>	<u>Effective Dates</u>
Ellington, Patrice	Paraeducator	Transition	Intermittent Leave of Absence	Through 5/31/2024
Palaggi, Sarah	Teacher	Itinerant	FMLA	4/4/2024 - 4/19/2024
Wiley, Jacqueline	Teacher	Transition	FMLA	4/9/2024 - 5/24/2024

**BOARD POLICIES -  
FIRST READING**

The Board of Directors, upon the recommendation of the Executive Director, approved the first reading of the following policies: 2:260 Uniform Grievance Procedure, 2:265 Title IX Grievance Procedure, 4:190 Targeted School Violence Prevention Program, 5:10 Equal Employment Opportunity and Minority Recruitment, 5:20 Workplace Harassment Prohibited, 5:300 Schedules and Employment Year, 7:10 Equal Educational Opportunities, 7:20 Harassment of Students Prohibited, 7:180 Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment, 5:100 Staff Development Program, 2:140 Communications To and From the Board, 4:110 Transportation, 5:35 Compliance with the Fair Labor Standards Act, 5:40 Communicable and Chronic Infectious Disease, and 6:185 Remote Educational Program.

**MEDICAID BILLING  
SERVICES**

The Board of Directors, upon the recommendation of the Business Manager, approved the FY25 Relay contract with additional options for FY26 and FY27.

**ACTION ITEMS**

**DISMISSAL OF  
PROBATIONARY  
NON-CERTIFIED  
PERSONNEL**

A motion was made by Dr. Ticknor and seconded by Dr. Brunson to terminate the employment of Konnor Caldwell and Deborah Dorsch at the end of the 2023-2024 school term.

Upon roll call, the following voted aye: Ms. Droba, Mr. Veihman, Dr. Sala, Mr. Charleston, Dr. Brunson, Dr. Ticknor, Dr. Sikora, and Dr. Nolting. Naves, none, whereupon the chairperson declared the motion carried.

**APPROVAL OF  
CONSENT AGENDA**

A motion was made by Dr. Nolting and seconded by Dr. Sikora to approve the consent agenda.

Upon roll call, the following voted aye: Ms. Droba, Mr. Veihman, Dr. Sala,

Mr. Charleston, Dr. Brunson, Dr. Ticknor, Dr. Sikora, and Dr. Nolting. Naves, none, whereupon the chairperson declared the motion carried.

**ACTION AS THE  
RESULT OF CLOSED  
SESSION**

A motion was made by Dr. Brunson and seconded by Ms. Droba to approve the FY25 salaries for school administrators and non-union employees.

Salaries are as follows: Tage Shumway \$173,762.45, Jennifer Wlodarski \$132,862.19, Kristine Jones \$126,547.20, Lisa Schouten \$122,303.65, Elizabeth Mitchell \$119,499.66, Julie Beasland \$109,460.38, Regina Schnell \$109,202.50, Jennifer Lucas \$108,843.50, Jennifer Lindsrom \$101,361.76, Amy Kalas \$99,750.00, Kelsey DeBiasio \$90,405.00, Jeremy Majka \$77,175.00, Marlene Christ \$66,730.76, Sayard Bass \$94,132.67, Matt Sheehan \$92,169.00, Chris Ireland \$90,027.36, Alisa Morgan \$84,845.76, Mary Elliott \$64,108.80, Matt Aggen \$60,637.50, Kelly Kmetty \$78,718.50, Laurie Catanzaro \$69,610.31, Gloria Powers \$60,334.26, Ausra Petry \$45,202.50, Kyle Heinze \$32,425.48, Edward Monstvillo \$29,143.79, Donald Laliky \$26,990.14, Ronald Gonser \$460/day, Rebecca Handler \$72,835.89, and Gia Jemilo \$402/day.

**BOARD REPORTS**

Dr. O'Neil and the Board congratulated Dr. Ticknor for submitting her retirement at the end of the FY25 school year. Dr. O'Neil mentioned that the Cooperative remains in need of a 2nd-5th classroom building for CD students.

**ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Dr. Brunson and seconded by Dr. Ticknor to adjourn the meeting at 10:43 a.m.

Upon roll call, the following voted aye: Ms. Droba, Mr. Veihman, Dr. Sala, Mr. Charleston, Dr. Brunson, Dr. Ticknor, Dr. Sikora, and Dr. Nolting. Naves, none, whereupon the chairperson declared the motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Dr. Mary Ticknor  
Board Secretary