

SOUTH EASTERN SPECIAL EDUCATION

Serving Clay, Crawford, Jasper, Lawrence, and Richland Counties

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SESE EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

Wednesday, January 14, 2026

SESE Central Office

Newton, IL

TENTATIVE MINUTES

The January meeting of the South Eastern Special Education Executive Board was held Wednesday, January 14, 2026 at 9:30 a.m., at the SESE Central Office in Newton, IL. Joel Hackney, Chairperson for the SESE Executive Board, called the meeting to order at 9:34 a.m.

Members present: Joe Sornberger, Jason Fox, Travis Titsworth, Kyle Klier, Michelle Meese, Jakie Walker, John Neubaum, Keith Price, and Chair Joel Hackney.

Members absent: Jessic Sisil and Doug Daugherty.

The agenda was presented for review. Meese moved, seconded by Neubaum to approve the agenda. Roll call vote was taken with all present voting yea. Motion carried.

The consent agenda was presented for review. Klier moved, seconded by Walker to approve the consent agenda. Roll call vote was taken with all present voting yea. Motion carried.

Neubaum moved, seconded by Walker to approve the First Reading of the IASB Recommended Policy updates. Roll call vote was taken with all present voting yea. Motion carried.

At 9:37 a.m., Meese moved, seconded by Neubam to go into executive closed session to discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees and collective negotiations. Roll call vote was taken with all present voting yea. Motion carried.

At 10:10 a.m., Klier moved, seconded by Neubum to return to regular session. Roll call vote was taken with all present voting yea. Motion carried.

Walker moved, seconded by Neubaum to to approve Family Medical Leave Requests for Kristen Dycus, Teacher, beginning February 23, 2026 through April 6, 2026; Anna Hixon, Teacher, beginning February 23, 2026 through April 3, 2026; Michelle Hogg, Teacher,

retroactively beginning December 26, 2025 and intermittently through March 20, 2026; and Amy Robichaux, Educational Support Personnel, retroactively beginning January 5, 2026 and intermittently through June 30, 2026; Asleigh West, Teacher, beginning May 15, 2026 through July 15, 2026; and Abby Willenborg, School Psychologist, beginning April 9, 2026 through June 1, 2026. Roll call vote was taken with Sornberger, Fox, Titsworth, Klier, Meese, Walker, Neubaum, Price, and Hackney voting yea. Motion carried.

Sornberger moved, seconded by Neubaum to approve the resignations of Tara Gallion, Teacher, effective January 5, 2026 and Amber Spurgeon, Educational Support Personnel, retroactive to December 23, 2025. Roll call vote was taken with Sornberger, Fox, Titsworth, Klier, Meese, Walker, Neubaum, Price, and Hackney voting yea. Motion carried.

Fox moved, seconded by Walker to employ Paige Klingler, Teacher, retroactive to December 8, 2025. Roll call vote was taken with Sornberger, Fox, Titsworth, Klier, Meese, Walker, Neubaum, Price, and Hackney voting yea. Motion carried.

Titsworth moved, seconded by Neubaum to employ Tammy Dowdy, Educational Support Personnel, retroactive to January 12, 2026. Roll call vote was taken with Sornberger, Fox, Titsworth, Klier, Meese, Walker, Neubaum, Price, and Hackney voting yea. Motion carried.

Neubaum moved, seconded by Fox to employ Nichole Evans, Educational Support Personnel, retroactive to January 5, 2026. Roll call vote was taken with Sornberger, Fox, Titsworth, Klier, Meese, Walker, Neubaum, Price, and Hackney voting yea. Motion carried.

Neubaum moved, seconded by Titsworth to employ Tabatha Green, Educational Support Personnel, retroactive to January 5, 2026. Roll call vote was taken with Sornberger, Fox, Titsworth, Klier, Meese, Walker, Neubaum, Price, and Hackney voting yea. Motion carried.

Hackney moved, seconded by Klier to employ Becky Keller, Educational Support Personnel, retroactive to January 9, 2026. Roll call vote was taken with Sornberger, Fox, Titsworth, Klier, Meese, Walker, Neubaum, Price, and Hackney voting yea. Motion carried.

Neubaum moved, seconded by Titsworth to employ Hanha Loyd, Educational Support Personnel, retroactive to January 5, 2026. Roll call vote was taken with Sornberger, Fox, Titsworth, Klier, Meese, Walker, Neubaum, Price, and Hackney voting yea. Motion carried.

Walker moved, seconded by Neubaum to employ Baylee-Ella Whitney, Educational Support Personnel, retroactive to January 5, 2026. Roll call vote was taken with Sornberger, Fox, Titsworth, Klier, Meese, Walker, Neubaum, Price, and Hackney voting yea. Motion carried.

Klier moved, seconded by Meese to employ Tasha Thuftedal, Teacher, retroactive to January 5, 2026. Roll call vote was taken with Sornberger, Fox, Titsworth, Klier, Meese, Walker, Neubaum, Price, and Hackney voting yea. Motion carried.

Neubaum moved, seconded by Titsworth to employ Ashleigh West, Teacher, retroactive to January 9, 2026. Roll call vote was taken with Sornberger, Fox, Titsworth, Klier, Meese, Walker, Neubaum, Price, and Hackney voting yea. Motion carried.

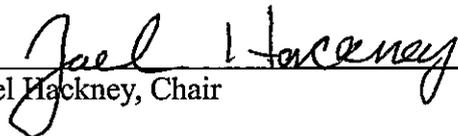
Meese moved, seconded by Neubaum to approve to disclose July 2025 through December 2025 Closed Session Meeting Minutes.

The Case Study Evaluation Report was reviewed.

There was a brief discussion about Excess Cost and IDEA Part B Consolidated Grant Amendment.

Director Kessler reminded the Board of the upcoming Special Governing Board Meeting on February 24, 2026, at 5:30 p.m. at the SESE Central Office in Newton, IL. Also, the Regular Governing Board Meeting will be on March 17, 2026, at 5:30 p.m. at Casey, IL.

There being no further business, Meese moved, seconded by Neubaum to adjourn the meeting. Roll call vote was taken with all present voting yea. Motion carried. Time: 10:23 a.m.



Joel Hackney, Chair



Renee Barthelme, Recording Secretary