

Regional Office of Education Committee
Regional Office of Education #11
Charleston, IL 61920

December 2, 2019

Regional Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Kyle Thompson, called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Marla Leasher called roll. Members present were Susan Guinnip, Clark County; Nancy Purdy, Coles County; Dave McCabe, Moultrie County and Kay Kearney, Shelby County. Roy Clapp, Cumberland County; Bibby Appleby, Douglas County and Phil Ludington, Edgar County were absent.

Dr. Thompson shared a thank you note from Oakland CUSD #5. ROE #11 awarded scholarship funds to them for attend the RSAC conference in Schaumburg December 9-10, 2019.

Dave McCabe made a motion to approve the September 9, 2019 minutes. Nancy Purdy seconded. Motion carried.

Dr. Thompson presented the Report of Official Acts and Quarterly Funds Report. Dr. Thompson pointed out that attendance is up for bus driver trainings and professional development workshops. He also shared that ROE #11 has the highest homeless numbers in Area 4. For the second consecutive competitive period, ROE #11 was awarded the lead role in the Area 4 homeless grant. Dr. Thompson said that about half of the health/life safety visits are complete. On the quarterly funds report, he said that there is minimal use of the StarLab in its deteriorating state and it will probably be retired at the end of the year. EIU is expected to issue ROE #11 another \$5000 for the Grow Your Own program.

The FY20 ROEC Budget was approved on September 9, 2019. ROE #11's budget is shown on the back.

EIU Interns are creating six 90 second videos of local educators/administrators as an active campaign to recruit future teachers into our region. The videos will be shown on social media sites and YouTube. Future Teacher Night was attended by approximately 75 individuals interested in becoming a licensed teacher in Illinois. Three universities showcased their programs/options.

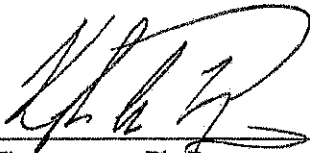
Dr. Thompson announced that Marla Leasher has accepted the position of Youth Services Secretary and Sue Shumway will be the new office manager effective January 2, 2020. ROE #11 held an informational meeting on The Leader in Me recently. Several districts attended and are interested in the implementation of it in their buildings. It is based off of Covey's 7 Habits and teaches leadership skills to students and staff. With sufficient interest, ROE #11 will contribute to the cost. Susan Guinnip asked if community agencies can help offset the costs, and Dr. Thompson said the Rotaries currently assist Mattoon and Charleston school districts.

Assistant Regional Superintendent Dr. Zakry Standerfer shared legislative updates related to property tax relief, pension reform, and school consolidation.

Dr. Thompson said Illinois School Code's new Press Policy is much larger this year. There is frustration with the increased number of new laws created that require more reporting and showing data. He said that paraprofessional approval via the Test of Basic Skills was eliminated but is expected to be re-approved.

Other educational updates explained were the creation of the school construction task force comprised of educators and legislators and the legalization of marijuana effective January 1, 2020. The task force will prepare a report to the Governor by March 1 on school construction projects. Dr. Thompson stated that adaptations in school related to medical marijuana/the legalization of marijuana has also created an increase in Press Policy. Dr. Thompson emailed Youth Services staff yesterday explaining that recreational use is still illegal under federal law. He also informed them that there is to be no teaching while under the influence and marijuana cannot be on school property. A school nurse or administrator must administer medical marijuana to any student with a prescription.

Susan Guinnip made a motion to end the meeting. Dave McCabe seconded. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:23 pm. The next meeting will be March 2, 2020.



Kyle Thompson, Ph.D.
Regional Superintendent of Schools