



RESA-I Regional Council Meeting

MINUTES

RESA-I Office

Beckley, West Virginia

McDowell-Mercer-Monroe-Raleigh-Summers-Wyoming

November 14, 2008

ATTENDANCE:

Regional Council Members Present

David Ballard, Board Member, Summers County
Dr. Sarah Brown, Chief Instructional Leader, Summers County
J. Michael Callaway, Board Member, McDowell County
Suzette Cook, Superintendent, McDowell County
Dr. Lyn Guy, Superintendent, Monroe County
Vickie Hinerman, Superintendent, Summers County
Dr. Stanley Hopkins, West Virginia Department of Education
Dr. Charlotte Hutchens, Superintendent, Raleigh County
Mary Alice Kaufman, Board Member, Mercer County
James McGrady, Assistant Superintendent, Wyoming County Schools
Dr. William O'Brien, Concord University
Ed Pell, Board Member, Monroe County
Sandra Pell, Teacher, Mountain View Elementary & Middle School
Mike Prichard, Board Member, Wyoming County
Patricia Waddell, Board Member, Raleigh County

Regional Council Members Not Present

Dr. Deborah Akers, Superintendent, Mercer County
Frank L. Blackwell, Superintendent, Wyoming County
Dr. Tom Blevins, Bluefield State College
Florisha Christian-McGuire, Principal, Iaeger High School

RESA-I Staff Present

Keith Butcher, Executive Director, RESA-I
LaDawn Mitchem, Executive Secretary, RESA-I
David Brooks, Treasure, Raleigh County

Guests

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 10:03 am by Dr. Lyn Guy, Superintendent, Monroe County Schools.

Reports:

- Financial Report Update:** The council received the financial reports for October 2008 prior to the meeting. David Brooks, Treasurer, Raleigh County Schools and Keith Butcher, Executive Director, RESA-I were available for discussion or to answer any questions.
- Medicaid Report Update:** The council received the Medicaid Report for October 2008 prior to the meeting. Keith Butcher was available for discussion or to answer any questions.
- State Department Report:** Dr. Stan Hopkins, West Virginia Department of Education, gave an update on the Agenda of the West Virginia Board of Education meeting on November 12, 2008.
- Employee Status Reports:** The employee status reports were mailed to the council prior to the meeting. There were no questions or discussion concerning the status reports.

RESA-I Executive Director's Report:

Regional Council Meeting Schedule

There is no RESA-I Regional Council meeting scheduled for the month of December. The next meeting of the Regional Council will be a polycom meeting scheduled for **January 9, 2009, at 3:00 pm.**

TeachFirst

Mr. Butcher was asked to investigate the possibility of reduced pricing for TeachFirst services through RESA-I. After discussion, all counties responded that they did not wish to acquire the TeachFirst program.

School Crisis Response

In order to provide assistance to school and districts in the development of School Crisis Response, Keith Butcher has achieved Board Certification by the National Center for Crisis Management and the American Academy of Experts in Traumatic Stress. Please contact the RESA-I Office for assistance in selecting and training school crisis teams, acute traumatic stress management for educators, managing everyday crises in the school setting, and/or preventing school violence.

RESA-I Remodeling

The West Virginia Historic Preservation Office has approved plans to remodel the court room and board room of the RESA-I Building. While funds have been reserved for this purpose, the Executive Director recommends waiting until after the legislative session before obligating funds for this purpose.

Grants

The RESA-I Executive Office is coordinating two grant applications.

1. A \$75,000 grant from the Higher Education Policy Commission is being sought to continue training for all RESA-I middle schools in the Adolescent Instruction Model (AIM), with an emphasis on increasing student performance in adolescent literacy. The deadline for submission is December 3, 2008.
2. A 21st Century Community Center Learning grant is being sought from WVDE for Summers, Raleigh, and Wyoming County School Districts to provide extended learning opportunities. The grant deadline is March 13th.

Please contact the office of the Executive Director if you wish to request additional grants.

Administrative Certification/Master's Degree

Raleigh County has proposed seeking an administrative certification/administrative degree cohort from an accredited higher education institution to be centered in south eastern West Virginia. The Executive Director is interested in conducting a survey of interest in the six county area as the cohort is considered.

Information:

RESA Funding Cap: Keith Butcher presented the Regional Council a memorandum regarding the RESA Funding Cap and the proposed change to 18-9A-8a. Attached was a sample letter for this Regional Council to alert the West Virginia Legislature the critical nature of existing funding levels for the agency's operation and services to Mercer, Monroe, McDowell, Raleigh, Summers and Wyoming Counties. This council advocated a return to former funding levels in terms of 18-9A-8a. RESAs are currently limited to no more than four million two hundred thousand dollars to be divided among regional agencies. Secondly, we urge you to evaluate computer repair and modernization funding to reflect the increasing needs of our counties for repair and technology integration support.

RESA-I Personnel Agenda:

Keith Butcher presented the Regional Council with the following Personnel Agenda:

1. RESA-I requests Regional Council approval to hire three to five Supplemental Educational Services tutors to be paid from Monroe County Title I Funding. Contracted tutors are part-time hourly wage employees as funding and needs are available.
2. RESA-I requests Regional Council approval to hire one 240-day contract computer technician for Raleigh County. All costs will be paid by Raleigh County.
3. RESA-I request Regional Council approval to hire Scholars Academy positions if request by Mercer, Raleigh and/or McDowell Counties. Tutoring and site coordinator position are part-time hourly wage employees paid from Center for Professional Development and matching county funding.
4. RESA-I Regional Council acceptance of the resignation due to retirement of Assessment Specialist, Frank Pennington. Resignation letter attached.
- 5.

Action:

1. Motion by Dave Ballard and seconded by Mike Callaway to approve the minutes for October 10, 2008. Motion passed. September Minutes were approved.
2. Motion by Suzette Cook and seconded by Mike Prichard to accept the Monthly Financial Reports for October 2008. Motion passed. Monthly Financial Reports were accepted.
3. Motion by Pat Waddell and seconded by Ed Pell to approve the letter for Support of Changes to 18-9A-8a, RESA Funding Cap. Motion passed. Approval Recommended.
4. Motion by Mike Prichard and seconded by William O'Brien, the Personnel Agenda for November 14, 2008 was approved. Motion passed.
5. Motion by William O'Brien and seconded by Pat Waddell the meeting was adjourned.

The next meeting of the RESA-I Regional Council will be a polycom meeting on January 9, 2009 at 3:00 pm at various locations.

Respectfully submitted,

Original signed and on file at RESA-1

January 9th, 2009

Keith Butcher, Executive Director
RESA-I

Date