

# Teacher Center of Broome County

Date: September 15, 2020

## Meeting Agenda



Call to Order: 4:02 pm

Meeting Presider: Diana Simpson

Meeting Secretary: Erin H.

Present:

<b>Eliza Taylor (Binghamton)</b>	<b>XX (Chenango Valley)</b>	<b>Pat Walsh (LEA)</b>	<b>Karen Vill (Vestal)</b>
<b>Nicole Fenty (Binghamton Univ.)</b>	<b>Erin Wehrli (Deposit)</b>	<b>Erin Hitchcock (Maine Endwell)</b>	<b>Pat Follette (Whitney Point Supt)</b>
<b>Sharon Mannix (BOCES)</b>		<b>Diana Simpson (Non Public)</b>	<b>Andrea Gresko (Susquehanna Valley)</b>
<b>Mike Sabo (Business)</b>	<b>Sharon Wells (Early Childhood)</b>	<b>Gretchen Blachowiak (Parent)</b>	<b>XX (Windsor)</b>
<b>Deb Daniels (Chenango Forks)</b>	<b>XX (Harpursville)</b>	<b>Sarah Reid (Public Library)</b>	<b>Nadine Ferguson (Whitney Point)</b>

Not in attendance: Karen Vil - Vestal, Erin Wehrli - Deposit, Eliza Taylor - Binghamton, Nicole Fenty - Binghamton Univ, Gretchen Blachowiak - Parent.

Previous Minutes - Sharon Wells moves to accept, Sarah Reid seconds. Passed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: None

CORRESPONDENCE: Diana has been checking the mail occasionally, most is junk mail.

LEA REPORT: (Director's report)

Budget update:

1. Status of Continuation Grant and funding (SED)

Pat Walsh -- Dawn Graham & SED have been sending communications. There is no word about changes in appropriation levels. Some centers are withholding payment. All

Teacher Centers are encouraged to work with their LEA. We are not sure when we will get final approval of funds, so at the moment we are closed.

## 2. Implications for FS10 and programming

We can anticipate having to make adjustments. We know that our funding will be cut by 20%, and will need to look over the FS-10. BOCES is concerned about the Center being cleaned. This is not the responsibility of members of the Board. The LEA projects possibly opening the first week in October.

Pat -- our anticipated funding cut is about \$22,000.

BOCES has negotiated a 3-year lease with WSKG, reflecting a modest rent increase.

## 3. Update on facilities prep. (COVID 19 protocols)

Pat is recommending that the Center not be physically open 4 days a week -- much of the work will be virtual. Diana has been to the Center a few times to check mail. Because the Center has been closed, nothing has been done in terms of PPE. The refrigerator door was not working the last time Diana went.

## 4. BOCES O & M Cleaning

BOCES has agreed to absorb the financial responsibility of cleaning the Center for this year on Fridays. Will make arrangements to have a key for the outside door, and will then use the lockbox. We will need to include this cost in future plans.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Diana -- Committee Reports -- may need to think about Study Groups. This is where we spend a lot of our money. This could be the 20% that we choose to save. But we don't want to have money left because we can't find enough people to present workshops. We also aren't spending money on a director right now, which is savings.

## OLD BUSINESS:

New Director Search Update – ongoing, a few more applicants who did not pan out. The position is still open. Ideally we would like someone willing to stay for a few years. Jenn was there for almost a year and a half, and did a lot to move us forward. Jenn has agreed to mentor a new advisor.

## NEW BUSINESS:

1. Vacancies on PB include: Windsor, Harpursville, Chenango Valley
2. Policy Board Co-Chair needed -- In October, we will need to select a new co-chairperson to replace Emily Rose. Contact Diana if you have any questions.

1. Grant Facilitator - "Acting Director" -- BOCES has a person on their staff who is looking to do an administrative internship: Paul Volkert. Pat and Kerri Bullock have talked to Paul, and he is interested in being an "acting director." He would oversee the grant, attend meetings, plan the PD (presenters/workshops). Jenn had already contracted with presenters who are still willing to present. This would be above and beyond his current responsibilities (administrative internship), so he would be paid for a certain number of hours. BOCES will be meeting with him next week.
2. Teacher Center support positions -- looking for 2 people (Board members) to be paid to maintain the workroom two days a week (one day each). This would cut some of the director hours (saving money), and cutting the number of hours it's open (cutting spending here as well). Envisioning the first half of the year would be mainly virtual, but being open two days a week would give teachers the opportunity to use the workroom. Mike -- will we be paying Paul in addition to his BOCES salary? Pat -- yes, just like the director position is now. Pat Follette -- would this work be hours outside of his BOCES hours? Yes. Who would be supervising his internship? Kerri Bullock. Pat F. feels he is very responsible and would do what he needs to do. Pat W. says he is very excited about the potential for learning (PD is his strength). Deb -- who will maintain the website? Pat -- a lot of things need to be done with the BOCES websites. This is part of the director's job, eventually. What has been separated from past director position is the responsibility of being physically in the Center. Paul would also look at other communication methods. A lot of educational community building is being done on Twitter. The listserv reaches many teachers. Pat foresees that a certain amount of patience would be needed. Paul will report to Pat for his hours, etc. She said it sounds complicated, but they have done it before.

OPEN FORUM: Next meeting is 10/6 -- no one is sure why it's the first Monday, but no one has a problem.

Contact Pat W. if you are interested in being at the Center from 3:30-6:30 one night a week.

ADJOURNMENT: Mike Sabo moves, Sara Reid seconds. Passed, adjourned at 4:43.

#### Future Meeting Dates

10-6	1-12-21	4-13-21	
11-10	2-9-21	5-11-21	
12-8	3-9-21	6-1-21	