



Dawson Education Cooperative
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Darin Beckwith
Director

Beth Neel
Teacher Center Coordinator

BOARD MINUTES
March 11, 2020

The Dawson Education Board of Directors met in the Multipurpose Building for the March board meeting. President Mike Skelton welcomed everyone, established a quorum, and called the meeting to order at 10:34 a.m. Dr. Skelton welcomed Ms. Kim Walters and Mr. John Starling to the meeting.

Mr. Starling introduced colleagues Kylie Jacobs and Paul Brewer. Each of the representatives gave updates on new programs they have to offer through Ebi.

Ms. Walters talked about childhood cancer and encouraged districts to begin having a “Go Gold for Childhood Cancer” day in September which is Childhood Cancer Awareness Month.

The consent agenda was presented which included the February financial report, financial addendum, February board minutes and the 2020/2021 calendar. Motion to approve by Ronnie Kissire, second by B.J. Applegate and the motion carried. 11:15

Under new business Susan Kissire was nominated and elected to be the Dawson Co-op nominee for AREA Superintendent of the Year. Motion made by Danny Thomas, second by Karen Walters and the motion carried. 11:17

Director Darin Beckwith presented information about a \$1,000 bonus for Dawson employees for the 2019/2020 school year and information about a 2% increase for the 2020/2021 school year. A motion was made by Ronnie Kissire, second by Danny Thomas to approve. After some discussion concerning the 2% not being on the agenda, an amendment was made to the motion to postpone the 2% until the April board meeting. Both the motion and second agreed to this and the motion carried. 11:27

Shawn Higginbotham reminded everyone to be sure to go online and take the survey on minimum wage by Friday, March 13.

The following personnel matters were approved with a motion by Danny Thomas, second by Shawn Higginbotham. 11:30

Hires:

Brooke Butler – ADE – CLSD Grant Advisor

Susan Allison – Science Specialist

Resignation:

Dewana Burns – ABC Paraprofessional

Retirement:

Karen Carter – ABC Paraprofessional

Since the hiring of the new Science Specialist was not on the original agenda for March, a motion was made by Danny Thomas, second by Shawn Higginbotham to amend the agenda to add the new hire and the motion carried. 11:31

During Superintendent's Forum, there was a lengthy discussion concerning the Coronavirus and how schools will handle the situation. Tim Holicer made a statement showing his support of police officers in light of the death of a Hot Springs officer that was shot while on duty the night before the meeting.

During Director's comments, Director Beckwith informed everyone that the Arkansas School Choice ads will run on the radio from March 29 to April 5th and that districts need to be sure to get the announcement on their websites. Billie Garlin gave updates on the board retreat scheduled for June 1-4, 2020 at Fairfield Bay.

With no further business President Skelton entertained a motion to adjourn. B. J. Applegate made the motion to adjourn with a second from Allen Blackwell and the motion carried at 11:54.

The next meeting will be April 8, 2020 at Dawson Co-op in Building #7.

Board President Signature