



SOUTH EASTERN SPECIAL EDUCATION

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

Kim Kessler, Director

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SESE EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

Monday, March 9, 2026

SESE Central Office

Newton, IL

TENTATIVE MINUTES

The March meeting of the South Eastern Special Education Executive Board was held Monday, March 9, 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 9:33 a.m.

Members present: Joe Sornberger, Travis Titsworth, Klye Klier, Jessica Sisil, Michelle Meese, Jakie Walker, Keith Price, and Chair Joel Hackney.

Members absent: Jason Fox, Doug Daugherty, and John Neubaum.

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

The Executive Board did not go into closed session.

Sisil moved, seconded by Walker to approve Family Medical Leave Request Alterations for Abby Goss, Educational Support Personnel, retroactively beginning February 26, 2026 through May 25, 2026; and Ann Hixon, Teacher, retroactively beginning January 16, 2026 through April 6, 2026. Roll call vote was taken with Sornberger, Titsworth, Klier, Sisil, Meese, Walker, Price, and Hackney voting yea. Motion carried

Hackney moved, seconded by Meese to approve Ratification of the 2026-2029 Collective Bargaining Agreement with the South Eastern Special Education Association (SESEA). Roll call vote was taken with all present voting yea. Motion carried.

Sisil moved, seconded by Titsworth to approve the Renewal of Director Kessler's Contract. Roll call vote was taken with all present voting yea. Motion carried.

The Case Study Evaluation Report was reviewed.

Director Kessler discussed the Needs Assessment and the District Completion of the FY 2027 IDEA Part B Flow-Through and Pre-School Grants Consolidated District Plans.

There was a brief discussion of the Special Education Child Count Superintendent Certification Period.

Director Kessler reminded the Board of the Upcoming Governing Board Meetings:
Regular Meeting: Tuesday, March 17, 2026 at 5:30 p.m. in Casey and
Special Board Meeting: Monday, April 13, 2026 at 10:00 a.m. at SESE.

Director Kessler provided information on the Upcoming Training Session hosted by SESE on June 2, 2026 with Brandon K. Wright, Administrator Academy: School Law Update.

There was a brief discussion about student behaviors and possible training.

There being no further business, Sisil moved, seconded by Sornberger to adjourn the meeting. Roll call vote was taken with all present voting yea. Motion carried. Time: 9:56 a.m.



Joel Hackney, Chair



Renee Barthelme, Recording Secretary