

Note: These minutes are not official until approved by the Health and Human Services Committee at a subsequent meeting. Please refer to the meeting minutes when these minutes are approved to obtain any changes to these minutes.

DeKalb County Government
Sycamore, Illinois

**Health & Human Services Committee Minutes
February 5, 2018**

The Health and Human Services Committee of the DeKalb County Board met on Monday, February 5, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. in the Administration Building's Conference Room East in Sycamore, Illinois. Chairman Little called the meeting to order. Those Members present included, Ms. Askins, Mrs. Emmer, Mr. Reid, Mr. Whelan, and Chairman Little. Those Members absent were Mr. Hughes and Mr. Porterfield. A quorum was established with five Members present and two absent.

Others present were Amanda Christensen.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

It was moved by Mr. Whelan, seconded by Mr. Reid and it was carried unanimously to approve the minutes from the January 8, 2018 Committee Meeting.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

It was moved by Ms. Askins, seconded by Mr. Reid and it was carried unanimously to approve the agenda as presented.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION & AMENDMENT OF A DOWNSTATE OPERATING ASSISTANCE GRANT AGREEMENT

For the past several years the Downstate Operating Assistance Grant Agreement and the 5311 Grant Agreements have been "pass-through" grants for the Voluntary Action Center and they have been combined into one contract. Now, the Illinois Department of Transportation wants these two be two separate contracts. Last month the Committee and County Board approved a resolution Authorizing the Execution and Amendment of the Federal 5311 Grant. Now the Committee is being requested to approve and forward the FY 2018 Downstate Operating Assistance (DOAP) Grant Agreement to the full County Board. Also, nothing is changing with the two grants besides the amount of paperwork.

It was moved by Mrs. Emmer, seconded by Ms. Askins and it was approved unanimously to forward the resolution to the full County Board recommending its approval.

REGIONAL OFFICE OF EDUCATION ANNUAL REPORT – ([Full Report](#))

Regional Superintendent Amanda Christensen joined the Committee to present her 2016-2017 Annual Report. Ms. Christensen highlighted that the Regional Office of Education (ROE) assists teachers seeking an Illinois Professional Educator License including applications, registrations, endorsements, and renewals. The ROE continues to be the resource for local educators who have licensure questions or who need training on the Educator Licensure Information System (ELIS). According to the ELIS statistics report, 869 educators registered a total of 891 licenses, 501 new teacher licenses were issued, 62 new endorsements were issued, and 107 new paraprofessional licenses were issued.

The ROE maintains a database of all substitute teachers in DeKalb County. It also maintains the records for substitutes such as their blood-borne pathogens training, mandated reporter acknowledgement, criminal history records information, and proper licensure. All substitute teachers can guest teach in all of the school districts and private schools in DeKalb County. During the 2016-2017 school year, 414 substitute teachers took advantage of this service. The ROE continued its efforts to recruit and retain substitute teachers; an informational workshop was held on February 27, 2017. On August 2, 2016, the ROE in collaboration with local school districts also provided a one-day workshop to prepare substitute teachers. Topics included student safety, classroom management, instructional strategies, and social emotional learning.

The Regional Office of Education has a digital fingerprinting system that allows a quick return of criminal background information to the local school districts at a cost of \$55.00 per employee, substitute, or student teacher. The ROE also provides this service to bus drivers, healthcare workers, school volunteers, and county jail volunteers. The office conducted a total of 1315 fingerprints and criminal history records checks last year.

Ms. Christensen provided that thanks to DeKalb County making available a computer lab, the DeKalb ROE continues to be a PearsonVUE authorized testing center on Tuesdays 9am—4pm. Registrations are done online through the testing company or PearsonVUE. In FY17, 443 different candidates tested on a total of 593 tests. There were 52 actual testing days, averaging 11 candidates per day. Additional days were specially scheduled to serve testers who required accommodations such as extended time or adaptive equipment. The Constitution Test for the GED continues to be made available at no cost to the tester. The ROE also offers the ETS Paraprofessional Assessment. During 2016-17, 52 GED certificates and 89 GED transcripts were issued.

The Kishwaukee Intermediate Delivery System (KIDS) is the professional development consortium of the Regional Offices of Education for DeKalb, McHenry, and Boone/Winnebago Counties. Until June 30, 2017, the DeKalb ROE contributed its state ROE Services grant funds to the KIDS consortium. Effective July 1, 2017, the DeKalb ROE withdrew from the consortium in order to build its own professional development team and be more flexible and responsive to the needs of DeKalb County educators. She encouraged the Committee to visit dkroeedteam.com for their mission, contact information for the education consultants, and upcoming events. In addition to ROE Services, ISBE continued to financially support the initiative of Foundational Services in the areas of language arts, math, balanced assessment, teacher evaluation, family engagement, and continuous improvement planning. Foundational Services are offered to DeKalb County educators at low or no-cost. Going forward, the topics covered under "Foundational Services 2.0" have been expanded to include social studies, poverty, restorative justice, physical education, trauma, instructional strategies, social emotional learning, English language learning, classroom management, and integrating technology.

Ms. Christensen additionally reviewed data pertaining to homeless students, truancy, student enrollments, and fund distribution. Truancy supervision and chronic truancy continue to be a huge concern, especially in the early education years, Ms. Christensen shared and noted that she was meeting with the City of DeKalb soon to discuss the matter further due to the large number of trancies C.U.S.D. #428 was experiencing. Additional discussions were held regarding truancy and student absences.

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The Committee thanked Ms. Christensen for coming and presenting her Annual Report to them.

OLD BUSINESS / NEW BUSINESS

There were no items.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Ms. Askins, seconded by Mr. Whelan, and it was carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,


Maureen Little, Chairperson


Tasha Sims, Recording Secretary

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