

**Heartland Region
Board of Control
May 21, 2020
Macon Piatt Regional Office of Education via Zoom**

The meeting was called to order by Brett Robinson at 9:20 a.m.

Present:

Damian Jones -- Argenta Oreana
DeAnn Heck -- Central A&M
Brett Robinson -- Cerro Gordo
Paul Fregeau -- Decatur Public Schools
Amanda Geary -- DeLand Weldon
John Ahlemeyer -- Maroa Forsyth
Andy Pygott - Meridian
Travis Roundcount -- Mt. Zion
Kristen Kendrick-Weikle -- Warrensburg-Latham
Bret Hitchings -- Heartland Director
Kathy Roe -- Heartland Region

Absent:

Bob Meadows -- Sangamon Valley

Damian Jones moved to approve the minutes of the March meeting as presented. John Ahlemeyer seconded the motion. Voice vote. All in favor.

Finance Report

The monthly financial summary and the expenditures for March and April were presented. Dee Heck moved to approve the purchases totaling \$60,751.17 for March and \$40,032.39 as submitted. Brett Robinson seconded the motion. Roll call vote: 9 Yes, 0 No, 1 Absent

Closed Session - None

Director's Report

Bret Hitchings that he has been meeting with Richland staff on planning for summer opportunities and plans for the fall semester. RCC has said they will be buying masks to have on hand for students and staff. The HTA office has been working closely with the schools to make sure program improvement funds were used. Our Perkins grant has not been extended but our CTEI grant has been. We still want to wrap everything up by June 30 if possible. The State has allowed us to exceed the salary cap for teachers so we were able to off-set more money for teacher salaries which will be a benefit to our budget and fund balance.

Bret said that even though students were not able to come to campus for 4th quarter, most of our programs had already completed their dual credit objectives and the 4th quarter is used for job shadowing, student internships and individual student projects. Welding may be earning less credit than anticipated but we hope to give the opportunity for students to come to campus at some point this summer for hands-on training. Otherwise, we will be allowing juniors who return next year to have incompletes and finish their welding skills in the Fall. Seniors may be allowed by the college to come in during the summer when it is allowed to finish up their dual credit. Early Childhood, Criminal Justice and Business Technology had dual credit to complete but were given opportunity to complete remotely during 4th quarter. CNA certification still needs 10 more hours of clinical

time to complete. Bret is working with the instructor and as soon as we are told that face to face instruction can resume, we will be giving these students an opportunity to complete this certification.

Our enrollment for next year is strong. Our overall enrollment stands at 656. Last year we added an Ag Mechanics class to meet the needs of our students and this year we still have an excess of 33 students to place. We have a wait list in Welding, Auto Tech and Early Childhood.

We have two teachers retiring. We have posted for a nursing instructor and have some viable candidates. We also have an opening for Auto Body. Bret has not posted for it yet because he wanted to wait and see what the numbers looked like after he evaluated student's 2nd choices. Bret will be bringing a recommendation to the August meeting to meet our staffing needs.

We have not received our FY21 allocations for next year. Bret has been advised that we should expect receive level funding. Bret recommends that we wait until we know our grant allocations before determining next year's salary increase for HTA staff.

Old Business - None

New Business

We have a need for a new cosmetology provider. Reflections Academy of Beauty has submitted an RFP. Bret toured the facility, looked at their curriculum and has spoken to the director multiple times. He asked for a motion to accept the request for proposal of Reflections Academy pending approval of the formal written agreement. Damian Jones moved to approve the request for proposal. Brett Robinson seconded the motion. Roll call vote: : 9 Yes, 0 No, 1 Absent

Bret Hitchings presented the tentative FY21 budgets for the EFE 390 and for the Heartland Technical Academy. Bret said we would have to present our tentative budget for FY21 so it can be on display for 30 days. Joint Agreements have to be sent to the State by September 1st and will need to be approved at the August meeting. Amanda Geary moved to approve the tentative budget for the FY21 Heartland EFE 390 and Heartland Technical Academy. DeAnn Heck seconded the motion. Roll call vote: 9 Yes, 0 No, 1 Absent

Brett Robinson moved to set the tuition rate at \$900 a semester. Andy Pygott seconded the motion. Roll call vote: 8 Yes, 0 No, 2 Absent

We are waiting for action in August on teacher salary increases. Damian Jones suggested doing a survey to see what the average teacher salary increase is going to be for the region.

Bret Hitchings presented the tentative calendar for FY20-21. It aligns with Decatur Public School and works well with Richland's first day of classes. Amanda Geary moved to approve the tentative calendar for FY20-21. Paul Fregeau seconded the motion. Roll call vote 8 yes, 0 No, 2 Absent

Damian Jones moved to nominate the current slate of officers for next year. They are Brett Robinson – Chair, Travis Roundcount – Vice Chair and Bob Meadows - Secretary. Paul Fregeau seconded the motion. Roll call vote: 8 Yes, 0 No, 2 Absent

The next meeting date will be Tuesday, August 6, 2020.

Amanda Geary moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:44 a.m. Dee Heck seconded the motion. Voice vote, all in favor.

Burt Robinson

Board of Control Chairperson

8/6/20

Date Approved

Robert D. Meads

Board of Control Secretary Signature

9/17/20

Date Approved

Kathryn Rae

Board of Control Recording Secretary Signature

8/6/20

Date Approved