

MOEC Board Meeting  
September 22, 2008

Minutes

In attendance: Robin Ahigian, Anne Booth, Bob Gass, Susan Cuoco Hassan, David Heimbecker, Richard Murphy, Susan Rees, Joan Schuman, Joanne Haley Sullivan, Steve Theall

The meeting began at 10:00 a.m.

**I. MOEC Website**

The Board reviewed a presentation from HEC staff about the development of the website and suggested changes and additions.

The website will be launched at the October 20 general membership meeting.

**II. Executive Director Report**

Steve Theall commented briefly on the items on the attached Executive Director Report.

**III. Donahue Institute Evaluation**

The Donahue Institute's evaluation of the special education transportation pilot was included in the meeting packet.

**IV. Transportation Grant Award**

Steve Theall announced that the state has granted MOEC \$100,000 to coordinate the state transportation network.

**V. AESA Legislative Agenda and Call to Action Conference**

Joan Shuman commented on the AESA Conference.

**VI. Legislative Subcommittee Report**

Steve Theall presented the history of the Collaborative Bill. It gives collaboratives the right to

- Hire and fire
- Acquire bonds to buy property
- Apply for grants

However, in the last legislative session, this bill was merged with the Professional Status Bill, which allows collaborative employees to gain professional status in three years. MOEC requested a compromise – the time to

achieve professional status would be five years, not three – but that compromise did not appear in the final bill. Also, the first two reasons behind the bill seem to be moot: as long as the school board agrees to a collaborative director’s right to hire and fire, the hiring and firing is legal; bond Counsel has approved many collaboratives’ bonds. The bill did not come to a vote in the last session.

The MOEC Legislative Subcommittee recommends:

- That MOEC does **not** request the refiling of the Collaborative Bill
- That MOEC oppose the Professional Status Bill if it is refiled

A motion to support the Legislative Subcommittee’s recommendation was placed on the floor and seconded.

The motion was amended to consider the two pieces of the recommendation separately. That motion passed 4-1-3.

#### **Collaborative Bill:**

It was moved and seconded that MOEC **not** request the refiling of the Collaborative Bill but that MOEC ask Julie Cox to make sure that every piece of legislation involving money for schools include language defining ESAs as LEAs. The motion passed 8-0-0.

#### **Professional Status Bill:**

It was moved and seconded that MOEC present its opposition to the Professional Status Bill to the general membership at their October 20 meeting. The motion passed 5-3-0.

### **VII. Data Collection Subcommittee Report**

It was stated that the MOEC survey should contain salary information for senior leadership, not just executive directors.

### **VIII. Treasurer’s Report**

The treasurer’s report was presented and indicated that the organization’s finances were in good shape.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

Submitted by Caroline Sabin