

**TRI-COUNTY SPECIAL EDUCATION JOINT AGREEMENT**  
**MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING**  
**OF EXECUTIVE BOARD**  
**June 5, 2015**

1. The meeting was called to order at 10:30 a.m. by Board Chairman, Chris Grode.
2. Roll Call: Mr. Chris Grode, Dr. Gary Kelly, Dr. Lori James-Gross, Mr. Shimshak, Mrs. Belinda Hill, Mr. Steve Murphy, Mr. Charles Goforth and Mrs. Shelly Clover-Hill. Mr. Tim O'Leary was absent.
3. A motion was made by Mr. Shimshak, to approve the Agenda for the special meeting of the Executive Board dated June 5, 2015. Mrs. Clover-Hill seconded the motion. A voice vote was recorded as follows: Aye: all. Nay: none. Absent: Mr. O'Leary. Motion Carried.
4. Recognition of Audience: Jan Percy, new Director, Lisa Gross, new Administrative Assistant & Recording Secretary for the Board, Tammy Milam, Teacher, Jennifer Bunton, Teacher and Peggy Maggos, Representative of the Tri-County Special Education Association.

Others present: Christy Konkell, Jerika Rivera and Edward Rivera all parents of students in REACH programs.

5. Mr. Hamilton presented a chart to the Board recommending the number of REACH programs to be absorbed by the District and the number of REACH programs being run by the Co-op. These recommendations are based on reported conversations the Technical Assistance Supervisor group had with all local districts impacted. He stated one REACH program at DuQuoin Elementary and one REACH program at Jonesboro be closed with those students being absorbed back in their home districts. He recommended the Co-op run four REACH programs (2 middle school and 2 high school) being located at: DuQuoin Middle School, Murphysboro Middle School, Carbondale High School and DuQuoin High School. Students attending REACH program at DeSoto would attend either DuQuoin MS or M'boro MS programs. It was noted by Mr. Goforth that he was not aware that a REACH classroom was an option for Union County. Mr. Hamilton indicated that we would further review this option and bring it to the June 10<sup>th</sup> meeting for a vote if deemed necessary.
6. Mr. Hamilton stated with Tri-County continuing to operate four REACH programs next year that the cost associated with running those programs will need to be absorbed by the district. He stated he will need a motion from the Board to approve the cost to be absorbed by the districts for Tri-County to run those programs. A motion was made by Dr. Kelly, seconded by Mr. Murphy to approve the Districts absorbing the costs for the REACH programs ran by Tri-County next year. A roll call vote was recorded as follows: Dr. Kelly, aye; Mr. Murphy, aye; Mr. Grode, aye; Dr. James-Gross, aye; Mr. Shimshak, aye; Mrs.

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Hill, aye; Mr. Goforth, aye; and Mrs. Clover-Hill, aye. Mr. O'Leary was absent. Motion Carried.

7. Mr. Hamilton stated with the costs being absorbed by the Districts, a decision will need to be made on how the cost will be absorbed. He stated the cost recovery can be Tuition based or the cost can be through a generalized assessment increase. After a lengthy discussion, the Board decided to do a tuition base cost recovery in which for budgetary purposes the tuition cost of \$8,000 will be charged per student for one year. Total cost to operate these classrooms is estimated to be \$80,000 per classroom or a total of \$320,000 per year. Mr. Hamilton stated the billings for these programs will be made separate from the generalized assessment billing, with a final reconciliation at the end of the fiscal year. The Board also recommended that the new Director, Jan Percy, revisit the cost analysis on these programs next year and report to the Board. In addition it is recommended that Ms. Percy arrange an informational training next year on how billings are figured on quarterly assessments. The primary target audience of this training will be District Superintendents. A motion was made by Mr. Murphy, seconded by Dr. James-Gross for budgetary purposes to do a tuition base charge of \$8,000 per student for one year for the REACH programs. A roll call vote was recorded as follows: Mr. Murphy, aye; Dr. James-Gross, aye; Mr. Grode, aye; Dr. Kelly, aye; Mr. Shimshak, aye; Mrs. Hill, aye; Mr. Goforth, aye; and Mrs. Clover-Hill, aye. Mr. O'Leary was absent. Motion Carried.
8. A motion was made by Mrs. Clover-Hill, seconded by Mr. Murphy to adjourn the meeting. A voice vote was recorded as follows: Aye: all. Nay: none. Motion Carried.
9. The meeting ended at 11:30 a.m.

Approved July 8<sup>th</sup>, 2015