

OFFICIAL MINUTES
 REGULAR MEETING
 BOARD OF EDUCATIONAL
 SERVICE UNIT NO. 13

The regular meeting of the Board of Educational Service Unit No. 13 (ESU 13) was called to order by President Mark Sinner on Tuesday, March 15, 2022, at 7:00 PM at the ESU 13 Main Office, 4215 Avenue I, Scottsbluff, NE. The meeting notice was published in the Star-Herald on Thursday, March 10, 2022.

President Sinner referenced the Nebraska Open Meetings Act as posted and noted that the Board reserves the right to rearrange the order of the agenda and to convene an executive session in accordance with § 84-1410.

Present: Diane Coon, Steve Diemoz, Tim Horn, Bill Knapper, Scott Marsh, Kim Marx, Tom Millette, Ray Richards, Mark Sinner, Dr. Laura Barrett - Administrator, and Desira Martin - Treasurer. Guests: Krystie Hohnstein, Jacey Marietta, Amy Trauernicht, Nicole Johnson, Renee Miller, and Kalyn Tisue.

Absent: Heather Crofutt, Don Egging, and Patricia Jones.

Moved by Millette, seconded by Marsh, that absent Board members Heather Crofutt, Don Egging, and Patricia Jones be excused. Aye: Coon, Diemoz, Horn, Knapper, Marx, Richards, Sinner. Nay: none. Absent: Crofutt, Egging, Jones. Motion passed.

Moved by Coon, seconded by Diemoz, that the agenda be approved as listed. Aye: Horn, Knapper, Marsh, Marx, Millette, Richards, Sinner. Nay: none. Absent: Crofutt, Egging, Jones. Motion passed.

Moved by Richards, seconded by Millette, that the consent action items be approved as listed (Minutes of February regular meeting, Treasurer's Report, Fund Balance Report, Budget Report, Claims, 2022-2023 Certified Staff: Jamie Sato - School Psychologist, Jared Mackrill - Special Education, 2022-23 Director of Special Education: Jessica Broderick). Aye: Diemoz, Horn, Knapper, Marsh, Marx, Sinner, Coon. Nay: none. Absent: Crofutt, Egging, Jones. Motion passed.

The following General Fund claims were approved for payment:

March 15, 2022	
Salaries, Benefits	\$875,199.95
Prof. & Tech. Services; Mileage	\$118,896.05
Leases, Utilities & Maintenance	\$32,489.54
Copies, Postage, Telephone & Travel	\$66,894.58
Supplies, Materials, Software & other Util.	\$94,528.45
Bldg. Improvements, Furn., Equipment, Hardware, Vehicle Acquisition	\$7,821.89
Transfer for Investments	\$200,000.00
Dues, Fees & Ind. Costs	\$101,813.98
Total	\$1,497,644.44

Calendar items were noted.

No public forum.

Reports:

Amy Trauernicht, ESU 13 Professional Developer, reported on the results of the internal and external surveys that were conducted in February. She explained that Rule 84 governs Educational Service Units, and a point of that rule is that ESUs are accredited institutions. One accreditation requirement is to collect and analyze data for continuous improvement. She also reported that our March all staff in-service focuses on this data. The survey data was over a five year period which corresponds to the five year period of accreditation.

Our external accreditation visit takes place March 21-23. There are six members of our Board that will be participating in one of the virtual interviews with the Cognia team as part of the accreditation process.

Nicole Johnson, Director of our Early Childhood Programs, along with Renee Miller, Sixpence Coordinator, and Kalyn Tisue of our Rooted In Relationships program, gave an overview of the Early Childhood department and funding sources that includes the following programs: Early Development Network, Panhandle Early Learning Connections Coordinator, Head Start/Early Head Start, Sixpence Child Care Partnerships, Rooted in Relationships, Early Childhood Multi-tiered Systems of Support - Region 5, Early Learning Connections, and Panhandle Partnership - Systems of Care Birth to Eight facilitation.

Head Start Director's Report and Policy Council Report for February - no discussion of reports. Krystie Hohnstein, Director of Head Start added that the Continuation Grant for 2022-23 has been approved and the COVID Year 1 Funds carryover request has been approved.

Administrator's Report Highlights:

- Stemming Through Rural America Grant, which focuses on career connected learning to increase career awareness, engaged learning, graduation rates, and developing greater college and career readiness, has been submitted on behalf of ESU 13 and nine of our member school districts. If the Grant is awarded, we would be able to hire a staff member to coordinate the project.
- ESU 13's Personnel Committee will convene prior to April's Board meeting to discuss our 403 (b) Plan.
- No bids were received for the completion of the HVAC system on the top floor of the original building. We are continuing to work with Baker & Associates for an alternate plan.

Board Member Comments: There was a procedural question asked at the February meeting regarding approval of VALTS Student Handbooks and Calendars. After legal inquiry, the VALTS Board approval is sufficient.

Old Business: None.

New Business:

Moved by Millette, seconded by Richards, that the Board approve the resignation of Board member Heather Crofutt. Aye: Horn, Knapper, Marsh, Marx, Sinner, Coon, Diemoz. Nay: none. Absent: Egging, Jones. Motion passed.

Moved by Marsh, seconded by Diemoz that the Board approve the redistricting changes to ESU 13's Election District #1, and Election District #2. Aye: Horn, Knapper, Marx, Millette, Richards, Sinner, Coon. Nay: none. Absent: Egging, Jones. Motion passed.

Moved by Richards, seconded by Marx, that the Board approve the administrator's recommendation to pursue the purchase of a vehicle for the Head Start Program not to exceed \$40,000. Aye: Knapper, Marsh, Millette, Sinner, Coon, Diemoz, Horn. Nay: none. Absent: Egging, Jones. Motion passed.

Moved by Coon, seconded by Knapper, that the Board approve the revised Head Start Fiscal Written Plans. Aye: Marsh, Marx, Millette, Richards, Sinner, Diemoz, Horn. Nay: none. Absent: Egging, Jones. Motion passed.

Moved by Marx, seconded by Marsh, that the above listed minutes be approved as read. Aye: Millette, Richards, Sinner, Coon, Diemoz, Horn, Knapper. Nay: none. Absent: Egging, Jones. Motion passed.

President Sinner declared the regular meeting adjourned. Next regular meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 19, 2022 at ESU 13 Main Office, 4215 Avenue I, Scottsbluff, NE.