

Minutes
MOEC Board Meeting
November 18, 2013

Present: Joan Schuman, Chris Scott, Cathy Lawson, Cathy Cummins, Catherine Cooper, Joanne Haley Sullivan, Colleen Dolan, Richard Murphy, Bud MacDonnell, Annie MacKenzie, Theresa Craig, Steve Theall, Chris Lynch.

1. Ed Rock and Kim Michel of Commonwealth Learning Institute presented opportunities for online Professional Development through the Institute. Ed indicated that he would contact individual Collaborative Directors in the future to discuss individual opportunities.
2. Steve presented the Executive Director's report. Suggestions from Board members included 1) contacting Chair Peisch to determine whether amendments will be submitted to the legislation to allow Collaboratives to merge, rather than the current situation where one collaborative must dissolve and another can pick up whatever programs/services they choose. 2) Collaboratives conducting adult services should be amended into the legislation.
3. Chuck Drayton presented an overview of the SMART PD program. Theresa Craig, explained how the implementation process has gone in the South region. Joanne Haley Sullivan offered that the Smart PD program assists the school districts even more than the collaboratives, because collaboratives already offered PD to external registrants and already had registration processes, but the districts can now do that through SMART PD. Steve Theall asked how the program will continue now that the grant has ended. Theresa explained that districts have been recently given the cost breakdown to continue on an annual basis. Cathy Cummins asked about tracking of salary level increases based on credit benchmarks within the program. Chuck explained that there is an option to select salary level credit when registering for a course. He also explained the bulk purchasing savings that can be realized if districts sign up as a group through their Collaboratives compared to the individual prices. He also explained the

two key personnel from each district would need to be assigned to implementation in order for it to be successful. Steve brought up the investment of time and money that districts would need to commit and whether it was marketable in other regions. He asked Chris Lynch about possible additional funding through DESE to fund pilots in other parts of the state. Chris explained that there are A&F grant funds for community innovation that may be available to fund this type of start up activity. Theresa also mentioned the benefit of teachers being able to access the system to find PD opportunities directly. The North region is committed to developing a regional PD system, but it is not specified yet. Joan Schuman felt that the CES has systems in place to allow for sharing of PD in the Western region already and didn't really see the need for a SMART PD kind of overlay.

4. Chris Lynch gave the DESE update. She thanked everyone for their patience in the AOA revision process. Approximately ten collaboratives have DESE approval to move forward with board and member district final approval. Cathy Cummins asked what the process is for notification that DESE has approved a draft. Chris indicated that she is responsible for notifying the individual Executive Directors. There is no specific timeline for completion of all, but the sooner the better. Chris also stated that DESE is not going to tell collaboratives how to determine cost effectiveness as long as cost effectiveness is addressed it for all programs (SPED and other) and that collaboratives can address benefits other than financial, such as satisfaction survey results.
5. Each region gave its report. Cathy Lawson indicated that the North is meeting this week to discuss regional PD initiatives. Colleen Dolan of Greater Boston reported that TEC was approved for a virtual school license and that it was the only proposal submitted statewide. Annie McKenzie mentioned that both CES and LPVC (Western Region) are working with districts on DDMs and Educator Evaluations, particularly for teachers of low incident populations. Districts are working collectively on assessments and the region is working on a list. Joan has arranged for DESE to meet with school districts around options in these areas. The Western districts indicated they did not want the collaboratives to apply for a Virtual School license, but they do want online course options. CES is also continuing

RETELL and SEI training. Annie recommends that we annually look to get A&F grants that come out every year for regional initiatives. Up to \$500K is often available for towns to conduct regional initiatives. Theresa Craig of the Southern region talked about the SCRO work on DDMs and Ch. 222 and opportunities for sharing across regions. She also stated that they are waiting to hear more about the fingerprinting initiative.

6. Richard Murphy presented the Treasurer's report. He gave an update on the latest SPED Transportation grant and mentioned that an unbudgeted expenditure is the amount we paid to Susan Leddick, which the Board had previously approved. Joanne Haley Sullivan asked if all collaboratives are AESA members; the response is no. We need a minimum of 20. Discussion ensued whether we should encourage membership.
7. The Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the last meeting. Chris Scott, Colleen Dolan and Cathy Lawson left prior to the vote.
8. A suggestion was made that the MOEC Business Managers meet more than twice per year. Steve may schedule an additional meeting in January

Minutes recorded by C. Cooper and edited by A. Atallah