

Minutes – April 9, 2012 MOEC Board Meeting

The board meeting began at 11:35, after the Legal Issues Seminar

Attendees: Catherine Cooper, Susan Cuoco, Cathy Lawson, Annie McKenzie, Richard Murphy, Susan Rees, Joan Schuman, Chris Scott, Joanne Haley Sullivan, Stephen Theall

Merrimack Special Education Collaborative (MSEC) update:

Chris Lynch announced that DESE has entered into a memorandum of understanding with the Merrimack Collaborative. There is a set of specific tasks outlined in the memorandum of understanding and a team from the department will participate in all board meetings and interviews. There is also a separation of financial and business managers. Chris stated that the DESE and MSEC have made substantial progress.

Joanne Haley Sullivan stated that Steve Theall had the opportunity to talk with Chris Scott, the new director of MSEC and that the collaborative is very interested in re-joining MOEC.

Richard Murphy moved that MSEC should be allowed to re-join MOEC. Susan Cuoco seconded the motion. The board voted (with one abstention) to rescind the suspension of MSEC from MOEC as of FY13.

Discussion with Chris McGrath, Director of Operations at MASS

Chris McGrath, Director of Operations at MASS, provided the board with an update of activities at MASS. She expressed appreciation to the board for agreeing to send speakers to the MASS Executive Institute in July. She discussed MASS's plan to roll out professional development to support Smart Goals for school psychologists and other staff and described the work of the four Early Adopter districts. Chris and the board discussed the complexities surrounding the rollout of the new Teacher Evaluation system.

Tom Hehir's report: Review of Special Education in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Steve Theall gave the board an overview of Thomas Hehir and Associates' recent report: Review of Special Education in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. A link to the report can be found at <http://www.doe.mass.edu/sped/2012/0412sped.html>

Treasurer's Report

The board unanimously approved the proposed MOEC budget for FY13.

March 2012 Meeting Minutes

The minutes from the March board meeting were unanimously approved.

Annual Report

The board discussed the feasibility of collecting data for the MOEC Annual Report while the Commission is at work. The board voted unanimously to suspend the MOEC Annual Report for FY12 and not collect until FY13. The collaboratives' annual reports for FY12 will be due to the state in January, 2012 so there will be information available to be used for the MOEC Annual Report once the collaboratives' annual reports to the state have been submitted.

Regional Reports

Greater Boston: Susan Rees reported that the collaboratives in the Greater Boston region are working together on a submission for a proposal for a Virtual School.

South Region: Catherine Cooper reported that the Readiness Center workshops had mixed results. She stated that Common Core was the first joint effort with the state.

Central Region: Cathy Cummins reported that Central Mass is still waiting on final audit report. She also mentioned that the collaboratives in the Central Region have been discussing the sharing of professional development positions.

North Region: Cathy Lawson reported that GLEC has three finalists for the position of Executive Director and that the region has been working on cooperative professional development and job-alikes.

Western Region: Joan Schuman reported that the Western Region has been working together with the Readiness Center to avoid duplication. She also stated that a preliminary meeting was held with the Commonwealth Virtual School. Annie McKenzie updated the board on the Common Core roll out and the work of the Curriculum Framework Design team.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:10 pm

Respectfully submitted by A.M. Atallah