



Four Corners

Regional Education Cooperative #1
Working for the Future

MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 10, 2021 (ZOOM)

- I. Welcome and Introductions – Meeting was called to order at 10:10 a.m.
- II. Roll Call and Determination of Quorum – Quorum was determined as follows:
 - Present:
 - Dr. Kimberly Mizell, Bloomfield Schools
 - Daniel Benavidez, Central Consolidated Schools
 - Mike Hyatt, Gallup-McKinley County Schools
 - Dr. Eugene Schmidt, Farmington Municipal Schools
 - Judy Englehart, Aztec Municipal Schools (Designee)
 - Dr. Toni Pendergrass, San Juan College @ 10:11 a.m.
 - Absent:
 - Kirk Carpenter, Aztec Municipal Schools
 - Mrs. Randy Stickney, Zuni Public Schools
 - Also in Attendance:
 - Jodie Maestas, Bloomfield Schools
 - David Bowman, Director
 - Kathy Price, Child Care Coordinator
- III. Agenda Review and Approval – Dr. Mizell presented the current meeting agenda. Dr. Schmidt moved to approve the meeting agenda and Mrs. Englehart seconded. The motion passed to approve the meeting agenda.
- IV. Previous Meeting Minutes Review and Approval – Dr. Mizell presented the minutes of the December 9, 2020 meeting. Minutes were reviewed with no changes noted. Dr. Schmidt moved to approve the minutes and Mrs. Englehart seconded. The motion passed to approve the previous meeting minutes.
- V. Introductions: Kathy Price, Child Care Coordinator – Mrs. Price noted that she is currently working with Aztec schools and looking to connect with Bloomfield. The program is

looking to RECs to help participation, as there is still a little disconnect. There are 7 regional coordinators currently.

- VI. Financial Budget Reporting and Approval – Mrs. Maestas presented the financial reports indicating that only partial funds have been received to date. Not many expenditures to report, with the majority being in salary expenses. The financial audit report is still being finalized by the auditor after receiving further guidance from the State. The second quarter cash report has been submitted, however the budget analyst position is vacant at NMPED so there has been little to no feedback. Dr. Schmidt motioned to approve the financial budget reports and Mr. Hyatt seconded. The motion passed to approve the financial budget reports.
- VII. Discussion, Updates, and Actions
 - a. CS4MS – Mr. Bowman updated the board on the middle school coding grant. There are currently 5 teams up and running successfully at this point. The feedback has been good. Teachers have been asking to have it continued and even expanded.
 - b. IGA: Science Curriculum RFP – Mr. Bowman provided an update to the board on the possibilities of IGAs being awarded. Documents have been received for signatures, however have not received final award letters. The NMPED wants to contract with the REC as a provider. There will be a small management fee and the indirect cost for the REC. The REC will oversee the contract. After discussion and the mention that the NMPED would be heavily involved, the board determined that they would like to bring the IGA RFPs to a vote. Mr. Benavidez voted to approve submitting RFPs for Science Curriculum and Dr. Pendergrass seconded. The motion passed to approve submitting RFPs for Science Curriculum.
 - c. IGA: Science Materials – Mr. Bowman noted that this IGA is a small contract where the NMPED will be hosting a series of training events for various schools. The REC would be contracted in a supportive role to set up, report, and collect materials. The REC will receive a small fee to send these materials. After discussion, the board determined that they would like to bring the IGA for Science Materials to a vote. Dr. Schmidt motioned to approve the IGA for Science Materials and Mr. Benavidez seconded. The motion passed to approve the IGA for Science Materials.
 - d. TRIO Proposal – Mr. Bowman mentioned that the grant proposal was proceeding nicely. The proposal is due February 26th, however he noted that he gave himself a deadline of the 24th. Data is still needing to finalize the proposal.

- e. Legislation Tracker – Mr. Bowman noted that the REC website has a legislation tracker that he updates daily. There are also links to committees and schedules. The board discussed a few of the items being discussed during the legislative session including HB4, Districts being held harmless, and impact aid.
- f. RECA Director – Mr. Bowman presented the idea to the board of helping to pay for the RECA Director position. The RECA organization is small with a small fiscal budget, however the director would be of great value and connection. The board discussed the possible candidates for the position. Mr. Bowman asked the board if they felt this expenditure would be beneficial. There is a possibility of an REC opting to not assist in the salary compensation which could make each participating REC's portion larger. The Director would be part time yet active throughout the year and especially during the legislative session. The board determined that having someone lobby on the REC's behalf would be beneficial however without knowing the cost, it is difficult to allocate funds. The item will be tabled until the May meeting.

VIII. Report-outs by District –

Mr. Hyatt noted that GMCS is back in school, although there are not a lot of students yet. Having to address issues with the union, following impact aid and HB4, and legally challenging things at the state level. Student numbers have decreased, however fortunately GMCS has not had to close any schools yet.

Mr. Benavidez reported that CCSD will begin school on February 16th with visits from the fire marshal this week. Not expecting a full 50% of students in buildings. It's been a long journey but definitely a team effort.

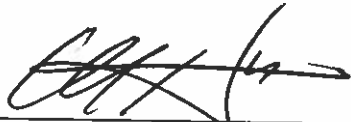
Mrs. Englehart noted that Aztec Schools had sixth and ninth grade start this week with the rest of secondary beginning next week. There have been a few positive cases at the high school, but have not closed schools. Aztec's enrollment numbers are down as well.

Dr. Mizell mentioned that Bloomfield Schools has only had about 30% of high school students confirm that they plan on returning to in-person learning. With the decision being made that students do not have to be hybrid in order to participate in athletics, there was a change in the numbers. Expecting the same percentage at the junior high level as well. Made sure to make the community aware that the District would be going in and out of hybrid as we close schools before being forced to close.

Dr. Pendergrass noted that San Juan College is doing primarily online, however there are some face to face instruction taking place. A ground breaking is taking place for the housing project, however not sure what it will look like since there can be no more than 5 people in attendance. The housing is good for students as transportation is an issue for so

many students. A recent survey indicated that 89% of students said they would live in campus housing if available. The college is hoping to boost enrollment by offering housing, as well as help retention and graduation rates.

- IX. Questions or Requests – None noted.
- X. Next Board Meeting – Dates were discussed, with the board agreeing to the next meeting being held in May, if not sooner for IGA contract approval.
- XI. Adjournment – Mr. Hyatt moved to adjourn the meeting and Dr. Pendergrass seconded. The motion passed to adjourn the meeting at 11:40 a.m.



Board Member Signature

Secretary Rec #

Title

5/11/21

Date Approved