

**MOEC Board Meeting and
Collaborative Law Implementation Planning Session III Minutes
February 10, 2020**

The Education Collaborative (TEC)
141 Mansion Dr, East Walpole, MA 02032
Meeting began: 9:30am Meeting Adjourned: 1:40pm

Attendees: Catherine Cooper, Cathy Lawson, Rick Reino, Arlene Grubert, Steve Donovan, Liz McGonagle, Jean Kenney, Bill Diehl, David Heimbecker, Fran Rosenberg, Allen Himmelberger, Theresa Craig, Jacki Clark, John Demanche, Anna Bishop, Chris Scott, Paulajo Gaines, Ruth Hersh **Remote attendees:** Nadine Ekstrom, Paul Hilton, Kim Oliveria

Welcome and Introduction

Joanne welcomed everyone to the morning meeting. She told the group that the purpose of the meeting is to finalize the discussion of regions and discuss the structure of lead collaboratives by initiative. She reviewed the need to vote on the number of regions that MOEC recommends to the BESE for the purpose of meeting the requirements of Chapter 40, Section 4E (n). Joanne provided a clarification of liaison vs. lead collaborative - regional structure requires liaison, currently regional rep does many of the functions of regional liaison but will elevate responsibility to work as liaison between region and DESE and back again, see role description. Cathy Lawson added that a liaison is almost like an ambassador to the DESE, not responsible for implementing. Joanne added that each initiative will have a lead collaborative to roll it out, not necessarily the same as liaison, and will only surface if there is an initiative for us to carry out.

Dr. Lori Likis led the third Collaborative Law Implementation Planning Session. She shared the Structures to Assess:

- Existing 5 regions, 1 regional liaison rep each
- Redefined 5 regions, 1 regional liaison rep each
- 3 regions, 1 regional liaison rep each
- 3 regions, 1 regional liaison rep + additional rep

There was much discussion around existing regions versus redefining regions. For all structures, aside from the first, a realignment of the regions will occur.

Small group discussion took place to identify pros/cons for each structure. These documents can be viewed [here](#). The groups shared their pros and cons with the full group for discussion prior to voting.

Voting: Regional Structure

Vote 1: Rick Reino made a motion that we implement the current 5 regions, second by Paul Hilton. Vote was 9 in favor. The group then proceeded to vote for a redefined 5 regions, but in the process decided that they would prefer to vote first for 5 vs. 3 regions.

Fran Rosenberg made a motion to vote on 5 regions vs 3 regions; second by Rick Reino
Yes to 5 regions (regardless of how they are designed) 16/2.

Theresa Craig made a motion that we redefine the five regions immediately. Second by Rick Reino. Vote: 3 yes; 14 no; 1 abstain

Theresa Craig made a motion that MOEC shall recommend to the BESE/DESE pertaining to Chapter 40; Section 4E (o) that the number of lead collaboratives be identified for each initiative and not by a fixed number of regions. Steve Donovan seconds the motion.

Vote: Unanimous in favor.

Identifying MOEC's Preferred Approach to Lead Collaboratives

Vote on Steering Committee recommendation that lead collaboratives be identified for each initiative (not by region) - Motion made by Theresa Craig, seconded by Steve Donovan, unanimous.

Next steps to connecting to the MOEC Strategic Plan now that the voting has taken place:

- MOEC inventory of collaborative services
 - What are things we're willing to mentor other Collaboratives on?
- MOU for each region
- Compensation with DESE and financial implications.

12:30pm: Board Meeting Attendees: Ruth Hersch, Fran Rosenberg, Liz McGonagle, Joanne Haley Sullivan, Cathy Lawson, Theresa Craig, Catherine Cooper, Jacki Clark, Chris Scott, Bill Diehl, Steve Donovan

Executive Director Report

Job- alike meetings continue; the program leaders met and discussed enrollment issues; School Based Medicaid, referral processes, ELL services and other topics. The Technology Leaders met and discussed the Student Data Privacy work that TEC is doing with districts; MCAS preparation, Google Certified Cloud Training (is anyone offering?)

Business leaders and Executive Directors were invited to submit a proposal through MASBO's RFP. Fran and her Business Manager have indicated that they will present on The Budgeting Process: The Art of Projecting Census. We are still looking for presenters for Cumulative Surplus and Collaborative Agreements.

MOEC joined the **Coalition for Special Education Funding** (including ASE, MASS, and MAAPS) in signing the attached letter about issues we are having with School Based Medicaid. The group is scheduled to meet with the assistant secretary to assist in improving these sessions on February 11th at 9:00 a.m.

Following that meeting the Coalition will be presenting to the legislature about the need for adequate **Circuit Breaker Funding**. Fran has recruited a parent to present at that session.

Cathy Lawson and Joanne attended the **AESA Legislative Meeting** January 20-22. The legislative priorities were identified for the year. Additionally they had the opportunity to meet with legislative aides of Senator Markey, Congresswoman Trahan (who is on the education committee), and Congressman Lynch. Joanne attended the **AESA State Leaders Meeting** on February 4th.

Special Education Regional Meetings. DESE Winter Regional Special Education Directors Meetings have been offered all remotely in January and were well attended. The Collaborative Leaders will be meeting with DESE on February 14th.

Approval of prior Meeting Minutes (Folder 1)

Steve Donovan made a motion that was seconded by Catherine Cooper that the *minutes of the October General Membership, November Board, December Board , and January General Membership meetings be adopted as presented or ammended. The vote was unanimous.*

Treasurer Report

Chris Scott will present the Treasurer Report. Chris mentioned that the auditor recommended that the MOEC Executive Director be a payroll employee, rather than the contractor agreement that is in place.

Cathy Lawson suggested that her collaborative could help with payroll services for the MOEC Executive Director.

Catherine Cooper shared with the group that additional funds may need to be added to the budget to cover taxes, etc. that are not currently being paid. There was discussion as to whether or not the MOEC Executive Director could obtain a tax-id number and continue as a 1099 consultant.

At the next meeting, the auditor will attend and can answer any additional follow up questions.

Committee Updates

To keep everyone informed of ongoing work, there was a brief update from the Professional Development Committee (Liz McGonagle) and the Legislative Committee (Catherine Cooper).

After Catherine shared her report, there was a discussion about MSBA, the needs that collaboratives have, and the challenges with MSBA responding to requests.

Additional discussion was brought up about Circuit Breaker and transportation reimbursement. Space issues and transportation concerns - will districts continue to provide space with these transportation reimbursement changes?

Joanne Haley Sullivan reminded the Legislative Committee to review the Testimony Protocol prior to the March meeting so it's ready to go for the meeting.

Website Redesign Contract (FOLDER 2)

An RFP for a consultant was issued. Interested parties were requested to reply with a proposal by January 8th, 2020. The RFP stated that a contract will be awarded to the successful consultant at today's meeting.

Three proposals were made and details can be found in the meeting folder:

- CES: \$6250 for website design, \$750/year for web hosting
- KMA Web Design: \$6750 for website design. She does not offer web-hosting
- InTouch Web Design: \$4100 for website design, \$420/year for web-hosting

Cathy Lawson motioned that In Touch Web Design be awarded a contract in the amount of \$4100 for website design and \$420/year for web-hosting, as outlined in the RFP and in the consultant's proposal. Liz McGonagle seconds the motion.

Meeting adjourned at 1:30pm