

**SANGAMON AREA SPECIAL EDUCATION DISTRICT
BOARD MEETING**

2500 Taylor Avenue
Springfield, IL 62703

November 14, 2017
9:00 a.m.

I. Roll Call

Mr. Brue called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Roll call was taken:

Members Present: Mr. Page, Dr. Laird, Mr. Root, Dr. Goble, Mr. Heavner, Mr. Alexander, Mr. Brue, Dr. Thurman, Ms. Larson, Mr. Reedy

Members Absent: Mr. Ehrman, Mr. Runge, Mr. DePatis

Also Present: Mr. Strawn, Ms. Assalley, Ms. Horn, Ms. Williams, Ms. Schafer

II. Closed Session

The meeting adjourned to Closed Session at 9:01 a.m. after passage of a motion by Mr. Page, seconded by Dr. Thurman. The motion passed with a 10:0 roll call approval.

At 9:30 a.m. a motion was made by Mr. Reedy to end the closed session, seconded by Dr. Thurman. The motion passed 10:0.

III. Director's Report

A. Approve Outcome of Employee Disciplinary Hearing

Mr. Strawn notified the Board that SASSED is recommending discipline for one of its certified staff members per steps outlined in the SASSED-EA Contract. The staff member in question has been made aware of the disciplinary measure that is being recommended. Ms. Larson made the motion to follow through with the outlined disciplinary measure, seconded by Dr. Thurman. The motion passed on a 10:0 roll call vote.

B. Discuss/Approve Liability Workers' Compensation Insurance Renewal

Mr. Strawn informed the Board that SASSED's Workers' Compensation Liability Insurance renewal date is December 1, 2017. SASSED has received the renewal costs for the coming year which include a \$20,000 increase due to amount of last year's claims. Mr. Strawn stated that Troxell Insurance has been requesting competitive bids for this insurance renewal but to date has not received any. Mr. Strawn requested that the Board approve the proposed policy with the contingency of changing this approval if new competitive bids are received. Mr. Page made the motion to approve the proposed policy with this contingency measure, seconded by Mr. Root. The motion carried on a 10:0 roll call vote.

C. Discuss/Approve Bushue HR Agreement

Mr. Strawn discussed with the Board the need to have a Human Resources entity in place to handle the presentation of online trainings as mandated from the Regional Office of Education, as well as some of the Personnel and Human Resources needs for SASED. Mr. Strawn has conferred with several districts and as a result, is making the recommendation to engage the firm of Bushue Human Resources. Mr. Heavner made the recommendation to approve retaining Bushue Human Resources for SASED's HR needs, seconded by Mr. Page. The motion carried 10:0.

D. Discuss Mentoring Program options

Ms. Assalley informed the Board that after discussion at last month's Board meeting, SASED has been looking at options regarding developing a mentoring program for new teachers. SASED has developed a preliminary plan that includes pairing first-year teachers to any district, regardless of years of experience, with established teachers in their new district or retired teachers for minimum of one-year. Mentors would be selected based on having received a performance evaluation rating of "Excellent". The Mentor and new teacher would be paired at the New Teacher Orientation that SASED provides at the beginning of every school year. The pair would then move forward with a plan to meet on a monthly basis, with documentation of each meeting being shared between them. New teachers would also meet as an entire group at least once per semester to receive additional support. The Mentors in these programs would either be paid an hourly rate or a yearly stipend. SASED is looking to provide this program not just with SASED hired teachers but all new Special Education teachers hired in member districts.

E. IDEA Grant Periodic Reporting process

Ms. Williams informed the Board, that with the new compliance measures regarding the awarding and monitoring of federal funds, SASED would be sending out a completed IDEA Grant Application Periodic Report to districts quarterly along with their quarterly SASED bill. The report will certify that SASED has reviewed the districts' performance for purposes of determining eligibility of receiving their IDEA Grant award. This report should be kept on file in the district for auditing purposes.

F. SASED Central Office/School Emergency Plan

Mr. Strawn informed the Board that in light of recent events and school shootings, SASED is reviewing its emergency plan. Mr. Strawn stated that SASED would like to contract with an outside entity to review its current plan and make any recommendations to ensure that the plan would be the safest and most appropriate measure to take in the event of an emergency.

SASED has also recognizes the need to have an emergency response system in place to notify parents of an event. The Board offered suggestions such as contracting with the City of Springfield to come out to provide an emergency

response training and also various measures that can be taken to notify parents in the event of an emergency. SASSED will review these recommendations.

G. SASSED Central School Report

Ms. Horn informed the Board that SASSED has received two new students since the last Board meeting, including a 45-day placement. Ms. Horn also reported that October's positive behavioral reinforcement was a mobile video gaming system, with 72 of the 80 enrolled students eligible to participate. Positive feedback was received, and staff is currently looking at more positive reinforcement awards for future months.

IV. Consent Agenda

The Consent Agenda contains approval of minutes from the regular session of October 10, 2017 and approval and sealing of executive session minutes from that date. The Agenda also contains Financial Reports, Bills Payable and a Personnel Report, indicating the hiring of new staff persons Cherrita Benton and Brian Rogers to non-certified staff positions. Mr. Heavner made the motion to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by Mr. Root. The motion passed on a 10:0 roll call vote.

V. Other Business

Mr. Strawn informed the Board that SASSED is prepared to send out an RFP for lighting replacement in both SASSED Central School and Business offices. SASSED has been working with an architect to develop the RFP as this will require a work permit. SASSED plans to open the bids December 7, 2017.


VI. Recognition of Visitors

Stacey Schafer

VII. Adjournment

Dr. Thurman made the motion to adjourn the Board meeting at 10:00 a.m., seconded by Dr. Laird. The motion was approved 10:0.


Mr. Matt Brue, Chairman


Mr. Darren Root, Secretary
Mr. Tim Page, Vice Chairman