

OFFICIAL SPECIAL CABINET MEETING MINUTES

Southern Minnesota Education Consortium #6083

Wednesday, January 25, 2023 at 10:00AM

SMEC Ed Center, 21697 State Hwy 56, Austin, MN 55912

The special meeting of the Cabinet of Southern Minnesota Education Consortium #6083 was called to order at 10:04AM by Dan Armagost on Wednesday, January 25, 2023. The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance followed by roll call and determination of quorum.

Attended in person:

- Executive Director Dan Armagost
- Director of Special Education Denise Kennedy
- SMEC Board Secretary Kylea Draayer
- SMEC Business Manager John-Mark Dundas

Absent – Jennifer Backer-Johnson (LO), Brian Shanks (AC/GE)

Attended via Zoom:

- Scott Hall (Southland)
- Paul Besel (Grand Meadow)
- Scott Klavetter (Kingsland)
- Jamie Goebel (Lyle)
- Jeff Oian (Ed Midwest Technology)

Meeting Agenda

Hall made a motion to approve the agenda, it was seconded by Besel, all were in favor, motion carried.

Old Business

Office Space Lease – Armagost confirmed that he heard from all districts about space in the districts. Leroy-Ostrander offered a space that would be shared with Fernbrook mental health staff. As a shared space this does not meet confidentiality requirements. Besel discussed the space he has available. This was a classroom space. As programming could change, this did not fit the requirements. Armagost confirmed that this contract was only for 2 years as many things change rapidly within the organization. Besel discussed the additional soft costs of this contract. Armagost and Dundas confirmed lower costs than originally projected.

Motion to turn the lease approval over to the Governing Board with Cabinet support was made by Hall and seconded by Goebel. All in favor, motion carries. The lease will be presented to the board at its regular meeting.

Go Guardian – Jeff Oian presented information about the Go Guardian product. Go Guardian is a filter software to assist keeping students on task and safe on the internet while at school. Dundas confirmed that SMEC paid for licenses last year. Oian shared that this product costs \$20 per license - \$10 per student for the teacher product and \$10 for the student use. Students will need to use Chromebooks to be compatible unless there is a server set up for this that can be used for existing Windows computers. Armagost stated that the ALC is already in need of additional laptops for students, so planning to buy ones that are Go Guardian compatible. Grand Meadow, Southland, Lyle all expressed interest in joining SMEC to finance the server up front. Oian relayed the training could start as soon as the end of this school year; Armagost stated that he would be interested in having staff trained over the summer for the next school year. Armagost and Dundas will be meeting with Oian again to discuss what the plan is going forward. Administrators agreed to move forward with the server first and discuss licenses after server is established.

Other Discussion Items and Cabinet Comments

Motion to adjourn by Goebel, seconded by Besel. All in favor, motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:04AM.

Next regular meeting is February 21, 2023, at 9am at the SMEC Ed Center building.

Respectfully submitted,

Kylea Draayer, Administrative Assistant