

# SPEED S.E.J.A. #802

## OPERATING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Regular Meeting  
SPEED Operating Committee  
SPEED Building/Zoom Teleconference  
9:00 a.m.

September 18, 2020

### CALL TO ORDER

At 9:01 a.m. Dr. Jackson called the meeting to order.

### ROLL CALL

On roll call the following members answered present: Dr. Patterson, 144; Dr. Mitchell, 153; Dr. Smith, 161 (arrived at 9:05); Ms. Dusky, 162; Dr. White, 163; Ms. Lindsay, 167 (arrived at 9:05); Dr. Leak, 168; Dr. Jackson, 169, Dr. Sutton, 172; Dr. Coglianese, 201U; Dr. Navarre, 206; Dr. Mansfield, 233.

Absent: Mr. Amadio, 170; Dr. Frusher, 194; Dr. Thomas, 227; Mr. Bean

Dr. Halliman, Superintendent was present as well as the following SPEED Staff: Ms. Brenda Murillo, Director of Business and Finance; Ms. Vanessa Duffin, Director of Human Resources; Dr. Maureen White, Director of District Services; Ms. Sue Janacek, Program Supervisor, Mr. Gregory Furgason, Director of Technology, Mr. Joseph Kekelik, Buildings and Grounds Director; Principals: Ms. April Brown, Ms. Amina Payne, Ms. Linda Wilson and Ms. Nicole Taylor.

Also present: Mr. Eric Grodsky, Attorney from Hauser, Izzo, Petrarca, Gleason & Stillman, LLC

### RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

Ms. Jane Cornelius, Union President was in attendance.

### SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

#### ➤ **BoardBook Premier**

Dr. Halliman reported that the new version of Board Book, "Premiere" is now live. A couple of points of clarity were that the initial e-mail that we sent out was based on information provided by Board Book however, what we found is that our SPEED Cooperative is very unique in that we have two fully functioning boards and the system would not allow us to give board member permissions to the Governing Board and the Operating Committee which also functions as a full board as well. The system would recognize the Operating Committee as a standard committee with fewer privileges. We subsequently sent a second e-mail with different instructions. Secondly, when you are on the Home page, you will see "View Meeting Details, Join Meeting" which can be confusing because in this virtual world we think about Zoom. This is not Zoom. You will still receive the normal email invite.

#### ➤ **Covid-19 Task Force**

Initially, we began with 50 people on this team. The first quarter (October 16) is quickly approaching and as a Leadership Team we have begun discussions surrounding a plan of

action for post first quarter. We will reconvene this time in a modified form. We will reduce the team using more of the experiential experts. Our current plan is a Remote Plus option, which means some of our students come in by appointment to receive related services. We have had students come in for assessments, to get base line testing assessments for IEP purposes and even for classroom functions. We also have had several teachers to bring in small groups of students for tutoring. These are the experts, those that have actually been seeing children. We would like to tap into how this is working. The number one concern as far as metric-wise for SPEED is that over 40% of our parents had reported that their child could not wear face masks. The reasons were not delineated out whether medical, due to the child's disability or if they just could not get their child to wear a mask. We were left trying to figure out how to maximize safety. Dr. Halliman stated that initially we thought we would have the students that could not wear face mask only be allowed to do remote learning however, after connecting with Courtney Stillman from Hauser; we learned that this would be illegal. We would be denying FAPE when we do that, in particular for students with special needs. We are trying to creatively figure out how to serve those students.

Additionally, Dr. Halliman shared that she has been collaborating with other Cooperatives across the state who service the types of students we service to gain their knowledge/strategies. We have received some interesting responses. Some children are being placed in Pods (a tent like covering). Another Cooperative shared their levels of PPE that staff will wear depending on what students could not wear. We will be looking at all options and by our next Board meeting have a proposal for you on what we are going to do for Second Quarter.

➤ **COVID in General – Relating to SPEED**

We have had only 2 positive cases in our district which were handled appropriately. We had minimal people that had to quarantine. At the beginning of the year, out of our 221 employees, we had 41 requests for some kind of leave. Once paperwork was sent out, whether medical or child care, 11 people opted out leaving us down to 30 requests. Of these 30 requests we have 21 staff members on leave (14 child care related and 7 medical). This is slightly under 10% of our population. This is being closely monitored as we also have a small pool of substitutes. Dr. Halliman also noted that in an effort to accommodate our staff, if the school district of the employee's child was only remote and they did not want to go into Family First and showed us proof, we made the accommodation to allow those individuals to work remotely.

➤ **COVID in General – Relating to SPEED**

Dr. Halliman reported that she meets regularly with the Union President, Jane Cornelius however in light of the two positive COVID cases we've had, the two of them met to try and brainstorm ways to help our staff's anxiety level during this pandemic. Some staff expressed that they felt intimidated by telling someone that they were in their space. They did not want to be retaliated against. After speaking with the leadership team, we came up with having a Social Distancing contest. Staff would do submissions of videos, song, etc. We have some very creative submissions so far. We will select a winner and will incorporate that as our non-threatening, non-intimidating way of reminding our colleagues that we must maintain six feet social distancing.

Dr. Leak questioned if the people that are working remote for medical reasons ADA? Dr. Halliman indicated that some were related to COVID and some were not. There were various medical reasons as well as COVID.

## **FINANCIAL REPORT**

Ms. Murillo reported that as of August 31, 2020 we have collected 8% of our revenues and expended 19% of our expense budget. Reminder notices for the membership dues were mailed on September 14. Ms. Murillo also reminded the Operating Committee that IDEA Final FY21 allocations have not been posted as of September 16. Once the final allocations are posted we will send out new invoices requesting membership fee differences. The membership fees are 12.5% of the final IDEA allocation. 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter IDEA reports were due September 14<sup>th</sup>. We have only one district that has not met MOE. The district is waiting for an ISBE correction and expects to meet MOE after the correction has been done.

Business managers have been sent an e-mail requesting information on who their current auditor is and any recommendations for potential auditors. We will send out requests for quotes to the new auditing firms in October, 2020. We have also begun communications with ISBE regarding bidding on Food Services.

Dr. Patterson questioned if we anticipate any type of MOE issues this year stemming from last year because of the whole COVID component? The reason for asking is that the monies that they were initially supposed to be expended in April and May for Special Ed was not, especially for some of the contract services. Should we be concerned?

Dr. Halliman responded that MOE is the money that you spend from your local in state funds, not necessarily from your IDEA grant. As it relates to the IDEA grant, a memo was released prior to the end of the spring semester stating that an extension had been granted to allow another whole year to expend that money over in carryover so there are no penalties there. We will not look at this issue (from the spring pandemic) from your local and state funds for another couple of years because MOE is not for the previous year; MOE is for two years prior. There were 4 districts at the beginning of the year that were working on MOE issues; 3 have resolved and we are still working with one district to see where we can offer assistance. We probably won't know the effect the pandemic has had on MOE until another two years. Dr. Halliman recommended that we have lots of documentation on what we spend and reasons why we didn't spend XYZ.

## **CLOSED SESSION**

At 9:21 a.m., Dr. Patterson moved, seconded by Dr. Leak that the Operating Committee goes into Closed Session to discuss the employment, compensation, and/or performance of a specific employee of SPEED and to discuss pending, probable, and/or imminent litigation, and/or matters regarding students. Any items needing approval will be voted on during open session.

On roll call vote: Dr. Patterson, 144; Dr. Mitchell, 153; Dr. Smith, 161 (arrived at 9:05); Ms. Dusky, 162; Dr. White, 163; Ms. Lindsay, 167 (arrived at 9:05); Dr. Leak, 168; Dr. Jackson, 169, Dr. Sutton, 172; Dr. Coglianese, 201U; Dr. Navarre, 206; Dr. Mansfield, 233

Nays: None

Absent: Mr. Amadio, 170; Dr. Frusher, 194; Dr. Thomas, 227; Mr. Bean

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

Dr. Leak moved, seconded by Dr. Patterson that the Operating Committee approves the Consent Agenda items A, B, C, D and E as presented.

- A. Personnel Report
- B. Approval of Minutes of August 21, 2020
- C. Approval of Closed Session Minutes of August 21, 2020
- D. Approval of Recurring and Non-Recurring Bills for July and August, 2020
- E. Approval of Imprest and Activity Funds of July 2020

On roll call vote: Dr. Patterson, 144; Dr. Mitchell, 153; Dr. Smith, 161 (arrived at 9:05); Ms. Dusky, 162; Dr. White, 163; Ms. Lindsay, 167 (arrived at 9:05); Dr. Leak, 168; Dr. Jackson, 169; Dr. Sutton, 172; Dr. Coglianese, 201U; Dr. Navarre, 206; Dr. Mansfield, 233

Nays: None

Absent: Mr. Amadio, 170; Dr. Frusher, 194; Dr. Thomas, 227; Mr. Bean

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Dr. Smith moved, seconded by Dr. White that the Operating Committee approves the New Business Agenda item A as presented.

### **A. Employment of Assistant principal**

On roll call vote: Dr. Patterson, 144; Dr. Mitchell, 153; Dr. Smith, 161 (arrived at 9:05); Ms. Dusky, 162; Dr. White, 163; Ms. Lindsay, 167 (arrived at 9:05); Dr. Leak, 168; Dr. Jackson, 169; Dr. Sutton, 172; Dr. Coglianese, 201U; Dr. Navarre, 206; Dr. Mansfield, 233

Nays: None

Absent: Mr. Amadio, 170; Dr. Frusher, 194; Dr. Thomas, 227; Mr. Bean

## **OLD BUSINESS**

None

## **INFORMATION**

- Student Enrollment Report
- Social Distancing Contest

## **AUDIENCE TO VISITORS**

None

## **ADJOURNMENT**

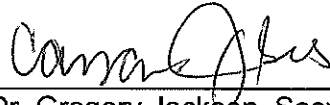
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Dr. Mitchell moved, seconded by Dr. Smith to adjourn the meeting.

On roll call vote: Dr. Patterson, 144; Dr. Mitchell, 153; Dr. Smith, 161 (arrived at 9:05); Ms. Dusky, 162; Dr. White, 163; Ms. Lindsay, 167 (arrived at 9:05); Dr. Leak, 168; Dr. Jackson, 169, Dr. Sutton, 172; Dr. Coglianesi, 201U; Dr. Navarre, 206; Dr. Mansfield, 233

Nays: None

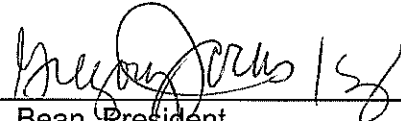
Absent: Mr. Amadio, 170; Dr. Frusher, 194; Dr. Thomas, 227; Mr. Bean

Dr. Jackson adjourned the meeting at 9:40 a.m.



Dr. Gregory Jackson, Secretary  
Cassandra Giles, Recording Secretary

Date: 9/18/2020



Mr. Bean, President  
SPEED Operating Committee

