

Minutes
MOEC Executive Board Meeting
September 21, 2015

Assabet Valley Collaborative - 57 Orchard Street, Marlboro, MA 01752

Attendees: Steve Theall, Catherine Cooper, Cathy Cummins, Theresa Craig, Cathy Lawson, Joanne Haley Sullivan, Cindy Landanno, Bill Diehl, Andy Churchill, Colleen Dolan, Richard Murphy, Moira Rodgers, Tom Jefferson, Michell Griffin – ESE, Paulajo Gaines - ESE, Chris Lynch - ESE, Tom, Andrea Kupps – ESE, Russell Johnston – ESE, Susan Fischer – ESE

The meeting began at 10:00.

Steve Theall welcomed Cindy Landanno, the new Executive Director at CAPS Collaborative.

Andrea Kupps of ESE then presented information about **E-Rate 2.0**, the FCC's E-rate Modernization Order that sets ensuring affordable access to high-speed broadband to the classroom as its top priority.

ESE is interested in exploring ways that collaboratives can become involved in helping districts take advantage of the discounts available through E-Rate 2.0. Andrea and Ken Klau will be meeting with the Technology Directors on Sept 29 to discuss in more detail. Ken will also be on the agenda of MOEC's General Membership meeting in October.

Steve Theall updated the board on the **AESA conference** in Washington DC that was held from September 16 - 18. He, Cathy Cummins and Joanne Haley Sullivan attended.

The board then reviewed **discussion items from June Board Meeting:**

The membership has expressed interest in creating a searchable database of collaborative programs and services. Steve Theall will put together a committee to research how the database could be developed.

Steve will also ask for volunteers from the membership for the standing MOEC sub-committees.

Andy Churchill updated the board on the ongoing work on hiring and paying data specialists.

The board discussed the possibility of providing stipends to job-alike leaders and decided not to move ahead with stipends.

Bill Diehl stated that CES will provide training for MCAS-Alt and will gauge interest in the training.

Steve Theall let the board now that Modern Teacher Press is holding retreats and that the company will also be at the AESA national meeting.

Chris Lynch then gave the board an **update from ESE**. Chris mentioned that she recently sent out a list of documents that are on the ESE website that could be helpful to collaboratives. She has also developed a draft of a document about dissolution that she would like a couple of Executive Directors to review.

Chris also stated that during the onsite fiscal reviews of collaboratives, ESE has noted that there are some common issues that have been raised. She said that ESE will send an email about the issues. Much of it relates to board member training and topics that have already been discussed.

The board then discussed **possible topics for the MOEC's October General Meeting**, including the E-rate project, Chapter 70 and supporting LGBTQ students.

Russell Johnston and Susan Fischer of ESE's Center for Targeted Assistance then spoke to the board to explore ways in which collaboratives can support some of ESE's initiatives. Susan Fischer updated the board on the IEP Revision Project. Russell Johnson described ESE's work in reducing the over-identification of low income students as special education students. ESE's Center for Targeted Assistance has met with over 150 different educators and has identified five specific areas upon which to focus:

- 1) Professional Development – to better understand the needs of children who are experiencing poverty and develop teaching strategies
- 2) Student Support Teams
- 3) Eligibility process for Special Education – there is concern tests that may not be culturally proficient could identify kids incorrectly
- 4) Tiered support
- 5) Supporting homeless and transient students

Russell Johnston stated that the first phase is Professional Development. Lower Pioneer Valley Educational Collaborative will host the first session of Professional Development, which will be based on brain-based learning specialist Eric Jensen's work.

The minutes from the June 2015 Executive Board meeting were unanimously accepted.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 pm.