



DUPAGE/WEST COOK BOARD
MINUTES – November 14, 2019
LOCATION: SASSED Administrative Center
2900 Ogden Avenue
Lisle, IL 60532

Dr. Jimmy Gunnell, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 10:05 am. During roll call, the following members answered present:

| | |
|----------------------------|--|
| AERO – Dr. Jimmy Gunnell | Districts ##86 & #181 – Tammy Prentiss |
| CASE – Dr. Mary Furbush | District #99/Cook – Elizabeth Dejewski |
| LADSE – Dr. Ellie Ambuehl | District #203 – Dr. Christine Igoe |
| LASEC – Dr. Danielle Welch | |
| NDSEC – Jim Nelson | |
| SASED – Dr. Mindy McGuffin | |

The following members were absent:
(arrived late)

District #97 – Ebony Lofton
District #200/Cook – Dr. Gwen Walker-Qualls
District #200/DuPage – Erica Ekstrom
District #201/Cook – Timothy Truesdale
District #204 – Christina Sepiol

There were no non-voting members present.

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

Also, present:

PAEC – Mary Beth Boeh – arrived after roll call
Nan Diamond, Coordinator, DuPage/West Cook
Teresa Bishop, Treasurer, DuPage/West Cook
Lynne Mennel, Recording Secretary

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Dr. Mary Furbush moved, and her motion was seconded by Dr. Ellie Ambuehl 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. Mary Furbush to approve and accept the September 12, 2019 meeting minutes.
VOICE VOTE **MOTION CARRIED**

INTRODUCTIONS/GUESTS

Dr. Gunnell requested the Board members and guests to please introduce themselves.
Guests: Carrie Morfoot - LADSE DHH Program Coordinator
Ellyn Gehrke – SASSED DHH Program Administrator
Jackie Bogan – LADSE Business Director

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None.

APPROVE THE AMENDMENT TO THE DWC AND SCHOOL DISTRICT #45 (Villa Park) LEASE AGREEMENT

The proposed amendment to the lease between DWC and School District #45 was approved by the Board. In summary, the amendment changes the number of classrooms from 7 to 6; the annual fee to be paid will be reduced by \$12,863.88; the time frame will be from July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020; and beginning July 1, 2020, the pre-Amendment terms of 7 classrooms and the original annual fee shall resume.

Dr. Ellie Ambuehl motioned, and her motion was seconded by Elizabeth Dejewski to approve.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: AERO Districts #86 & #181
 CASE District #99/Cook
 LADSE District #203
 LASEC
 NDSEC
 PAEC
 SASED

Nays: None

Absent: District #97
 District #200/Cook
 District #200/DuPage
 District #201/Cook
 District #204

COORDINATOR’S REPORT

Pathways to Success – DHH - Early Childhood to 8th Grade and High School to Transition

Four different student scenarios were presented. The 1st being a “traditional” student who is profoundly deaf with Autism and an Intellectual Disability. He progressed through both the SASED & LADSE DHH programs. He received credits for his high school diploma & continued to the LADSE DHH Transition Center. He was a DRS (Division of Rehabilitation Services) client & participated in WIOA (Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act). He is currently employed full time, with benefits, at Walmart.

The 2nd student has mild to moderate hearing loss, a speech/language impairment & is an ELL student. She has high absenteeism, decreased socialization & low academic skills. She is not progressing with home district resources, so she was moved to the DHH program during her 6th grade year. She increased her participation & academics; 13-point increase in her IQ. She has total communication with speaking & sign language, & her parents have reported seeing major improvements.

Student #3 has mild to moderate hearing loss, which progressed to severe to profound as well as SLD & OHI. She received a cochlear implant & was placed in the SASED DHH program for her 6th grade year to support cochlear implant adjustment. The intended outcome was to return to her home district for 7th grade. She receives Aural Rehabilitation 5 days a week & teaching technique specific for students with a hearing loss. She is participating in cheerleading, American Sign Language (ASL) club & Jr. Illinois Association of the Deaf (IAD), which is a state & national organization which starts in middle school & goes through high school.

Student #4 has mild to moderate hearing loss whose parents are deaf. He is a high risk for drop-out as he has no interest in school. He entered the DHH LADSE Transition Center as a 5th year high school student & was provided with credit recovery assistance, vocational training & self-advocacy/social-emotional support. Attendance improved from 50% to 80%; received his high school diploma & is currently employed with Jewel.

The primary goal for students is to get them back to their resident district. The programs have amazing outcomes. For the EC-8th grade students over the past 2 years, 13% went back to district. EC

alone had 33% return to district & 44% of Auditory students returned to district. For the past 20 years, 49% of the high school students went on to college; 24% had jobs; & 5% received adult services.

Enrollment – 3-year comparison chart

Deaf/Hard of Hearing Program

| School | # of Students November 1, 2017 | # of Students November 1, 2018 | # of Students November 1, 2019 |
|----------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| North School | 37 | 33 | 26 |
| Westmont JH | 17 | 21 | 23 |
| LADSE - HS | 60 | 41.5 | 44 |
| | | | |
| Total DHH Enrollment | 114 | 95.5 | 93 |

Visually Impaired Program

| School | # of Students November 1, 2017 | # of Students November 1, 2018 | # of Students November 1, 2019 |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Salt Creek Elementary | 16 | 16 | 12 |
| Swartz Elementary | 10 | 9 | 12 |
| Albright MS | 19 | 19 | 17 |
| Addison Trail HS | 34 | 33 | 34 |
| | | | |
| Total VI Enrollment | 79 | 77 | 75 |

Transition Program

| School | # of Students November 1, 2017 | # of Students November 1, 2018 | # of Students November 1, 2019 |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| SASED Transition (blended) | 15 | 21 | N/A |
| LADSE Transition Center | Blended into LADSE HS enrollment | 18.5 | 19 |
| Total Transition | 15 | 39.5 | 19 |

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, 2019 with a balance of \$15,088.25.

VOICE VOTE

MOTION CARRIED

Teresa Bishop noted that after one week, interest earned was \$9.78.

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 (EC-Transition), ESY for the previously stated programs & Audiology services. LADSE serves as the operating entity for the Deaf/Hard of Hearing high school-transition program.

Some of the responsibilities assumed by SASSED & LADSE as 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.

SASSED’s budgeted tuition targeted rate of increase is 2.5% due to the financial commitments in the collective bargaining agreement. Projected program tuition rate changes FY20 are: DHH – 2.8%; ESY – 2.4%; VI – 2.9%. SASSED’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 FY20 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 FY20 are: DHH/Transition - -1.0%; ESY – 0%; 1:1 Signing Aide – 2.2%. The signing aide increase is due to the collective bargaining unit. LADSE also took over the billing from Hinsdale SD #86 effective this school year.

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 to remain relatively flat. Tuition rates are budgeted to increase by 2.7

Deaf/Hard of Hearing Secondary Classroom and Transition Program - The enrollment from FY19 to FY20 will remain relatively flat. Staffing patterns will remain flat as student needs will not drastically change from FY19 to FY20. 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 1.2%.

Visually Impaired Student Classroom Program - The tuition rate for the VI classroom program is budgeted to increase by 2.9%, which is slightly above the budget target of 2.5%. This program has had a stable enrollment and consistent needs for several years.

SASSED Summer School Tuition - The budgeted tuition rate for the SASSED summer school program budgeted to increase by 2.4% 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 responsibilities of performing audiology exams, managing equipment needs and providing classroom support could not be met with one full time audiologist. Also, the number of tests to be performed annually was unrealistically high. Therefore, the rate increased 30.7%, to reflect actual FY ’19.

One to One Staff - One to one staff are included in a bargaining unit that was awarded a 3% increase in hourly rates this year. The billing rates are budgeted to reflect the budget target of 2.5%.

OTHER DISCUSSION

Dr. Gunnell is looking into a webinar for online therapy services and asked the Board if there would be any interest in joining the webinar. eLuma, www.elumatherapy.com, is provider of live, on line

therapy services and software solutions for students in K – 12 special education. They help blend online therapy with your onsite services to support “the team” and create better student outcomes. There, currently, is no Medicaid reimbursement. Depending upon the interest, SASSED will host the collaborative webinar.

Dr. Gunnell expressed his gratitude and thanks on behalf of the Board to Dr. Mindy McGuffin for her work and efforts on the amended District #45 lease agreement.


ADJOURNMENT

Dr. Jimmy Gunnell moved, and his motion was seconded by Jim Nelson to adjourn the meeting.


The meeting was adjourned at 10:46 am.



Dr. James Gunnell, Board Chairperson



Dr. Ellie Ambuehl, Board Secretary



Lynne Mennel, Recording Secretary

