

*October 2007*

## *Collaboratively Speaking*

Autumn in New England is the best time of the year. However, this year, at least until recently, it seems we have had an extended summer. For the past six weeks we have been blessed by picture perfect days, Red Sox and Patriot victories; and yes near perfect golf weather. This past Friday, I was invited to visit with a former superintendent colleague at his place on Onset Island in Wareham. While there, I was able to enjoy the beautiful sunshine and gather a peck of quahogs (yes, I'm legal since I have my own shellfish license!!). Who would believe that on October 5<sup>th</sup> the temperature would hover around 90 degrees?

On Tuesday it was back to work here at MOEC. I am pleased that efforts to raise our visibility have begun to pay off with my recent appointment to Governor Patrick's Readiness Project. I am serving on the long -term funding subcommittee and hope to enable the release of a set of recommendations for PreK-12 public education that will ensure that future funding is adequate, predictable and reliable. I am confident that my fellow colleagues on the Readiness project share in that commitment.

On Monday, we are honored to have Peter C. Young speak to us at our first general membership meeting at Assabet. I look forward to his remarks concerning AESA and the status of federal legislation particularly the direction that NCLB will take.

I trust that you are having a successful beginning to the school year. I look forward to seeing you on Monday and at our workshops with Paul Harrington beginning on November 2.

With respect to the Northeastern workshops, I have included a questionnaire that Paul has developed and asked us to complete. I know that it will require some time on your part but I do know that it will help Paul better focus his time with us. In that way, the time spent at the workshops will be much more valuable to each of us. I would appreciate it if you could return your completed questionnaire to me by Monday October 22. Thank you for your cooperation.

*Have a wonderful weekend and I look forward to seeing you on Monday !!!*

*Best wishes, Steve*