



Kankakee Area Special Education Cooperative

P.O. Box 71 St. Anne, IL 60964 * 815-422-4151 Telephone * 815-422-5023 Fax

MINUTES EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING FEBRUARY 12, 2026

President Smith called the Executive Board Meeting of February 12, 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), Genevra Walters (Pembroke), Jay Smith (St. George), John Palan (Grant Park), Chris Hammond (Bradley Elementary) Also present: Lindsey Coffey, Director, Jill Cowsert, Recording Secretary

ABSENT: Charles Stegall (St. Anne)

2. PUBLIC COMMENT - None

3. CLOSED SESSION - Mr. Hammond moved to go into closed session at 8:31 a.m. to discuss personnel 5ILCS 120/2 (c) (1). Second: Palan ROLL CALL: AYES: Anderson, Walters, Gibson, Smith, Hammond, and Palan. NAYES: NONE

Returned to Open Session: 8:35 a.m.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approve Minutes of the Executive Board Meeting from January 8, 2026, as presented.
- B. Approve Closed Session Minutes of the Executive Board Meeting from January 8, 2026, as presented.
- C. Payment of Bills: Payroll and Liabilities; Accounts Payable and Imprest.
- D. Final Reading and Adoption of Press Plus Issue 120

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

5. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ms. Coffey's report included:

A. SCHOOL SUPPORT DOG-GRACIE

Mrs. Giacometti provided an overview of the school support dog, Gracie, and her positive impact on the Alternative Day Program. Gracie attends 1-2 days per week and the students respond positively to her attendance.

- B. 2025-2026 ENROLLMENT
Ms. Coffey reviewed the January Enrollment.
- C. 2025-2026 STAFFING NEEDS
Ms. Coffey will ask the Board to accept the resignations of two Communication Paraprofessionals and approve their replacements for the remainder of the 2025-2026 school year.
- D. 2026-2027 STAFFING NEEDS
Ms. Coffey recommends approval of a Hearing and Vision Technician and an SLP for the 2026-2027 school year.
- E. OPEN INVOICES
The open invoice report was included in the packet for review.
- F. 2026-2027 CALENDAR
The 2026-2027 calendar was included for review and approval.
- G. MENTOR PROGRAM MOU
Ms. Coffey is requesting approval for the Mentor Program MOU and will seek out KASEC staff willing to train for the program.
- H. FOIA REQUEST
The Director received a FOIA request on January 19, 2026, requesting dollar thresholds for school administrators, department leadership, and thresholds requiring Board approval.
- I. RTO DATA
With changes to the ISBE guidelines and reporting requirements, the RTO data was included in the packet for information to justify some of the professional development trainings offered by KASEC.
- J. ALTERNATIVE ASSESSMENT RESULTS
The Director included the Alternative Assessment Results for each member district to review. All districts have been assigned to Tier 1 support because participation rates met required criteria.
- K. OTHER
The Director reviewed upcoming professional development opportunities offered to the member and non-member districts.

6. ACTION ITEMS

Dr. Palan moved to **Approve the resignation of Quentessa Collins, Paraprofessional, Communications Program, effective January 13, 2026.** Second: Smith ROLL CALL: ALL AYES: Smith, Walters, Palan, Anderson, Gibson, and Hammond

Mr. Hammond moved to **Approve the resignation of Danielle Schrempf (Peach), Paraprofessional, Communications Program, effective February 13, 2026** Second: Anderson ROLL CALL: ALL AYES: Smith, Walters, Palan, Anderson, Gibson, and Hammond

Mr. Anderson moved to **Approve the employment of Jessica Veenstra Paraprofessional, Communications Program, effective February 3, 2026** Second: Palan ROLL CALL: ALL AYES: Smith, Walters, Palan, Anderson, Gibson, and Hammond

Mr. Hammond moved to **Approve the employment of Abigail Bruckman, Paraprofessional, Communications Program, effective February 23, 2026.** Second: Smith ROLL CALL: ALL AYES: Smith, Walters, Palan, Anderson, Gibson, and Hammond

Dr. Palan moved to **Approve the part-time employment of Connie Gullquist, Certified Hearing and Vision Technician, at \$4.00 per screener for the 2026-2027 school year.** Second: Gibson ROLL CALL: ALL AYES: Smith, Walters, Palan, Anderson, Gibson, and Hammond

Dr. Gibson moved to **Approve the full-time employment of Emma Howard, Speech Language Pathologist for the 2026-2027 school year.** Second: Smith ROLL CALL: ALL AYES: Smith, Walters, Palan, Anderson, Gibson, and Hammond

Mr. Anderson moved to **Approve the 2026-2027 calendar as presented.** Second: Palan ROLL CALL: ALL AYES: Smith, Walters, Palan, Anderson, Gibson, and Hammond

Mr. Anderson moved to **Approve the MOU with the Kankakee Area Special Education Association for the Mentor Program Stipends for the 2026-2027 school year as presented.** Second: Hammond ROLL CALL: ALL AYES: Smith, Walters, Palan, Anderson, Gibson, and Hammond

7. OTHER - None

8. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Dr. Smith moved to adjourn the Executive Board Meeting at 8:52 a.m. Second: Palan VOICE VOTE: ALL AYES. Meeting adjourned.



KASEC Executive Board President
03/12/2024

Date



KASEC Executive Board Secretary
03/10/2026

Date