

**SANGAMON AREA SPECIAL EDUCATION DISTRICT
BOARD MEETING**

2500 Taylor Avenue
Springfield, IL 62703

December 12, 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, Mr. Root, Dr. Goble, Mr. Heavner, Mr. Alexander,
Mr. Runge, Mr. Brue, Dr. Thurman, Ms. Larson, Mr. DePatis,
Mr. Reedy

Members Absent: Dr. Laird, Mr. Ehrman

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

II. Closed Session

The meeting adjourned to Closed Session at 9:01 a.m. after passage of a motion by Dr. Thurman, seconded by Mr. DePatis. The motion passed with a 11:0 roll call approval.

At 9:32 a.m. a motion was made by Mr. Heavner to end the closed session, seconded by Mr. Page. The motion passed 11:0.

III. Director's Report

A. Approve Outcome of Employee Disciplinary Hearing

Mr. Strawn notified the Board that he is recommending discipline for one of its certified staff members per steps outlined in the SASSED-EA Contract and at the recommendation of the SASSED attorney. The staff member in question has been made aware of a scheduled disciplinary hearing to discuss the matter, but has declined to attend. Mr. DePatis made the motion to follow through with the outlined disciplinary measure, seconded by Mr. Reedy. The motion passed on a 11:0 roll call vote.

B. Discuss Director Evaluation and Contract

Mr. Brue notified the Board that the SASSED Director's contract is ending in June, 2019, and measures need to be taken to evaluate the Director as well as review the contract to determine if any changes are needed. Mr. Brue asked for volunteers to assist in this process. Ms. Larson, Mr. Root and Mr. Heavner volunteered to be on the committee. Mr. Brue stated he would send out an email to the members shortly regarding the matter.

C. Approve the 1st Reading of Revised FMLA Policy

Mr. Strawn notified the Board that after working with Bushue Human Resources and sending the policy out to the Policy Committee for comment, SASSED has made recommended changes to the language of SASSED's FMLA policy as well as the adopting the Department of Labor forms in place of the current SASSED forms. Ms. Larson made the motion to approve the first reading of the updated SASSED FMLA policy, seconded by Mr. Root. The motion carried on a 11:0 roll call vote.

D. Discuss/Approve Lighting Bids

Mr. Strawn informed the Board that SASSED opened the bids for the proposed lighting project. SASSED received six bids all similar in price. The recommendation from the architect who reviewed the bids, is Synergy Electric. Mr. DePatis made the motion to approve the recommendation to accept the bid from Synergy Electric, seconded by Mr. Reedy. The motion carried on a 11:0 roll call vote.

E. Approve Certified Staff Retirement Request

Mr. Strawn notified the Board that a certified staff member has submitted an irrevocable retirement letter effective at the end of the 2021-22 school year and is requesting the five percent pipeline increase according to the certified staff contract as well as the award of one-hundred-five sick days. Mr. Page made the motion to approve the retirement request, seconded by Dr. Thurman. The motion carried on a 11:0 roll call vote.

F. Discuss Learning Ally Renewal

Mr. Strawn notified the Board that ISBE will no longer be awarding districts the grant that covered the Learning Ally Program that SASSED currently utilizes. This program provides online textbooks and audio versions of textbooks for students. SASSED currently has ninety-seven students who participate in this program. SASSED is making the recommendation to renew the contract for the use of this program through the IDEA Grant. Mr. Root made the motion to renew the Learning Ally program, seconded by Mr. Heavner. The motion carried on a 11:0 roll call vote.

G. Discuss and/or Approve BCBA program option

Mr. Strawn informed the Board that there is some interest among current certified SASSED staff to obtain their Board Certified Behavioral Analyst certification. SASSED currently has no staff who have this certification. These services are currently contracted through a former staff member who holds this certification. SASSED looked at two options in which staff could obtain this certification and has recommended the use of an online certification program at Florida Tech. Due to the increased interest by staff obtaining this certification, and SASSED's current needs being only two individuals holding this license, Mr. Strawn is asking for administrative discretion in determining which staff will be allowed to obtain their certification through SASSED. Mr. Root made the motion to allow Mr. Strawn administrative discretion in determining who will be selected to obtain their BCBA certification through SASSED, seconded by Ms. Larson. The motion carried on a 11:0 roll call vote.

H. SASED Central School Report

Ms. Horn notified the Board that current enrollment as of December 15th will be at seventy-six students. The decrease in enrollment is due to students dropping, moving out and in one case graduating from the program. Ms. Horn noted that SASED Central will be conducting their annual Santa store, for students to purchase items as presents for their families. SASED Central will also be conducting a new round of interest groups with students this week. A new CPI training has been scheduled in January for new staff members. Ms. Horn gauged the Board for interest in providing a training for bus personnel before the start of the next school year. It has come to her attention that a lot of the bus staff have not received training on how to deal with bus behaviors as well as the required paperwork. Options include a full day training where the bus staff can become certified, or a half day training after completion of online classwork. Mr. Strawn requested that Ms. Horn readdress this issue next Spring.

IV. Consent Agenda

The Consent Agenda contains approval of minutes from the regular session of November 14, 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 employee Kelcie Harding to a certified staff position as well as the hiring of Jacob Cruse, Anneliese Darow and Brian Rogers to non-certified staff positions. The report also contains the resignations of Cherrita Benton and Chris Brooks from non-certified staff positions. Mr. Root made the motion to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by Mr. Reedy. The motion passed on a 11:0 roll call vote.

V. Other Business

Mr. Brue asked the Board if anyone was aware of, or taking measures to have a mental health screening done at Pre-K student screenings. This is not at this time mandatory but is projected to become a part of the process in order to be awarded district Pre-K grants.

VI. Recognition of Visitors


Alisha Points

VII. Adjournment

Mr. Heavner made the motion to adjourn the Board meeting at 10:02 a.m., seconded by Mr. DePatis. The motion was approved 11:0.



Mr. Matt Brue, Chairman



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