#### JESSE VISION STATEMENT

Special Education services will be managed and provided by the participating School Corporations and their respective Schools. JESSE will work collaboratively with School Staff to ensure full compliance with the Law and to make certain effective, individually designed instruction is provided to maximize achievement for all of our students with disabilities.

# Joint Educational Services in Special Education

# JESSE Board of Managers Meeting Plymouth Administration Building Virtual from Plymouth Administration Building Monday, December 14, 2020 10:00 AM EST

# **MINUTES**

## 1.0 Organization of Meeting

**1.1 Call to Order** – Mr. Andy Hartley, President called the virtual ZOOM meeting to order at 10:01AM. Linda Holland, Albert Hanselman and Sandy Thomas were present at the Plymouth Administration Building. Those in attendance observed the COVID-19 Guidance.

# Members present for the meeting were:

Mr. Ned Speicher, Argos

Mrs. Karen Shuman, Culver

Mr. Chris Winchell, John Glenn attended at the Plymouth Administration Building

Dr. William Reichhart, Knox

Dr. Annette Zupin, North Judson - San Pierre

Mr. Bill Bennett, Oregon-Davis

Mr. Andy Hartley, Plymouth

Mr. Jeremy Riffle, Triton

Mr. Mitch Mawhorter, Union North

Mrs. Linda Holland, J.E.S.S.E. Director

Mrs. Joyce Hanselman, J.E.S.S.E. Administrative Assistant

**1.2 Recognition of Visitors -** Albert Hanselman and Sandy Thomas, NCAVC, were in attendance.

Any visitor may request to speak to any agenda item on the posted agenda. The Board President will recognize visitors with special comments/concerns at the appropriate time. All citizens are encouraged to visit JESSE Board Meetings and observe proceedings.

- 1.3 Agenda of the December 14, 2020 Regular Session Meeting
- **2.0** <u>Consent Items</u> Any member of the Board of Managers may request that any item be removed from the Consent Calendar and voted upon separately.
  - 2.1 Approve Minutes of the December 14, 2020 Regular Session Meeting.
  - 2.3 New Hire: OT from Procare Therapy

Linda informed the board that in October, the OT from ProCare resigned. She has been replaced at the same rate of pay. All the needs of the students have been met by the current OT's seeing additional students, however this has resulted in overtime. The hours of the new OT have been reduced for the second semester by 4 hours. This is a savings of approximately \$300 per week. A new contract will need to be signed.

2.4 Resignations: None at this time

Linda Holland asked for the removal of items 3.5 and 4.4 from the agenda. She is still waiting on a response from the lawyer. A motion was made by Bill Reichartt to approve the revised agenda. Mitch Mawhorter seconded the motion the motion carried.

**2.5** Approval of Claims: Vendor and Payroll Claims for October 1 to October 31, 2020 in the \$192,711.13 and November 1, 2020 to November 30, 2020 in the amount of \$131.594.23.

Ned Speicher made a motion for the Board to approve the **Consent**, **Personnel** and **Claim Items** as presented. Karen Shuman seconded the motion. Bill Reichartt asked if the increase in expenditures in November was due to 3 payrolls. Linda confirmed that was the case. Andy Hartley called for the vote which was carried.

#### 3.0 Information Agenda

#### 3.1 Friday Notes Q/A

Linda Holland asked if there were any questions or concerns on the Friday Notes. There being no questions, she addressed the December 1 special education student count numbers. Corporation wise, there was an increase of 62 students from last year, The majority of the increase was in Developmental Delay and Speech/Language. More data will be coming in January. Linda wanted to extend many thanks to the data persons for having all data gathered prior to Thanksgiving.

#### 3.2 RDA Retreat

Every corporation was represented at the RDA Data Retreat. The representatives received information to be shared with the superintendents. Linda would like to join your admin team virtually for an overall discussion regarding this information in January or February. Overall the report was pleasing, however, there are areas to work on locally.

## 3.3 Loss of Revenue from Medicaid Billing

Included in the board packet was the GoSolutions Income Comparison Report. The report reflected a loss of \$184,690 from Medicaid reimbursement last year. Linda stated that the reductions are due to COVID. Nursing was down, due to no students in the buildings. OT/PT and Speech services were also down due to COVID. The Governor has not corrected his order that would allow OT, PT, and Speech ASSISTANTS to bill for virtual services. This will be a HUGE impact for our schools. This is another reason she has encouraged schools to consider bringing in students for this type of service when schools have gone virtually.

#### 3.4 Link Portal Pilot

The move to the new LINK system will be done on Dec. 18. Louise Buza is working very closely with your local data people as well as Learning Connection Administrators to be prepared for this move. This is a pilot program and will have some quirks and tweaks to be worked out. It was necessary to do a lot of cleanup prior to the change. Louise & Linda will be giving all staff a virtual overview by Dec. 18.

3.5 \*\*\*\* Removed from agenda. Joint Service and Supply Fund Agreement Final Review was not received from the lawyer in time for the meeting

#### 4.0 Action Items

**4.1** Change from Go Solutions to Asset Works Risk Management
Go Solutions has been acquired by Assetworks Risk Management. Linda Holland asked for a
motion to approve the amended contract reflecting the name change only.

# 4.2 Classified Staff Pay Increase

For the last 3 years, Classified Pay raises have been addressed in December, after local schools have addressed it. A 3% raise has been budgeted across the board for all classified staff. It ranges from \$.35 an hour to \$.75, depending on the job description. In addition, the board contribution to insurance has not been raised in several years. There has been a 2% insurance increase this year. Information from all 9 schools on their raises has been gathered, but it is difficult to compare as the procedures vary. The raise is recommended to retain our hard to find staff such as OT/PT and Speech Therapists, After review of all the local plans, Linda recommended that the board entertain a motion to give all classified staff hired before Sept. 1, 2020 a 3% raise.

Andy Hartley asked for a motion to approve a 3% raise for JESSE classified staff effective January 1, 2021. Mitch Mawhorter made a motion and Ned Speicher seconded. Discussion ensued with Bill Reichhart asking for more specifics regarding the raises. It was suggested that in the future, more information is provided for the board. Andy called for the vote and the motion carried unanimously.

# **4.3** Approval for Purchase of New Office Furniture

Linda Holland presented quotes from KI and Lee Co. They are very similar. Joyce Hanselman and Linda traveled to Bremen Middle School to see examples of the furniture from Lee Company. We had previously traveled to Indianapolis and met with KI. My recommendation is to approve the quote with Lee Company. The quote is a little higher, however Lee Co. is able to provide additional storage items that KI could not provide. Linda Holland asked that the board approve the purchase of furniture from Lee Company. The cost will not exceed \$60,000 and would come from the Building Fund.

**4.4** \*\*\*\* Removed from Agenda. Joint Service and Supply Fund Agreement Final Review was not received from the lawyer in time for the meeting

#### 5.0 Other Business

- **5.1** The next JESSE Board Meeting date is January 11, 2021 at Union North Administration Office or if we need to go Virtual, it will be held at Plymouth Administration Office, both starting at 10:00 AM EST.
  - 5.2 Individual Superintendent Issues, Reports, Compliments and Concerns

# 6.0 Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Jeremy Riffle and seconded by Karen Shuman. The meeting was adjourned at 10:28AM.

Mrs. Karen Shuman, Culver, Secretary	Mr. Chris Winghell, John Glenn
Dr. William Reichhart, Knox	Dr. Annette Zupin, NJSP
mixed	Andy Hartley was in attendance for this meeting. Due to COVID-19, meeting was virtual.  Andy left his position on 6/30/21 and was unable to sign at the first in person meeting on 9/13
Mr. Bill Bennett, Oregon Davis  Mr. Feremy Kiffle, Friton	Mr. Andy Hartley, Plymouth, President  Mr. Mitch Mawhorter, Union North