

IV. Director's Report:

- A. Financing:** Financing went well; however, one of the pieces we have learned is that with Certificates of Participation, we will not receive the money upfront. The revenue will be placed into a trust account, and we will request reimbursement when invoiced for construction related expenses. We are nervous how this will impact cash flow.
- B. Architectural Plans:** The plans are going well now that we moved the Alternative Programs office to the South end of the building. Hopefully this will be finalized this week.
- C. Fall Inservices:** We are well on our way with getting fall inservices up and running.
- D. Sentenced to Serve:** The Sentenced to Serve program will be starting cleanup on August 21st. Kyle Redenius is an excellent cheerleader for our programs, and he is anxious to help us out in any way possible. This will really help reduce our costs. When we did the estimates we really hoped to give away much of the materials in the building, but with the long summer – everything has become very musty. Our trash removal will be high.

VII. Personnel

A. Resignations/Terminations/Retirements

1. Amanda Shumski, Paraprofessional in the Bridges program resigned for an office management position which is year-round, 8 hours per day, and at a higher rate of pay. With regret I recommend we accept this resignation.
2. Michelle Johnson, Paraprofessional in the Bridges program resigned due to personal responsibilities.

B. Hiring

1. Molly Tietje, Floating Substitute, Step 8. Stephanie recommends Molly as a floating substitute to take Lisa Irwin's position. Molly taught for us for two years in the PALS program. She moved to Texas two years ago and recently moved back to the area.

IX. New Business

A. Work Agreements

1. Lori Jacobsen, Psychologist, 2018-2019
2. Shelley Junkermeier, Student Service Coordinator, 2018-2020
3. Megan Heller, Office Coordinator, 2018-2020
4. Jen Martin, Psychometrist, 2018-2019
5. Kate Hawkins, IFSP Coordinator, 2018-2019

B. Truman request to withdraw from ECSE 3-5 Services for the 2018-19 school year

Truman has requested to withdraw from ECSE 3-5 services for the 2018-19. The initial request was received on June 27, 2018. Our joint powers agreement requires a full years notice for withdrawal; it does not define what withdrawal means. Yet MN Statute 123A has consistently defined withdrawing from a cooperative to mean withdrawing from one service or the cooperative as a whole. So, without a year's notice, the attorney has advised that we could allow this based on a vote of the Southern Plains Board of Directors.

The impact of this is that an ECSE teacher has historically been in Truman approximate .3 FTE for a total of about \$17,000. The other districts would need to adjust for this cost. The Superintendent Advisory group met and discussed this at their regular meeting on August 14, and they requested that I make it clear that they do not support this request.

C. Southern Plains Education Cooperative Employee Handbook

The changes include policy changes (Southern Plains will not discriminate based on gender identity or expression; this also requires that staff report observations of harassment or bullying related to these protected classes).

We added clarification that patterns of absenteeism and tardiness may result in disciplinary action, even if leave has not been exhausted. If the leave is a result of FMLA – this will not result in disciplinary action.

We also updated contact information for time sheets, worker's compensation, and harassment.

**D. Southern Plains Winnebago Programs Handbook
(see full Handbook online)**

The changes are updating policies and aligning with statute. Previously we had two handbooks (one for ALC and one for special education programs); this year we just included the additional ALC information into the other handbook with a notation that it was only relevant to the ALC.

E. SPEC Yearly Organization Activities Resolution to Set the Following Organizational Activities In place for 2018-2019

1. Authorize the Sentinel as Cooperative official newspaper
2. Set mileage reimbursement rate at Federal Rate
3. Publish the agenda in public view in the building housing the Director's office and publish unofficial, abridged minutes
4. Schedule for board meetings set for the 4th Monday of each month, except when the date is a holiday.
5. Teacher Sub pay at \$145 per day, Paraprofessional Class I sub pay set at \$12.00 per hour, Class II Paraprofessional rate of pay will be \$14.00 per

hour or Step I of the SPECSP Master Agreement for the 2018-2019 school year.

6. Authorize SPEC board chair, clerk, Director, or Business Manager the ability to approve bill payments.
7. Name Sarah Mittelstadt as Executive Director of Southern Plains Education Cooperative with legal authority to make applications, sign contracts, and sign on behalf of the District/Cooperative.

These are yearly updates with no changes other than in substitute teacher pay. We have typically paid \$20 per day higher than the districts around the area. Most of the member districts have gone to \$125 per day.