



DUPAGE/WEST COOK BOARD
MINUTES – November 12, 2020
LOCATION: SASSED Administrative Center
2900 Ogden Avenue
Lisle, IL 60532

Dr. Jimmy Gunnell, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 10:13 am. During roll call, the following members answered present:

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| AERO – Dr. Jimmy Gunnell | Districts 86 & 181 – Tammy Prentiss |
| CASE – Dr. Mary Furbush | District 200/DuPage – Erica Ekstrom |
| LADSE – Dr. Ellie Ambuehl | District 201/Cook – Ramona Stavros, Alt |
| LASEC – Dr. Danielle Welch | District 203 – Dr. Christine Igoe |
| NDSEC – Jim Nelson | |
| SASED – Dr. Mindy McGuffin | |

The following members were absent:

- PAEC – Mary Beth Boeh
- District 97 – Eboney Lofton
- District 99/Cook – Elizabeth Dejewski
- District 200/Cook – Shalema Francois-Blue
- District 204 – Christina Sepiol

Non-voting members present:

- Districts 90, 91, 98 & 100- Maria McCarthy
- District 401- Dr. Kari Smith

Parent members: VI/Cook – Alana Rybak – absent
DHH/DuPage – Eva Savickas - absent

Also, present:

- Maureen Kidd, Coordinator, DuPage/West Cook
- Ellyn Gehrke, DHH Administrator
- Chris Miller, Recording Secretary

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Jim Nelson moved, and his motion was seconded by Dr. Danielle Welch to approve the agenda as is.
VOICE VOTE **MOTION CARRIED**

APPROVAL OF THE SEPTEMBER BOARD MINUTES

Jim Nelson moved, and his motion was seconded by Dr. Danielle Welch to approve and accept the September 17, 2020 meeting minutes.
VOICE VOTE **MOTION CARRIED**

INTRODUCTIONS/GUESTS

Guests: Carrie Morfoot - LADSE DHH Program Coordinator
Jackie Bogan – LADSE Business Director

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None.

COORDINATOR'S REPORT

Rolling Open Updates/Programs & Services –

The transition to person instruction has made steady progress. DHH and Vision Programs have some classrooms open for in-person learning.

The Vision Impairment program has remote classrooms staffed for individual students based on medical need or parent choice. The Intensive Program (60-90 minutes a day) has been relocated to Southeast Alternative presently. There are seven hybrid classrooms that have shifted to remote due to host-district adaptive pauses.

Pre-K through 8th grade DHH Services are being provided in three models: Remote, Intensive and Hybrid learning environments. Remote services are available for individual students based on medical need or parent choice. Intensive classrooms opened recently in EC, Primary and Intermediate grade levels. However, these classrooms have had to return to remote services with adaptive pause measures. The DHH team has demonstrated ingenuity and creativity as they provided both in-person and remote services simultaneously.

The staff have met the challenges of this school year with grace, patience, and flexibility. Parents and students are happy with the routine given the changing landscape. Staff and parent surveys will go out in November to gauge their satisfaction with programs and services.

LADSE DHH Programming has more students in person, giving flexibility for both in-person and remote learning simultaneously. Carrie Morfoot complimented the staff on adapting to the changes, on a daily basis, during this time. At this time, 6 students are remote for various reasons. Thirty-one students attend in-person instruction 4 days a week, with Wednesdays being remote. Students participate in mainstream classes as well as the DHH Program. The LADSE Transition Center has been running since August 11, 2020 with 6 students remote, 3 students in-person and 9 students receiving hybrid instruction. Ms. Morfoot shared that the semester's successes have included: staff attendance; student attendance and student grade improvement. Challenges include finding adequate space for social distancing measures; keeping students engaged and staffing issues due to the hybrid instruction model. Itinerant & Related Services are provided in three models: Remote, Intensive, and Hybrid learning environments. The Audiology Clinic is open for students to receive services. O&M services are provided in home locations when school buildings cannot be accessed for services.

Enrollment – 3-year comparison chart

A new DHH classroom has opened due to enrollment. A Vision classroom has moved from Schwartz to Albright and a few students have gone back to their resident schools. There was a slight decline in the Transition Program.

Deaf/Hard of Hearing Program

School	# of Students November 1, 2018	# of Students November 1, 2019	# of Students November 4, 2020
North School	33	26	31
Westmont JH	21	23	24
LADSE - HS	41.5	44	42
Total DHH Enrollment	95.5	93	97

Visually Impaired Program

School	# of Students November 1, 2018	# of Students November 1, 2019	# of Students November 4, 2020
Salt Creek Elementary	16	12	13
Swartz Elementary	9	12	6
Albright MS	19	17	19
Addison Trail HS	33	34	34
Total VI Enrollment	77	75	72

Transition Program

School	# of Students November 1, 2018	# of Students November 1, 2019	# of Students November 4, 2020
SASED Transition (blended)	21	N/A	N/A
LADSE Transition Center	18.5	19	16
Total Transition	39.5	19	16

SEMI ANNUAL REVIEW OF CLOSED SESSION MINUTES

Let it be noted that the DuPage West Cook Board has held no Closed Sessions.

FINANCIALS**Treasurer's Report**

Jim Nelson moved, and his motion was seconded by Dr. Ellie Ambuehl to accept the Treasurer's Report ending September 30, 2020 with a balance of \$15,212.09.

VOICE VOTE

MOTION CARRIED

Dr. McGuffin noted that after one week, interest earned was \$1.24.

SASED/LADSE/DWC Summary of Budgets for Fiscal Agent and Operating Entities

SASED is the fiscal agent for DuPage/West Cook Funds (DWC). This responsibility includes preparing annual budgets for DWC funds, accounting for expenditures & administering assessments.

In addition to serving as the fiscal agent for DWC, SASED serves as the operating entity for the elementary (EC-8th grade) Deaf/Hard of Hearing program, Vision Program, ESY Program & Audiology services. The DWC Program budgets are integrated into SASED's budget. LADSE serves as the operating entity for the Hinsdale High School Deaf/Hard of Hearing Transition program.

Some of the responsibilities assumed by operating entities are:

- Human Resource – hiring, evaluating & supervising program staff; managing worker’s compensation, health insurance & other employee benefits; negotiating contracts with bargaining units.
- Fiscal – program billing, cash collection, payroll & accounts payable; carrying the IMRF reserve for employees hired by the operating entity, but who work in DWC programs; obtaining & maintaining classroom space for programs; budget development & management.
- Programmatic – developing & maintaining the best educational practices for students with low incidence disabilities.

SASED’s projected program tuition rate changes FY21 are: DHH – 2.5%; ESY – 2.5%; VI – 2.5%. SASED’s budgeted service fee targeted rate of increase is 2.5% due to the financial commitments in the collective bargaining agreement. Projected service fee rate changes FY21 are: One to One Staff – 2.5%; One to One Interpreters – 2.5%; Audiology Tests – n/a.

LADSE in collaboration with the DHH Program Coordinator reviews current & projected staffing needs & brings forward recommendations to LADSE administration. Incoming freshman are also considered for staffing changes to meet student IEP needs. LADSE budgeted tuition rate increases FY21 are: DHH/Transition - -1.4%; ESY – 0%; 1:1 Signing Aide – -5.5%.

See below for a detailed explanation of the budgeted tuition and fee increases:

Deaf/Hard of Hearing Elementary Classroom Program - The enrollment in the DHH elementary program is budgeted for an increase in enrollment. Tuition rates are budgeted to increase by 2.5

Deaf/Hard of Hearing Secondary Classroom and Transition Program - The enrollment from FY20 to FY21 will decrease slightly. Staffing patterns reflect the student decrease in the program from FY20 to FY21. The increase in overall budget stems from an increase in salary and benefits. Also, additional supplies, equipment, and a change in budgeting/billing procedures between LADSE and District 86. Overall rates are budgeted to increase 1.4%.

Visually Impaired Student Classroom Program - The tuition rate for the VI classroom program is budgeted to increase by 2.5%. This program has had a stable enrollment and consistent needs for several years.

SASED Summer School Tuition - The budgeted tuition rate for the SASED summer school program budgeted to increase by 2.5% reflecting the budget target of 2.5%.

LADSE Summer School Tuition - There were no major changes to the ESY budget, however depending on the staff that works ESY and their individual rate, total costs/rates will vary year-to-year.

Diagnostic Testing – The pandemic has significantly decreased the number of assessments being completed. The staff have been conducting drive through ear mold clinics and innovating other strategies for supporting audiological needs. The projected number of 339 is likely a high estimate given current conditions.

One to One Staff - One to one staff are included in a bargaining unit and currently in contract negotiations. LADSE one to one staff are also included in a bargaining unit but have a contract in place. One to one staff are employed based entirely on student enrollment and specific needs.

OTHER DISCUSSION

Revision was made to the Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement Addendum A to reflect the separation of Elmwood Park CUSD 401 from LASEC and the addition of Elmwood Park CUSD 401 to Other Independent School Districts.

ADJOURNMENT

Dr. Mary Furbush moved, and her motion was seconded by Dr. Ellie Ambuehl to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:53 am.



Dr. James Gunnell, Board Chairperson



Dr. Ellie Ambuehl, Board Secretary



Chris Miller, Recording Secretary