

Kankakee Area Special Education Cooperative

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MINUTES EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING JANUARY 8, 2026

President Smith called the Executive Board Meeting of January 8, 2026, to order at 8:30 a.m. at the St. Anne School District Office. A Quorum was present.

1. ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Shannon Anderson (Momence), Chris Gibson (Central), Jay Smith (St. George), John Palan (Grant Park), Charles Stegall (St. Anne), Chris Hammond (Bradley Elementary) Also present: Lindsey Coffey, Director, Jill Cowsert, Recording Secretary

ABSENT: Genevra Walters (Pembroke)

2. PUBLIC COMMENT - None

3. CLOSED SESSION - Mr. Hammond moved to go into closed session at 8:32 a.m. to discuss personnel 5ILCS 120/2 (c) (1). Second: Palan ROLL CALL: AYES: Stegall, Anderson, Gibson, Smith, Hammond, and Palan. NAYES: NONE

Returned to Open Session: 8:40 a.m.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approve Minutes of the Executive Board Meeting from December 11, 2025, as presented.
- B. Approve Closed Session Minutes of the Executive Board Meeting from December 11, 2025, as presented.
- C. Payment of Bills: Payroll and Liabilities; Accounts Payable and Imprest.
- D. Approval of Transfer of Engagement Kriha Boucek, LLC and Fagen Friedman & Fulfrost, LLP.
- E. Approval of Letting of Bulk Paper Bid
- F. Destruction of Closed Session Recordings from January to June 2024.
- G. Destruction of Closed Session Recordings from January to December 2025.
- H. First Reading of Press Policies Issue 120

Dr. Stegall moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented: Second: Anderson ROLL CALL: ALL AYES: Hammond, Palan, Anderson, Stegall, Smith, and Gibson.

5. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ms. Coffey's report included:

A. 2025-2026 ENROLLMENT

The Director reviewed the enrollment numbers to date.

B. STAFFING NEEDS

The Director is proposing the addition of a Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA) position at KASEC, located at the Communications Program. This initiative aims to accommodate more students with severe needs in the program. The Speech-Language Pathologist (SLP) position was posted on December 23, 2025, and will remain open until February 1, 2026. Additionally, KASEC intends to introduce a Hearing and Vision Technician position, which would eliminate the need for Member Districts to contract with individual providers and health departments. KASEC will manage contracts based on demand at a rate of \$4.00 per test. Furthermore, FY27 Planning Surveys were distributed to Districts on December 23, 2025, to assess the needs of the Districts for the 2026-2027 school year.

C. OPEN INVOICES

The Director provided the list of outstanding revenue due to KASEC from participating districts.

D. PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The Director reviewed upcoming opportunities for professional development.

E. MENTOR PROGRAM

The Mentor Committee met on January 6, 2026, to review the proposed programming. Stipends for these positions were determined, and the Handbook was available for the Board to review.

F. OTHER

The Director surveyed the staff for the overall performance of KASEC and provided the results to the Board. The Director will be applying for the Wheeler Foundation Grant in hopes to be awarded funds to be applied to a school van or bus. The Communications Program sent a thank-you note to the Board for approving their Christmas celebration.

6. ACTION ITEMS -None

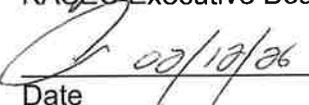
7. OTHER - None

8. ADJOURNMENT

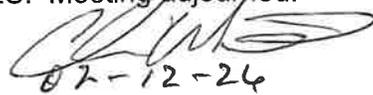
There being no further business, Dr. Smith moved to adjourn the Executive Board Meeting at 9:13 a.m. Second: Dr. Stegall VOICE VOTE: ALL AYES. Meeting adjourned.



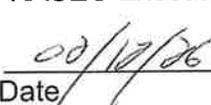
KASEC Executive Board President



Date


02-12-26

KASEC Executive Board Secretary



Date