

MINUTES
MOEC Executive Board Meeting
The Education Cooperative
September 13, 2010

In attendance: Catherine Cooper, John Fletcher, John Goodrich (MODR), Susan Cuoco Hassan, Susan Jeghelian (MODR), Mette Kreutzmann (MODR), Christine Lynch, Anne McKenzie, Richard Murphy, Susan Rees, Joan Schuman, Joanne Haley Sullian, Steve Theall, Dorsey Yearley

The meeting began at 9:31 a.m.

Strategic Plan Facilitation Proposal

Susan Cuoco Hassan explained the rationale for writing a new strategic plan for MOEC and introduced three people from the Massachusetts Office of Public Collaboration at UMASS Boston: Susan Jeghelian, John Goodrich, and Mette Kreutzmann. Ms. Jeghelian, Mr. Goodrich, and Ms. Kreutzmann led a successful strategic planning process with the South Collaborative Regional Organization.

Ms. Jeghelian, Mr. Goodrich, and Ms. Kreutzmann introduced their organization and summarized the work they propose to do with MOEC. John Goodrich would be the lead on the project. The planning process would be the focus of the October and January MOEC General Membership Meetings.

The Board responded to the proposal and made suggestions.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the proposal and begin the process on October 18. The motion passed unanimously, 8-0-0.

The Board discussed whether or not to charge for the October and January meetings and decided to charge the usual amount: \$30 per person.

Executive Director Report

Steve Theall reminded of the Board of a commission created by the Legislature to recommend ways in which efficiencies can be created and capacity built among school districts in the Commonwealth. Mr. Theall asked for three volunteers to recommend to the Secretary of Education for appointment to the commission. The Board decided to recommend Steve Theall, Joan Schuman, and Anne McKenzie.

Mr. Theall reminded the group that the Commissioner's special education task force is meeting on September 30. Susan Rees and Joan Schuman are part of that group.

Mr. Theall reported that a number of Collaborative staff are panelists on Fiscal Friday at the MASS/MASC Joint Conference. Fiscal Friday is Friday, November 5.

Mr. Theall reported on Lise Zeig's investigation into how Collaboratives could train teachers in ELL.

Mr. Theall listed the 2010-2011 MOEC mentors and mentees:

| <u>Mentor</u> | <u>Mentee</u> |
|----------------|---------------|
| Susan Rees | Colleen Dolan |
| Dorsey Yearley | Cathy Lawson |
| Cathy Cummins | Joan Dio |

Mr. Theall reported that the Special Education Transportation Task Force draft report is nearly complete and shows that MOEC has expanded the transportation networks and made them more efficient and less expensive networks. Although the grant funding has been spent, the Task Force will continue to meet.

The Board decided to meet with School Health Services to receive updates in school nursing and school health.

Mr. Theall invited Board members to take MOEC directories.

Mr. Theall announced the meetings of MOEC professional development, program, and business leaders and asked for volunteers to lead them.

DESE Update, Christine Lynch, DESE

Christine Lynch reported that DESE task force on regulations and procedures for Educational Collaboratives will meet soon. The DESE staff on the task force will consist of Darlene Lynch, Christine Lynch, DESE staff from the auditing and legal departments, DESE employees from other DESE departments as necessary, and superintendents and school committee members as necessary. The group will look at PQA standards and adjust them as necessary to work for Collaboratives.

Ms. Lynch suggested that, when the law is unclear, a Collaborative should form a policy, have the board vote on it, and follow it.

Ms. Lynch reported that she will put Collaborative information in a more prominent place on the DESE website.

Ms. Lynch reminded the Board that charter schools can now join or form Collaboratives. Steve Theall reported on a conversation with the charter school association. They are thinking of forming a Collaborative of charter schools and asked if they could they join MOEC. Steve Theall responded that their Collaborative would first have to be approved by Commissioner.

Ms. Lynch stated that she may be contacting some Collaboratives for their Collaborative agreements.

Ms. Lynch reported that DESE will give small grants (approx. \$5000) to school districts working on transportation efficiencies.

Alignment of Collaborative Agreements

The Board agreed that this topic is a topic for the DESE task force.

Treasurer's Report

A motion was made and seconded that MOEC spend \$10,000 of its surplus on the strategic planning process, hold \$5,000 in checking for cash flow issues, and put \$18,000 in a money market account.

The motion passed unanimously, 8-0-0.

Richard Murphy said that he would look into all Bank for the money market account. The Board discussed why MOEC should keep such a large fund balance. Mr. Theall responded that the new strategic plan might give ideas for projects, and the fund balance could be used as start-up funds.

Approval Process: Technology Plans

Richard Murphy volunteered to chair the technology plan approval process and find someone else to help. He will check with DESE to see what process DESE is using.

Annual Report Update

Steve Theall suggested that Caroline Sabin begin writing the Annual Report and obtain specific numbers from specific Collaboratives if necessary.

Regional Issues/Challenges Update

The West region reported that they are working with the DSACs.

The Greater Boston region reported that they are discussing establishing a Recovery High School.

The South region reported on its projects: establishing a Recovery High School with Brockton, regional professional development for low-incidence staff, a regional data workshop, and a regional needs survey.

The North region reported that it has coordinated professional development for low-incidence staff.

The Central region reported that it is sharing consultative services across the region. It also reported on two challenges: avoiding competition with each other in professional development, and inadequate professional development funding in their districts.

AESA Washington Visit

Mr. Theall and Ms. Schuman discussed the upcoming AESA Call to Action conference in Washington, D.C. The focus of the conference is the reauthorization of Educational Service Agencies, and E-rate and Medicaid reimbursement will probably be discussed. Mr. Theall said he would bring packets from individual Collaboratives.

Approve minutes of June 14, 2010 MOEC Executive Board meeting

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of the June 14, 2010 MOEC Executive Board meeting. The motion passed unanimously, 6-0-0.

Other Issues

Anne McKenzie suggested that MOEC work on the long vendor application for DESE. Joan Schuman suggested that the MOEC professional development group work on establishing evidence for professional development excellence.

The meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Caroline Sabin