

# Southwest Colorado Education Collaborative

## Board Meeting Minutes

October 15, 2021

1:00 p.m.

### **Board Members**

*Present:* Kevin Aten, Sam Dosumu, Gisele Panzse, Nick Olson, LaTitia Taylor

*Absent:* Tom Stritikus, Troy Dyer, Kim White, Kim White, Kym LeBlanc-Esparza

*Quorum present?* Yes

### **Others Present**

Jess Morrison, SW Colorado Education Collaborative

Cara McKenna, Empower Schools

Hannah Sharfman, Empower Schools

Sara Butler, Empower Schools

### Proceedings

#### **I. Call to order**

Meeting called to order at 1:08 MST. Quorum not established at start of the meeting so will start on discussion items first.

Quorum met at 1:23pm.

#### **II. Welcome, introductions, and review of agenda**

Board Chair Kevin Aten welcomes and reviews the agenda.

#### **III. Discussion and possible action of August board meeting minutes**

Motion made by Sam Dosumu. Seconded by LaTitia Taylor. Vote is 5-0. August 24th meeting minutes are approved.

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#### **IV. Southwest Colorado Education Collaborative Updates by Executive Director Jessica Morrison**

Jessica Morrison shares updates on the ECI/Build Trades pathways, professional development for teachers, work based learning/job shadowing/career exploration opportunities for students, 60 day short term goals, new SWCEC website, pathway expansion

Question from Nick Olson-Regarding district representation on field visits-were all five districts involved?

- Only Ignacio did not have students participate in either field visit-they have a new Env. Science teacher that likely needs to be brought up to speed and there does need to be some overall recruitment across all districts to increase recruitment and students involved.

Question from Sam- What is the background of each of the three potential additional pathways?

- Steering Committee interest as well as regional workforce/economic need.

Question from Nick Olson- In some of our other environmental work we have put together Youth Advisory Panels-would this be something the SWCEC might think about putting together? Could be a student representative from each district to talk to their fellow peers and help with recruitment.

## **V. Discussion and possible action on SWCEC Budget**

Finance updates include FY2021 update that all books are closed. Q1 of FY2022 expenses were included in the board packet for board member review. Currently are tracking below budget because it is still early in stages of the grant spending. An additional update was given on the RISE grant timeline and challenge of the reimbursement fund structure.

Question from Nick Olson- Are you feeling good about the health benefits and retirement benefits offered?

- Jess- overall yes, we are a small group of employees and there was employee feedback given on both the health benefits and IRA plan for employees. We don't use PERA, we are working with Edward Jones for a Simple IRA.

Question from Nick Olson-How long would you hope this money would last should the timeline be extended?

- Jess-Realistically we had hoped we would have this money to spend for a two year model (July 2023).

Motion to accept budget proposal as presented (no changes). Motion made by Sam Dosumu. Seconded by Nick Olson. Vote is 5-0. Motion approved.

## **VI. Discussion and possible action on the SWCEC Core Values**

Presentation of core values by Jess Morrison.

Comment from Kevin Aten- I really like the core values. They are well defined and clear for the work we are doing.

Comment from LaTitia Taylor- I really like the simplicity and the focus of the words to the work.

Motion to approve the SWCEC Core Values as presented. Motion made by LaTitia Taylor. Seconded by Sam Dosumu. Vote is 5-0. The SWCEC core values are approved as presented.

**VII. Discussion and possible action on a motion for the Board to convene in Executive Session to discuss personnel matters, including specifically the evaluation process of the Executive Director, as authorized by the Colorado Revised Statutes CRS 24-6-402(4)(f) for Personnel Matters.**

Motion made by Sam Dosumu. Second made by Giesele Pansze. Vote is 5-0. Board moves to Executive Session.

Board convenes in Executive Session at 2:50 MST

Board returns from Executive Session 3:03 MST

**VIII. Discussion and possible action on choosing a time for future meeting**

Meeting to be held in November for SWCEC Strategic Plan and January regular meeting

**IX. Meeting adjournment**

Motion made by Sam Dosumu. Seconded by LaTitia Taylor. Motion passes 5-0. Meeting adjourned at 2:11 MST.