

**Paul Bunyan Education Cooperative**  
**EXECUTIVE BOARD MINUTES**  
**Thursday, October 8, 2020 12:00 pm**  
**Via Google Meet**

The Paul Bunyan Education Cooperative (PBEC) Executive Board met on Thursday, October 8, 2020 at 12 pm via google meet.

**Present:** Chris Lindholm, Dan Stifter, Laine Larson, Jamie Skjeveland, Jon Clark, Jennifer Johnson, Kim Huether

Jen Johnson called the meeting to order, welcoming new Pine River-Backus Superintendent Jonathan Clark.

A motion was made to approve the October 8, 2020 agenda. Second. All present voted in favor thereof. Motion carried.

A motion was made to approve the minutes from June 6, 2020. Second. All present voted in favor thereof. Motion carried.

**New Staff at PBEC:**

Jessica Rindal was hired as a school psychologist. She will be serving Eagleview Elementary, Crosslake Charter, Discovery Woods, and Brainerd Learning Center.. She is enjoying her experience thus far and Jen is hearing very positive feedback.

**Training and Support provided by PBEC:**

The trainings provided by PBEC for 2020-21 include:

- New Teacher Training
- Handle With Care
- Speech Meetings (quarterly)
- DCD Meetings (quarterly)
- ASD/EBD Meetings
- Due Process Paperwork Evenings
- Monthly Newsletter

The Due Process Paperwork Evenings will be held two evenings this year, not three. It will be held virtually with computers required to be on and joined in a google hangout. Other trainings will be held mostly virtual. Any in person meetings will follow current Co-vid 19 safety guidelines.

**Handle with Care:**

The Handle with Care de-escalation training delivery model was changed slightly and additional trainings were added to allow for lower attendance numbers, due to Co-vid 19 restrictions.. Jim Kath, Kate Hurd and Amy Peeters have led most of the trainings. Masks, gloves and a safe environment were required. A three month extension of the annual certification date was granted by Handle With Care to allow more time to complete the training safely.

### **3rd Party Billing:**

Personal Care Assistance is now going to be called Community First Services Supports (CFSS). The Department of Human Services has changed their certification. All paras will need to complete the online test within the next year. Wanda Lane has provided a study guide. Jen suggested that paras complete this during their individual district's workshop/professional development days or E-Learning Days.

A PDF was shared with each district detailing their funding history from 2010 to present. Funding loss due to Co-vid 19 was also listed.

### **Co-vid 19 and Special Education:**

Discussion was held regarding how each district is handling the Co-vid 19 pandemic and Special Education programming for students. Each district has different options available to them due to student numbers, spacing options, staffing, etc. so there were a variety of solutions. Nancy Anderson and Liz Lee are continuing to confer with teachers and teams to problem solve. There was an email from MDE to all Superintendents on 10/1/2020 that provided guidance to school districts that allows districts to continue to provide Special Education services in person even when county health data recommends the secondary level needs to be in a Distance Learning model. If a child receives Special Education programming more than 60% of the school day OR has been receiving increased days of programming under the district's hybrid plan, it makes them eligible for in person services when their Secondary School Building moves into Distance Learning. The school district will continue to provide transportation and school meals during this time. If county health data gets to the point that indicates a district must implement *Distance Learning for All*, all students will be required to be serviced through distance learning and will not be able to attend school in person.

### **Doctor's Notes indicating Special Education:**

This is on the agenda due to cases in the Pillager district where medical personnel have told parents that children qualify for IEP services. In the board discussion held, it was concluded it was not happening elsewhere and Jen would send a letter to the physician explaining the appropriate process.

### **Next Meetings:**

- Board of Delegates - November 5, 2020, 12 - 1:30 pm If there are any suggestions on what to present to delegates please let Jen know. New Board representative from Pequot Lakes is Tracy Wallin, replacing Mike Erholz. Jen is planning to touch base with Kirsten Morton-Aldous to share information regarding Assistive Technology.
- Executive Board - December 10, 12-1:30 pm

### **Other:**

A public service letter is going out to constituents in Aitkin, Cass, Crow Wing, Hubbard, Morrison, Todd and Wadena counties through local news affiliates asking for the public's help to keep cases low and our kids in school by following the guidelines offered by MDH. It will be signed by all the superintendents of school districts in those counties.

Michelle Moritz is a contact person from Crow Wing County Public Health to look to for guidance for Distance Learning. If the board is interested in having her attend a meeting, Jen could touch base with her.

Meeting adjourned.

Submitted by Kim Huether

Handouts:

- Agenda
- Minutes from June 6, 2020
- Third Party Funding History