

**THREE LAKES EDUCATION COOPERATIVE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
January 11, 2024**

1. Opening of Meeting

A. Call to Order

Todd Peterson called to order the Three Lakes Educational Cooperative Board of Directors meeting at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday January 11, 2023 at the TLEC Board Room.

B. Roll Call

The following individuals were present:

BOARD MEMBERS

Julie Spielman (Alternate)
Todd Peterson
Jennifer Hamlet
Braden Anshutz
Julie Bowman
Eric Struttman

OTHERS:

Caroline Green
Michelle Heiman
Dee Wiley

C. Approval of Agenda

Todd Peterson made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Motion was seconded by Julie Spielman and passed unanimously.

2. Elections

A. Officer/Negotiations Committee Elections

Julie Spielman nominated Todd Peterson for BOD President. Motion was seconded by Eric Struttman and passed unanimously.

Todd Peterson nominated Julie Bowman as BOD Vice President. Motion was seconded by Jennifer Hamlet and passed unanimously.

Jennifer Hamlet and Eric Struttman volunteered to represent the TLEC BOD on the negotiations committee. Braden Anshutz made a motion to accept Jennifer Hamlet's and Eric Struttman's nomination. Motion was seconded by Todd Peterson and passed unanimously.

3. Consent Agenda

- A. Approval of Minutes
- B. Approval of Warrant Register/Payables
- C. Approval of PDC Plans and Points
- D. Approval of Consent Agenda

Todd Peterson made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Motion was seconded by Julie Bowman and passed unanimously.

3. Financial Reports

- A. Financial reports were presented. Expenses continue to be down marginally. Due to the paraeducator salary changes that took effect January 1, 2024, expenses are expected to rise. If TLEC becomes fully staffed with paraeducators, it could run the potential of utilizing some of our contingency funds. There is no expected 5th assessment due to the salary changes. Any decrease in contingency funds will be corrected in the 2025 fiscal year. Revenue is down slightly, mostly due to lack of staff (Categorical Aid). As we continue to gain staff Categorical Aid income will rise as well.

4. District Consultation

- A. The resolution stating that TLEC will decide meeting dates and times at the July 2024 meeting was presented.

Todd Peterson made a motion to accept the resolution as presented. Motion was seconded by Jamie Bowman and passed unanimously.

- B. TLEC currently has 110 paraeducators on staff. This is the highest number since the 2021-22 school term. The initial estimation and updated estimation of the remainder of year cost for paraeducators was presented.
- C. The updated Certified and Classified handbooks were presented for BOD approval. Changes were made to handbooks to keep them up to date with KASB recommended/ BOD approved policy changes.

Todd Peterson made a motion to approve TLEC handbooks as presented. The motion was seconded by Jamie Bowman and passed unanimously.

- D. Contracted services with Carolyn Strauch for Treasurer services on a temporary basis were discussed.

Braden Anshutz made a motion to approve contracting with Carolyn Strauch on an as needed basis for Treasurer services through May 2024. Motion was seconded by Todd Peterson and passed unanimously.

- E. KSDE released recommended staff ratios and reports that the recommended ratio for a school psychologist is 1/500 general education students. Currently our (4) psychologists are closer to 1/818. Discussion about current caseloads and student needs, led in the direction of opening a 5th psychologist position beginning in the 2024-25 school year.

Braden Ansheutz made a motion to approve the creation of a fifth psychologist position beginning in the 2024-25 school year. The motion was seconded by Todd Peterson and passed unanimously.

- F. TLEC admin inquired if any new members were planning to attend New Board Member trainings. Jennifer plans to attend in January with her BOE members. Braden Anshutz reports he has attended many times in the past.

5. **Superintendent/Board Member Discussion Items**

- A. The current method of transportation for Next Step is not (has not been for many years preceding) in compliance with the Interlocal Agreement. There are two options to correct the current situation. Either A: Districts provide a devoted vehicle and driver for their student(s) enrolled at Next Step or B: The transportation portion of the Interlocal Agreement is changed, and TLEC would invest in coop vehicles and assumes all responsibility Next Step transportation. There is need for at least one vehicle with wheel chair access. The BOD asked for further information for future discussion.
- B. TLEC Administration has reminded the Superintendents to keep October 14, 2024 dedicated for the *All District PD Day*, when constructing 2024 district calendars.

7. **Executive Session**

- A. Matters Relating to Student Issues- Executive Session

- No items to be discussed

B. Matters Relating to Personnel Issues- Executive Session

-Personnel Changes

-Director Evaluation

Motion was made by Todd Peterson and seconded by Eric Struttman to enter executive session with the board and administrators present beginning at 7:15 p.m. for a period of time not to exceed fifteen minutes for the matters relating to Personnel. Justification of the executive session is to protect the privacy interests of the individual(s) to be discussed. The meeting will return to open session at 7:30 p.m. in the TLEC boardroom. Administrators were asked to leave the executive session at 7:18 p.m. Caroline Green was invited back into the executive session at 7:23 p.m. The meeting returned to open session at 7:30 p.m.

Motion was made by Todd Peterson and seconded by Jamie Bowman and passed unanimously to continue the executive session an additional five minutes at 7:31 p.m. for the purpose of discussing matters relating to Personnel. The meeting will return to open session at 7:36 p.m. The meeting returned to open session at 7:36 p.m.

Motion was made by Julie Spielman and seconded by Eric Struttman and passed unanimously to continue the executive session an additional five minutes at 7:36 p.m. for the purpose of discussing matters relating to Personnel. The meeting will return to open session at 7:41 p.m. The meeting returned to open session at 7:41 p.m.

C. Matters Relating to Negotiations- Executive Session

No executive session-

D. Action on Items Discussed in Closed Session-

Todd Peterson made a motion to approve the personnel changes as presented. The motion was seconded by Eric Struttman and passed unanimously.

Adjournment

Todd Peterson motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 p.m. Motion was seconded by Eric Struttman, and it passed unanimously. The next regular board meeting will be held Monday February 12, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. at the Three Lakes Education Cooperative office in Lyndon.

