

RESA-1 Regional Council Meeting
RESA-1 Office
Beckley, West Virginia
February 13, 2009

ATTENDANCE:

Regional Council Members Present

Dr. Deborah Akers, Superintendent, Mercer County
Gene Bailey, Board Member, Mercer County
David Ballard, Board Member, Summers County
Frank L. Blackwell, Superintendent, Wyoming County
Dr. Tom Blevins, Bluefield State College
Dr. Sarah Brown, Chief Instructional Leader, Summers County
Florisha Christian-McGuire, Principal, Iaeger High School
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
Dr. Kathy Liptak, 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

J. Michael Callaway, Board Member, McDowell County
Suzette Cook, Superintendent, McDowell County
Mary Alice Kaufman, Board Member, Mercer County

RESA-1 Staff Present

Keith Butcher, Executive Director, RESA-1
LaDawn Mitchem, Executive Secretary, RESA-1
David Brooks, Treasurer, Raleigh County
Susan Barnes, Special Education Director, RESA-1
Jane Meador, RTI Specialist, RESA-1
Keri Richmond, MSP Coordinator

Guests

April Hedinger, Coordinator K-12 Literacy Program, McDowell County
Samantha Carey, Underwriter, BrickStreet Insurance
Cynthia McCall, Return to Work Specialist, BrickStreet Insurance
Bill Elswick, Executive Director, WVDE Office of School Facilities
Ron Wetzel, Assistant Superintendent, Monroe County Schools

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 am by Dr. Deborah Akers, Superintendent, Mercer County Schools.

Reports:

Financial Report Update: The council received the financial reports for January 2009 prior to the meeting. David Brooks, Treasurer, Raleigh County Schools and Keith Butcher, RESA-1 Executive Director were available for discussion or to answer any questions.

Medicaid Report Update: The council received the Medicaid Report for January 2009 prior to the meeting. Keith Butcher was available for discussion.

State Department Report: Dr. Stan Hopkins, West Virginia Department of Education, presented the council with a State Department Report and review of the February 11, 2009 Agenda of the West Virginia Board of Education. Dr. Hopkins presented the Coordinated School Health Programs position paper including the accompanying memorandum from Dr. Steve Paine, State Superintendent of School. The CSHP provides the supports needed to realize West Virginia Board of Education Goal #3: All students and school personnel shall develop and promote responsibility, citizenship, strong character and healthful living. The Position Statement, adopted by the Board of Education in January 2009, underscores the high priority that the Board places on the health and wellness of students and staff.

Employee Status Reports: The employee status reports for January 2009 were posted online prior to the meeting and were available for review. There were no questions or discussion concerning the status reports.

RESA-1 Executive Director's Report: February 13, 2009

Regional Council Meeting Schedule

The next meeting of the Regional Council will be held at the RESA-1 Office Building on **March 20, 2009, at 10:00 AM.**

Professional Development Update

A schedule of RESA-1 activities and professional development was distributed.

Computer Technician Services

Effective February 9, 2009 Chris Marty, former Summers County Computer Technician accepted the position of RESA-1 Computer Technician for Raleigh County. Effective February 12, pending approval from the State Board of Education, Robert Allen King was employed as Computer Technician for Summer County (60%) and RESA-1 (40%).

Safe Schools Grant

Regional Education Service Agency (RESA-1), in partnership with the West Virginia Department of Education's Office of Healthy Schools, is preparing an application for Safe Schools/Healthy Students funding from the US Department of Education. The more than 2 million dollar proposed project would include the six counties included in RESA I along with Clay, Pocahontas and Roane counties. The basis of the proposal program will hinge upon the West Virginia Model for Positive School Climate within the framework of the grant requirements.

The grant requires that all proposed goals and objectives focus on five elements:

1. Safety and violence prevention
2. Alcohol, tobacco and drug prevention
3. School based mental health services
4. Early childhood social learning opportunities

American History Grant

Prism-WV and America's Founders: Providing Perspective to a Legacy of Principle and Perseverance in the Traditional American History Classroom is a professional development program for American history teachers in the 9-county "Southern West Virginia Consortium for Study of the American Founding," an organization created specifically for this project. The program will run from October 2009 through September 2013 – a 5-year program committed to building in the region's history classrooms an understanding and appreciation for the 1st principles which define our nation. Regional Education Service Agency -1 (RESA-1) will administer the grant and serve as fiscal agent. The project's institutional partners include Concord University, the West Virginia Humanities Council, the Mountain Library Network, research libraries at Concord and Bluefield State College, the nine county libraries which comprise the Consortium, and area historical societies eager to support the program. In order to meet the minimum student enrollment for application, the counties schools systems of Fayette, Greenbrier and Nicholas have been invited to participate with RESA-1 in this grant application.

SearchSoft

RESA-1 purchased two one-year licenses per school district for the SearchSoft Solutions Applicant Tracking System at no costs to the county districts. These were purchased to determine if the service offered will be useful in your district applicant and hiring system. Training for the SearchSoft program will be held in the computer lab of RESA-1 on Thursday, March 19, 2009 from 9:00 am - 12:00 noon. This training is for Human Resource/Personnel Directors, but districts are invited to bring one other county-level staff member who might be dealing with the hands-on use of the program. The licenses have been provided to allow school districts to review the product and determine if the SearchSoft Solutions Applicant Tracking System will be a useful tool in the applicant/hiring process.

HEPC Improving Teacher Quality Grant

Dr. Mark Stotler, Assistant Director of Academic Affairs for the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission, has notified RESA-1 that their grant proposal for Advancing Adolescent Literacy has been selected for funding.

Information:

BrickStreet Update: Samantha Carey, Underwriter presented the council with an Employers' Guide to Controlling Workers Compensation Costs. Ms. Carey explained the Experience Modification Factor (E-Mod), how it is calculated and the benefits. She also presented the E-Mod Ranges for RESA-1 counties along with all 55 counties state wide.

Ms. Cynthia McCall – Return to Work Specialist, presented to the council the return to work process handout, and discussed how it might be beneficial to each county.

Steps in the return to work process:

- Make a Commitment
- Focus on Reducing Lost Time
- Develop an Injury Action Plan
- Establish Relationships with High-Quality Medical Providers

- Stress Early Return to Work... ***“Employment is the Easiest Habit to Break!”***
- Establish a Partnership with your Insurance Company
- Measure and Track Results
- Define and Communicate Responsibilities

CEFP – Comprehensive Educational Facilities Plan: Mr. Bill Elswick, Executive Director, WVDE Office of School Facilities, discussed the requirements of the Comprehensive Educational Facilities Plan with information on how to submit and update the county plan. In addition, Mr. Elswick presented the council with an overview of the State Board Policy 6200.

e-Walk for School Improvement: Ron Wetzel, Assistance Superintendent for Monroe County presented an overview of using hand-held technology to collect information during classroom or school walk-throughs. The eWalk program allows the user to adapt the information to be collected and to have immediate access to data for improvement. Sample reports were reviewed and examples of how the process is used to facilitate change were discussed. A meeting of interested counties will be held to discuss a consolidated purchase of services.

Action:

1. Motion by Gene Bailey and seconded by Lyn Guy to accept the January 2009 Minutes. Motion passed and the January Minutes were approved.
2. Motion by Lyn Guy and seconded by Frank Blackwell to accept the Monthly Financial Reports for January 2009. Motion passed. Monthly Financial Reports were accepted.
3. Motion by Mike Prichard and seconded by Patricia Waddell to accept the Out-of-Region Travel Requests. Motion passed.
4. Motion by Mike Prichard and seconded by Gene Bailey that the meeting be adjourned. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Signed Copy on File

Keith Butcher, Executive Director
RESA-1

Date