

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

March 1, 2021

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

Dr. Thompson read several items of positive correspondence including a handwritten note from teacher Lindsay McDonald (Casey-Westfield), a letter from Habitat for Humanity, and e-mails from administrators Bill Fritcher (Neoga), Courtney Hiler (Central A&M), and Shannon Shallenberger (Shelbyville).

Dave McCabe made a motion to approve the September 14, 2020 minutes. Susan Guinnip seconded. Motion carried.

Dr. Thompson presented the Report of Official Acts and Quarterly Funds Report. Dr. Thompson shared that we will hold an RBST hearing in April. He also briefly compared our student services numbers compared to last year (pre-COVID) at this time. The numbers similar, with the exception of homeschool packets and truancy letters increasing significantly. On the quarterly funds report, he briefly discussed APEX license fees and County Board funds being invoiced, but not yet received.

Dr. Thompson discussed the status of edTPA legislation he worked with legislators to introduce in the General Assembly for the third consecutive year (HB655 & SB49). The legislation has bipartisan support in both chambers and continues to build statewide momentum, especially as the teacher shortage continues.

Dr. Thompson shared the professional development newsletter and discussed some of the professional development opportunities in our office this spring. He noted that PD coordinator Katie O'Dell has done an outstanding job of creating exceptional PD opportunities, many virtual, throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. He also talked about the recent Orton-Gillingham training our office hosted for ROE #11 educators.

Dr. Thompson updated the Committee on Health Life Safety building inspections and school district Compliance visits. We have concluded all building inspections for the 2020-2021 school year in ROE #11.

Dr. Thompson highlighted our annual building administrators' breakfast which occurs every January. This year we held four separate breakfasts in an effort to minimize capacity and

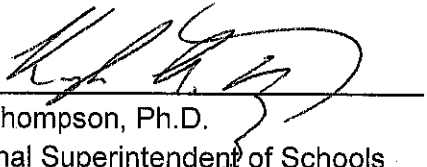
create more collaborative conversations. Principals were assigned a breakfast date based on the grade levels in their building and their geographic location. All breakfasts were well attended and well received.

Sue Shumway updated the committee on the ROE #11 Recognition of Excellence award. For the second year, our office solicited nominations from school districts to nominate an educator they believe deserves the honor. Office staff will visit these educators before the end of the year and present them with some items of appreciation. Nominations were received from all 25 ROE #11 school districts, up from only 18 received last year.

Dr. Thompson distributed the latest IPA legal update and discussed some new education laws. He also shared some information about proposed legislation that will be debated in Springfield this spring. Elizabeth Shriver explained the audit process for ROE #11 with the board members.

Dr. Thompson shared some teacher shortage survey information and discussed the results with the board members. He emphasized that the results are eye-opening each year as the shortage continues. He shared some statistics with the group and alerted them to the statewide media campaign going on this week/month.

Roy Clapp made a motion to end the meeting. Susan Guinnip seconded. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:03 PM. The next meeting will be June 7, 2021.



Kyle Thompson, Ph.D.
Regional Superintendent of Schools