

**Paul Bunyan Education Cooperative
Board of Delegates Minutes
Friday, June 7, 2019 10:30 am - 12 pm**

The Paul Bunyan Education Cooperative (PBEC) Board of Delegates met on Friday, June 7, 2019, 10:30 am - 12 pm in the Washington Educational Services Building (WESB), Brainerd, MN. (The April meeting was cancelled and rescheduled due to weather)

Present: Jamie Skjeveland, Chris Lindholm, Laine Larson, Dave Endicott, Mike Malmberg, Jill DeCent, Jen Johnson and Kim Huether.

Absent: Mike Erholtz, Cindi Hills, Scott Muddgett, Charles Rick, Tom Haglin, Chris Cunningham

Introductions were held.

Moved and seconded approval of the Agenda and the November 2, 2018 Minutes. Motion carried.

Staffing:

- The Executive Board voted at an earlier meeting to approve adding a 1 FTE Psychologist position. The position has been posted since January and Jen is networking. There was one applicant that accepted another position elsewhere before interviewing.
- Suzanne Rye, Occupational Therapist who has been with PBEC on a part-time basis has increased hours to full time for a one-year contract to replace Lois Malepsy who will retire the end of June.
- Bonnie Henningson, Early Childhood Coordinator will be retiring February 2020. An assessment will be done with the other Early Childhood Coordinators Tyler Ihmels and Julie Domino to determine the needs at that time.

Minnesota Department of Education:

A self-review of 79 files from all PBEC districts was completed last fall. Issues were identified and trainings will be held to address them (mainly regarding meeting timelines). Information was submitted to MDE.

MDE completed onsite visits in April with facility tours. The focus was on accessibility. Jen will be having a phone conference with monitor, then final reports will be sent out to the districts this fall. Final findings showed four districts 100% in compliance. There were two districts that each had one citation on timelines. The PBEC will have a year to fix and have a corrective action plan in place. This process does not affect funding, but does affect workload.

Professional Learning Days:

With the extended calendar days added because of weather cancellations during the school year, PBEC took the opportunity to provide professional learning to special education staff on: (Pillager District will have this training in August.)

- Quality Indicators of Autism Programming,
- Best Practices for Social Communication Programming and
- Compliance and Monitoring

Lakes Area Music Festival/SEAC: Jen has reached out to the Lakes Area Music Festival to coordinate a sensory friendly music experience. This will be held on Monday, July 29, 4:30-6 pm. There will be a time for a meet and greet, a half-hour performance (string quartet) and time for Q & A afterwards.

A movie experience will be offered again in January. The YMCA swimming event did not work out due to scheduling conflicts.

ASD Parent Support Group:

A group of parents showed interest in facilitating an ASD parent support group providing emotional support, practical information, education and advocacy. The PBEC provides the space and did offer free childcare (staff volunteered their time to care for 25 or more children). The group met monthly beginning in February. Looking ahead to next year, childcare options will be explored with community education and high school students that need credit or volunteer hours. A challenge is how to get the word out, whether it's email, teachers, Facebook, etc.... Because of the success, parents of students with Deaf Hard of Hearing plan to start a support group in the fall.

Autism Presentation:

Kate Hurd and Amy Peeters, Autism Consultants for PBEC presented information on ASD due to the board expressing an interest to learn more. They shared handouts, one of which gave numbers and percentages of increases in ASD for each district within the co-op. This led to a discussion on why there is such an increase in ASD numbers, with the data showing a combination of factors. The board would like to see this information presented at their individual school board meetings if possible.

Meeting Dates for 2019-2020:

It was discussed moving the Board of Delegates meetings to Thursdays with one in November and one in April. Jen will schedule and send notification.

The meeting adjourned at 11:20 am

Kim Huether, Secretary

Handouts:

- Agenda
- Minutes
- ASD handouts