**Minutes**

**MOEC Board Meeting**

**March 11, 2019 @ SWCEC Collaborative**

Attendees: Joanne Haley Sullivan, Cathy Lawson, Liz McGonagle, Steve Donovan, Bill Diehl, Theresa Craig, Beth Fitzmaurice, Catherine Cooper, Mike Tempesta, Chris Scott, and PaulaJo Gaines (DESE).

The meeting began with the presentation of the Executive Director’s Report.   A brief discussion regarding the Job Alike meetings and the Coalition for Special Education Funding occurred. A discussion also covered the interest of surrounding states to participate with MOEC in regional meetings.

Minutes from the February 2019 Board Meeting were presented and unanimously approved by the Board.

A Budget vs. Actual Treasurer’s Report was presented to the Board for review. This was provided as a catalyst for FY20 budget discussions next month.

Members of the newly formed MOEC Steering Committee for the Collaborative Law were presented, with Cathy Lawson serving as the Chair; members include, Theresa Craig Chris Scott, Cindy Landanno, Nadine Ekstrom, and DESE representatives Ruth Hersh and PaulaJo Gaines. A motion was made to approve this membership and it was approved as presented. The first meeting is scheduled for March 25, 2019.

MOEC, in partnership with PEAR, has been preparing a proposal for submission on a grant providing a Social and Emotional Learning and Mental Health Academy. Marcia Berkowitz joined the Board for a discussion of this proposal and it’s submission was unanimously approved. The Board approved the submission of a grant for CommBuys fund code BD-19-1026-DOE02- DOE01-35324 in the amount no to exceed $2,875,000 (pending availability of funding each year) for five years with the indirect cost rate for MOEC not to exceed 10%. A motion was unanimously approved for MOEC to pay the grant writer up to $7,000. Joanne and Marcia reviewed the job description for a Project Director who will be needed if the grant is awarded. The Board voted to approve the job description “in concept” and authorized Joanne Haley Sullivan to recruit and appoint the Project Director upon receipt of the grant.

It was decided that MOEC members would update the existing Salary Survey with FY19 information. The Programs and Services survey that is usually filled out annually will be put on hold.

As a follow up discussion from last month’s meeting for discontinuing the Annual Report, the Board held a discussion on the content of a smaller document (brochure or booklet) that will capture who MOEC is and what it does.

Regional Representatives gave brief reports from their regions. Northeast: meeting this week, many questions regarding the legislation. Southeast: discussed the Collaborative Law, the House Bill regarding funding for Recovery High Schools, Form 2, and Medicaid guidance. Central: met, general discussion. West: working on legislative initiatives to inform new representatives, coordinated transportation, working with the Berkshires to create a collaborative. Greater Boston: took the lead on the CommBuys Grant for MOEC.

The Digital Learning Committee met and notes were included in the packet. The Professional Development Subcommittee met; the PD survey received a good response. They will focus on 3 areas: severe special needs, autism and social/emotional. The opportunity to host a learning tour will be posted. Legislative Subcommittee – the topic of including BCBAs in MTRS is being explored along with the ethics exemption for collaboratives. DESE Report – Paula Jo Gaines reported on a few questions that came up regarding a new schedule that is being required to report surplus funds, and credit/prepayments within Collaboratives.

The Board then discussed potential topics and their priority in the event that MOEC is given time to present at the M.A.S.S. New Superintendent Orientation. Priorities included an overview to reflect that collaboratives are truly an extension of school districts; supporting students with special needs through their collaborative; innovation to solve regional complex problems of practice; and board oversight responsibilities.

The Strategic Plan was provided in the packet for review. Board members were asked to let Joanne know if there are any changes to be discussed.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:05 p.m.