

Minutes
MOEC Executive Board Meeting – Monday, December 16 2013
At TEC

Attendees: Joanne Haley Sullivan, Steve Theall, Maureen Gaughan, Richard Murphy, Cathy Cummins, Colleen Dolan, Theresa Craig, Joan Schuman, Cathy Lawson, Chris Lynch-DESE, Paulajo Gaines-DESE, Ron Noble-DESE, Ron Griffin- Foxboro Regional Charter School, Cliff Chuang-DESE – Ruth Hersh-DESE

The meeting began at 9:30 am.

District Determined Measures (DDMs): Ron Noble of DESE discussed the implementation of District Determined Measures. He stated that DESE’s biggest challenge is its limited reach. DESE is working to identify partners. Most districts are just now beginning to pilot the program. Joanne Haley Sullivan announced that North River has just received a grant to bring together districts around four content areas: science, art, music and PE. The districts were clear they wanted this to be worked on as a collaborative, not a district. Each will send content experts to determine common course objectives and develop DDMs as a result of planning backwards and will validate by using multiple school districts. Joanne Haley Sullivan asked how collaboratives could help the Department with the initiative. Ron Noble mentioned that the Department would appreciate help in reaching the next level down from the superintendents: the assistant superintendents and curriculum directors. Steve Theall suggested that an email be sent to those people to encourage them to have Ron Noble and Craig Waterman speak, perhaps in a regional meeting.

Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA): Joanne Haley Sullivan and Maureen Gaughan described issues with collaborative space in school district projects being funded by the MSBA. Steve Theall stated he would set up a meeting with the MSBA to discuss issues and come up with solutions.

DESE Update: Chris Lynch reported the Commissioner received MOEC’s recent letter and that he met with senior staff to emphasize the role the

Commissioner would like collaboratives and MOEC to play. In particular, he mentioned grant opportunities. He asked that the Department look at all of its grants to make sure that grants are written so that collaboratives or other groupings of school districts are encouraged to participate wherever it makes sense .

Charter Schools: The next speakers were Cliff Chuang, Associate Commissioner for Charter Schools & School Redesign and Ron Griffin, Director of Teaching and Learning at Foxborough Regional Charter School. Cliff, Ron and the MOEC members discussed how charter schools and collaboratives currently interact and ways in which they could interact in the future. Several members described how collaboratives provide services to charter school students. All agreed that continuing the discussion would be worthwhile.

Updates from Regional Representatives:

Cathy Lawson of the **North Region** described SEEM's recent audit by the Department. She stated that Department was working to determine what a meaningful audit would look like. The Department looked at transactions, the Collaborative Agreement, contracts, federal grants, payroll and QuickBooks.

Theresa Craig of the **South Region** stated that the region would be meeting on January 6. Topics include: DDM, Chapter 222, and a virtual schools application.

Colleen Dolan of **Greater Boston** stated that the region had SmartEDU give a presentation but that they had not yet met to discuss the presentation

Richard Murphy stated that the **Central Region** was meeting the following day with the superintendents to discuss ways of working together.

Joan Schuman described the work that the **West Region** is doing on DDMs. She said that a meeting scheduled with people from the Berkshires fell through and would be rescheduled.

Treasurer's Report: Richard Murphy stated that MOEC is on budget thus far in the year.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:30 pm

Respectfully submitted by A.M. Atallah