

LAGRANGE AREA DEPARTMENT OF SPECIAL EDUCATION  
SPECIAL DIRECTING BOARD MEETING

Open Session Meeting – 8:40 a.m.  
Wednesday, December 15, 2010

Board Members Present: Dr. Sandra Martin (53); Dr. Robert Carlo (61); Dr. Jean Sophie (92 ½); Mr. Steve Griesbach (62); Mr. Neil Pellicci (94); Dr. Mark Kuzniewski (95); Dr. Brian Barnhart (101); Dr. Warren Schillingburg (102); Dr. Michael Warner (103); Dr. Glenn Schlichting (105); Dr. Robert Dyer (106); Dr. Mark Fredisdorf (107); Dr. Renee Schuster (181); Dr. Tim Kilrea (204); Dr. David Bonnette (208); Dr. Nicholas Wahl (86)

Board Members Absent: Dr. Jon Lamberson (96)

LADSE Staff Present: Dr. James Surber, Lois Miller, Marc Sgro, Deb Hurley-Bularzik, Don Leonard, Sue Gallagher, Deb Malnar, Betsy Miller, Sally Osborne, Kacey Lazzarotto, Kelly Adamik, Kelly Rathbun

Visitors Present: Kathy Tomasiewicz, Ellie Ambuehl

CALL TO ORDER

Dr. Fredisdorf called the meeting to order at 8:40 a.m.

VISITORS' COMMENTS

There were no visitors' comments.

SAMPLE RESOLUTION FROM DISTRICT 181

A part of District 181's withdrawal process requires the LADSE Cook County district members to approve a resolution for its withdrawal. Dr. Surber informed the Board that the sample resolution prepared by District 181 and sent to the Cook districts had been reviewed and approved by Franczek Radelet. Dr. Schuster (District 181) explained that she or her designee would attend each Cook County LADSE member Board of Education meeting. District 181 is not required, but will be prepared, to make a presentation about the resolution/withdrawal should a Board request it.

#### DISTRICT 181 WITHDRAWAL/BUDGET PLANNING

Since the last meeting, districts have been surveyed about purchasing RtI services and ECE evaluations for students coming to the districts from Early Intervention (EI) programs. There was limited interest in purchasing RtI services. Six districts indicated an interest in purchasing evaluations for EI students. Some key communicators expressed concern about eliminating the evaluations for EI students.

Dr. Surber reported that his team had further studied the logistics and structure of the ECE evaluation team within the proposed budget cuts. Based on the following, it is believed LADSE can continue to provide the number of evaluations necessary to serve districts' needs with no purchased service necessary. Dr. Surber encouraged superintendents to discuss the following structure with their key communicators.

1. Next year there will be 30 fewer evaluations due to District 181's withdrawal.
2. Each district would accept EI evaluations for approximately half (60 total for all districts) of their students coming from EI programs. For some students who come from an EI program it can be easily ascertained whether they need further immediate evaluation for an appropriate placement.
3. There would be dedicated days/times to schedule initial evaluations and dedicated days/times to schedule staffings. For example, schedule 4 mornings a week for evals and 4 afternoons a week for staffings. Controlled scheduling results in a large savings of time (FTE)...travel time, scheduling time, etc. All evaluations and staffings would be at LADSE.

Should districts wish to purchase an ECE evaluation for students coming from an EI program, it is estimated the cost would be between \$2800 and \$3500 depending upon the number purchased coop-wide.

There was much discussion, with no resolution, about how to establish a base number of EI evaluations for each district so districts can determine how many additional they might want to purchase. There was consensus that the Fiscal Committee should meet to discuss alternatives. The Fiscal Committee will meet on Monday, January 10 at 9 a.m. at LADSE.

There was some interest among the Superintendents for LADSE to continue to process FACTS forms. Dr. Surber will reexamine the budget to determine other areas that may be cut to maintain this service for the districts. Dr. Kilrea asked if administration cuts had been considered. Dr. Surber explained that in the last three years, 3.4 administrative positions had been eliminated. In addition, every program/services coordinator is now doing direct service for up to half of their FTE in addition to their coordinator responsibilities.

ADDITIONAL ECE SECTIONS

Motion #1: That the Directing Board approve opening an additional section of ECE at the LADSE Learning Center in January, 2011 with the addition of another section if needed.

Moved by Dr. Sophie; seconded by Dr. Barnhart.

Voting Aye: Dr. Sandra Martin (53); Dr. Robert Carlo (61); Mr. Steve Griesbach (62); Dr. Jean Sophie (92½); Mr. Neil Pellicci (94); Dr. Mark Kuzniewski (95); Dr. Brian Barnhart (101); Dr. Warren Schillingburg (102); Dr. Michael Warner (103); Dr. Glenn Schlichting (105); Dr. Robert Dyer (106); Dr. Renate Schuster (181); Dr. Tim Kilrea (204); Dr. David Bonnette (208); Dr. Nicholas Wahl (86). Nays: None; Abstain: None; Absent: Dr. Jon Lamberson (96); Dr. Mark Fredisdorf (107). Motion carried.

LADSE ARTICLES OF AGREEMENT

The Articles of Agreement were amended by Franczek Radelet based on the recommendations of the Superintendent Subcommittee. Dr. Surber noted some typographical errors and omissions in the copy of the Articles from the attorney's office. These corrections will be made and a clean copy of the Articles provided to the Board prior to its approval at the January 2011 meeting. The Subcommittee endorsed the amendments made to the Articles as presented from Franczek Radelet.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion #2: That the LADSE Directing Board adjourn the meeting at 9:50 a.m.

Moved by Dr. Wahl; seconded by Dr. Martin.

All present voted Aye.

Motion carried.