

**Paul Bunyan Education Cooperative
Board of Delegates MINUTES
Friday, April 8, 2016
12:00 pm
WESB Room 308**

The Paul Bunyan Education Cooperative (PBEC) Board of Delegates met on Friday, April 8, 2016, at 12:00 pm at the PBEC Conference Room in the Washington Educational Services Building (WESB), Brainerd, MN. Mike Erholtz served as chair.

Present: Mike Erholtz, Chris Lindholm, Tom Haglin, Bob Gross, Jamie Skjevland, Cathy Bettino, Garny Gaffey, Cindi Hills, Bernie Novak, Mike Malmberg, Heidi Hahn and Kim Huether.

Absent: Scott Mudgett, Bob Sandin,

Meeting was called to order at 12:12 pm

Introductions were held.

Moved and seconded approval of the Agenda and the November 13, 2015 Minutes. Carried.

There being no official business, the Executive Board determined at their last meeting that it would be of value to have the Board of Delegates meet to hear information from Heidi Hahn regarding the Teacher Shortages in Minnesota. The Delegates will be able to share their knowledge with their respective school boards.

Update on New Hires in the PBEC for 2016-2017:

- Behavior Intervention Specialist – Jim Kath has been hired for this position, which was approved by the board last fall. Jim has a master’s degree in Applied Behavioral Analysis and will be a vital asset to the districts.
- Occupational Therapist – Interviews were held for Margaret Knebel’s position with her approaching retirement in September. Lois Malepsy was hired and comes with 20 years of experience in the Southwest Central Education District. Several candidates applied which bodes well for filling future retirements.
- Peter Holleque, Audiologist, will not be renewing his contract for services. PBEC will be contracting with an audiologist from Freshwater Education District .
- The Birth-Seven Coordinator position is still vacant. The hope is to have it filled by June.

All the new hires for 2015-16 will be back and have done a wonderful job this school year.

Teacher Shortages in Minnesota:

Heidi provided two handouts and presented a summary power point regarding the shortage of teachers in Minnesota schools. Key points included:

- MTLE (Minnesota Teaching License Exam) no longer in effect as of July 1, 2016. ACT/SAT and Praxis exams will be accepted. National Exam of Skills is in the works.
- A special education license (Academic and Behavior Strategist) is good for five years, then must add a categorical licensure. Teacher Performance Assessment is a “new requirement”.
- Reasons cited for not going into special education include: due process paperwork, litigious activity, student behaviors and lack of administrator’s support.

- Teacher recruitment measures include loan forgiveness, feeder program, para to teacher program, financial incentives at universities

New Business:

2016-2017 meeting schedule was set for November 18, 2016 and April 21, 2017, noon – 1:30 pm. Heidi will send out a calendar invite.

Statewide School PT/OT Conference, which Margaret Knebel helped spearhead, is scheduled for October 10 and 11, 2016. This will provide a chance for both PT's and OT's to come together versus separate training.

The annual budget will be reviewed by the superintendents at the next meeting June 9, 2016 and will be presented at the Board of Delegates meeting in November.

Next Meeting Date: The next meeting date will be Friday, November 18, 2016, 12-1:30 pm

The meeting adjourned at 1:30 pm

Kim Huether, Secretary

Handouts:

- Minutes from April 10, 2015
- Education Minnesota Handout
- 2015 Report of Teacher Supply and Demand in Minnesota's Public Schools