



Four Corners

Regional Education Cooperative #1
Working for the Future

MEETING MINUTES JANUARY 14, 2020

- I. Welcome and Introductions – Meeting was called to order at 10:07 a.m.
- II. Roll Call and Determination of Quorum – Quorum was determined as follows:
 - Present:
 - Dr. Kimberly Mizell, Bloomfield Schools
 - Dr. Eugene Schmidt, Farmington Municipal Schools
 - Daniel Benavidez, Zuni Public Schools
 - Kirk Carpenter, Aztec Municipal Schools
 - Absent:
 - Dr. Toni Pendergrass, San Juan College
 - Dr. Dave Goldtooth, Central Consolidated Schools
 - Mike Hyatt, Gallup-McKinley County Schools
 - Also in Attendance:
 - Ben Tensay, Central Consolidated Schools
 - Jodie Maestas, Bloomfield Schools
 - David Bowman, Director
- III. Agenda Review and Approval – Dr. Mizell presented the current meeting agenda. The agenda was reviewed, with a few additions noted. The following topics will be discussed under VII. Discussion and Updates: CTE Project Coordinator, NMPED Resolution, and Dave Wildon – Rocket Program. Dr. Schmidt moved to approve the meeting agenda as amended and Mr. Carpenter seconded. The motion passed to approve the meeting agenda as amended.
- IV. Previous Meeting Minutes Review and Approval – Dr. Mizell presented the minutes of the December 11, 2019 meeting. Minutes were reviewed with no changes noted. Dr. Schmidt moved to approve the minutes and Mr. Carpenter seconded. The motion passed to approve the previous meeting minutes.

- V. Financial Budget Reporting Review and Approval – the budget was reviewed by Mrs. Maestas. The report included financials, bank statements, and revenue and expenditure reports. Still awaiting payment of the Math training participants.
- VI. Mileage Reimbursement Review and Approval – Mr. Bowman stated that there is not a current mileage rate established for the REC. The state rate is \$.46 cpm while Bloomfield School District’s rate is \$.40 cpm and the Federal rate is \$.58 cpm. Mr. Bowman suggested approving the state rate of \$.46 cpm. The Board agreed that the rate would be reviewed again in the future, as necessary. Dr. Schmidt moved to approve the mileage rate of \$.46 cpm. And Mr. Carpenter seconded. The motion passed to approve the REC#1 mileage rate of \$.46 cpm.
- VII. Discussion, Updates, and Possible Action
 - a. CTE Project Coordinator – Dr. Bowman acknowledged the grant budgeting for an employee, however wanting a contract position. Planning on offering the position to Rick Jones as coordination is needed as soon as possible. Rick has extensive knowledge in the Technical and Industrial (T&I) and Vocational/Technical Education programs. First schools will need to identify local advisors at the High Schools and second, schools will need to identify purchases with a very short time line. Rick will work closely with the Superintendents and Advisors. Dr. Schmidt recommended the hiring of Mr. Rick Jones and the committee agreed. Dr. Schmidt also thanked Dr. Mizell for getting the grant submitted.
 - b. Possibility of a non-profit affiliate – Dr. Bowman has queried other RECs regarding applying for grant funding. RECs are considered an LEA. If a non-profit is sought, it would have to be completely separate from the REC#1. Dr. Mizell noted that the CES (Cooperative Education Services) just received non-profit status, but that it was a long process. However, it does help in obtaining federal funds as well as being able to receive donations. She also mentioned contacting Dr. Hugh Prather for guidance. The committee agreed that it would be beneficial to explore obtaining a non-profit.
 - c. PED Resolution – Dr. Bowman stated the resolution has been sent to NMPED, however nothing has been received to date. Dr. Mizell mentioned meeting with Mr. Delgado regarding funding management problem. He noted that it wasn’t a district problem. Dr. Schmidt noted the need to be proactive, can’t wait on money. Dr. Mizell stated that Mr. Delgado was surprised. He wanted to know what the holdup was. She told him that it’s difficult to track down the funds, there’s a new staff member or someone on vacation, etc. She also told him of items being denied last minute. However, if you bring it up face-to-face things seem to get done in a

few weeks. Mr. Benavidez asked if Mr. Stuart could be invited to a meeting. Mr Bowman stated that there are conference calls with Mr. Stuart and the Superintendents often where it is addressed. Dr. Mizell asked each District to get Mr. Bowman the outstanding amounts.

- d. Mock It Till You Rock It – Mr. Bowman mentioned an event one to two days where students can schedule mock interviews. Businesses will provide feedback on what they did well or what they need to work on. No cost to the Districts or students. This will be a soft skills event. Dr. Mizell mentioned that it could be added to the CTE component where the focus area could align with the CTE grant. Mr. Bowman asked if students would be able to leave school to attend. Mr. Benavidez stated that if one were to be held in the Gallup area that would be great. Dr. Bowman stated that if it aligned with the CTE grant then the local Advisors would be involved. Dr. Mizell stated that San Juan College could possibly partner.
- e. Dave Wildon Rocket Program – Mr. Bowman called Mr. Wildon during the meeting to have him discuss the Rocket Program. Mr. Wildon stated he would be attending the career fair at Bloomfield High School on February 13th and would like the opportunity to speak to District Superintendents as well. He reported on teaming up with NM Teach and other STEM partners in this endeavor. The program offers scholarships to seniors and is inexpensive to implement. There is also the opportunity for online driver's education. NM Teach also offers a master's in science degree for teachers which focuses on science content not just pedagogy. San Juan College has offered to host the meetings with the hopes that Superintendents, Deputy Superintendents, High School Principals and Teachers will attend. A time was discussed and all agreed on 1:30 on February 13th after the career fair.
- f. Virtual Learning Update and Possible Model – Mr. Bowman discussed the possibility of pairing with the Kellogg Foundation for PreK development and immersion programs. The REC#1 can submit a request for PrK-12 bilingual. Dr. Mizell agreed that there is nothing aligned for all grades. The current curriculum isn't enough to get students through. It seems that there is a good start for Spanish and Navajo but it falls apart in middle school. Mr. Benavidez agreed as well, stating that the Spanish is lacking. Mr. Bowman stated that his contact at the Kellogg Foundation is very eager to work with New Mexico. Mr. Benavidez noted that if a common pilot was established the state could take it over. Dr. Mizell noted that it would take a full year for development. Dr. Mizell expressed an interest in proceeding and all committee members agreed.

Mr. Bowman reported on virtual learning opportunities through Kellogg, 1-ground and 2-field based. Dr. Mizell noted that the credit recovery piece is very helpful. The idea of having an app for internet access for homework or even a hotspot on buses would be beneficial. Mr. Tensay responded with noting that a lot of the newer buses have that capability. Internet is a big issue in Zuni. Dr. Mizell stated that the Kellogg Foundation could assist in getting access to the rural areas. New Mexico qualifies as it's rural and drought stricken. Possibly start with the Native students. Mr. Benavidez noted that this idea would address the equity issue and provide students with another route to an education. Dr. Mizell mentioned that the online scenario would be teacher staffed for support. The alternative high school accepts 100 students and has a waitlist. This could be looked at as a home school scenario. Mr. Bowman noted the significant drop out rates. There are several reasons for dropping out. Mr. Benavidez noted that child care is a big issue even in contracting teachers.

- g. REC Funding / PED Collaboration Update – Mr. Bowman discussed the possibility of pairing with the Kellogg Foundation for PreK development and immersion programs. The REC#1 can submit a request for PrK-12 bilingual. Dr. Mizell agreed that there is nothing aligned for all grades. The current curriculum isn't enough to get students through. It seems that there is a good start for Spanish and Navajo but it falls apart in middle school. Mr. Benavidez agreed as well, stating that the Spanish is lacking. Mr. Bowman stated that his contact at the Kellogg Foundation is very eager to work with New Mexico. Mr. Benavidez noted that if a common pilot was established the state could take it over. Dr. Mizell noted that it would take a full year for development. Dr. Mizell expressed an interest in proceeding and all committee members agreed.
 - h. Habitudes / SEL Proposal – Not discussed.
 - i. Grant Opportunity Updates – Discussed under item g.
- VIII. Report-outs by District – Not discussed.
- IX. Questions or Requests – Not discussed.
- X. Superintendent Discussion Topics – Not discussed.
- XI. Next Board Meeting – With the Legislative Session taking place, the next meeting will be determined at a later date.

XII. Adjournment – Dr. Schmidt moved to adjourn the meeting and Mr. Carpenter seconded.
The motion passed to adjourn the meeting at 11:43 a.m.

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| Board Member Signature | Title | XXX Date Approved |
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