

**Prairie Lakes Area Education Agency  
Regular Monthly Board Meeting  
Monday, December 14, 2015 - 4:00 p.m.  
Storm Lake, Iowa**

President Rick Morain called the regular meeting of the Prairie Lakes Area Education Agency Board of Directors to order at 4:00 p.m. The following board members were present: Pat Brown, Sue Brown, Dawn Crane, Todd Lundgren, and Jeremy Riesenber. Gary Astor arrived at 4:18 p.m.

On a motion by Sue Brown, seconded by Todd Lundgren, board approval was given to the agenda as presented by Chief Administrator Jeff Herzberg.

On a motion by Jeremy Riesenber, seconded by Pat Brown, board approval was given to the minutes of the November 18, 2015 Regular Board Meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Jaymie Randel, PLAEA TLC/Coaching Coordinator, shared information about the support PLAEA provided districts with planning and writing of their Teacher Leadership and Compensation applications. The goal of this program is, "Through the development and support of opportunities for teachers in schools and school districts statewide to learn from each other, we will positively impact student achievement, staff morale, and school culture by ensuring quality instruction in every classroom." 75% of PLAEA districts received support with their applications: 19 districts received significant support; 11 districts received some support; 8 districts did not seek support; and 2 districts wrote a consortium application with a district in a different AEA. 80% of Randel's time has been spent assisting the current 8 TLC districts with implementing their TLC plans and 20% of her time was spent assisting districts with TLC applications. On January 13<sup>th</sup> PLAEA will partner with the Department Education to host the third TLC Cohort in Pocahontas.

On a motion by Pat Brown, seconded by Jeremy Riesenber, board approval was given to the bills as presented by Michelle Dowd. Motion carried unanimously. The cash flow report was reviewed by Michelle Dowd.

**Personnel Matters:**

- The Board was informed of the following resignation: Katie Mueller, Communication Paraprofessional, Algona Office, resignation effective January 4, 2016. Position is 1.0 FTE; annual cost \$35,836.56; this position will not be replaced.
- The Board was informed of the following hiring: Victoria Bern, Educational Paraprofessional, Lakes Partnership School, 100 days, Grade B, Step 4, \$14.04/hr., start date December 14, 2015.

On a motion by Gary Astor, seconded by Pat Brown, the board approved the 2014-2015 PLAEA Annual Audit report as presented by Murray Stanley of Schnurr & Company LLC. Motion carried unanimously.

On a motion by Gary Astor, seconded by Todd Lundgren, the board approved the Early Retirement Program as presented. This program will be in place for one year only and applications must be

received no later than February 1, 2016 to be considered for participation in the program. Motion carried unanimously.

Nanette Smith, Lead Teacher at the Lakes Partnership School, shared an overview of the LPS program. The school opened September 15, 2014 and is built on a partnership between local school districts, parents, Seasons Center and PLAEA staff. The total number of students served thus far is 30 students from 10 different school districts. LPS provides students with daily behavior skill instruction, daily instruction for classroom routines, daily group specially designed instruction for replacement behaviors and social skills, and additional individual/small group behavioral instruction. The school partners with Seasons Center. Students can meet with Seasons outpatient therapist weekly. LPS staff can also collaborate monthly with Seasons Integrated Health Home Care Coordinator. The Board would like to extend a special thank you to the parents and students who shared their personal stories during our board meeting.

The request by the KIDS Program to transfer the program to Upper Des Moines Opportunity effective July 1, 2016, was deferred to the January 18<sup>th</sup> board meeting. The Board directed Jessie Hansen, KIDS Coordinator, to gather additional information from UDMO. Hansen will provide this information to the Board in January and the Board will make a final decision at that time.

#### Chief Administrator's Report:

- Recognition of Excellence
  - Chairpersons of all of our Departments who provided such thoughtful, reflective and passionate responses to their budget homework assignment. A lot of data and research was used as well in the connection to our goals and the conversation about staffing levels. A huge THANK YOU to all the leaders and the departments they work with.
- AEA Legislative Advocacy
  - Chief Administrator Herzberg met with Senator Kraayenbrink, Matt Eide, AEA statewide system lobbyists, and Superintendents Doug Van Zyl, Fort Dodge CSD, Joe Kramer, Pocahontas Area CSD and Jeff Kruse, South Central Calhoun & Laurens-Marathon CSD, to continue to advocate for on-time and adequate funding, assistance with literacy and transportation issues, as well as potential changes in the funding formula to address poverty and the sunset on the local sales tax money for districts.
- Staff Presentation Schedule -
  - January 18<sup>th</sup> - Gifted & Talented and School Counseling
  - February 15<sup>th</sup> - Learning, Teaching, & Innovation Scott McLeod
  - March 21<sup>st</sup> - Early Childhood Special Education Team (Birth to 3)
  - April 18<sup>th</sup> - Early Childhood Special Education Team (3 to 5 year)
  - May 16<sup>th</sup> - Differentiated Accountability Team

#### Upcoming dates:

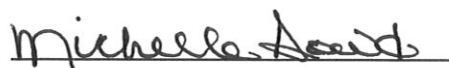
- PLAEA Board Orientation - January 4, 2016, 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., Pocahontas AEA
- Lakes Partnership School Family Night - February 11, 2016, 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., 1900 Grand Avenue, Suite E1 (on the Iowa Lakes Community College campus) in Spencer.
- AEA Governing Board Conference - April 14-15, 2016, West Des Moines

The January board meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 18, 2016 at 4:00 p.m., Prairie Lakes AEA, Pocahontas Office.

There being no further business the board adjourned at 6:20 p.m.



Board President



Board Secretary