

**MOEC May General Membership Meeting Minutes**  
**May 10, 2021**  
**Zoom Video Conference**

**Attendees:** Joanne Haley Sullivan, Liz McGonagle, Fran Rosenberg, Theresa Craig, Steve Donovan, Chris Scott, Roland Joyal, Cindy Landanno, Catherine Lawson, Jeanne Sullivan, Kim Oliveria, Cyndy Taymore, Dympna Thomas, Karen Reuter, John Demanche, Catherine Cooper, Arnold Lundwall, Cathy Cummins, Jacki Clark, Sanchita Banerjee, David Heimbecker, Nina Marchese (DOE), Christine Romancewicz (DOE), Paulajo Gaines (DOE), Ruth Hersh (DOE)

Liz McGonagle opened the meeting at 9:00 am

**Welcome**

Joanne Haley Sullivan welcomed everyone to the final meeting of the MOEC General Membership for FY21.

**Executive Director Report**

**Youth Mental Health First Aid**

DESE would like to partner with MOEC members as subcontractors to provide Youth Mental Health First Aid Training to districts. Additionally, there is a train-the-trainer program held June 28-30. DESE is holding six (6) places in the session for MOEC members. A new flyer will be coming soon from DESE, but attached is the flyer from last year.

**Funding for Collaboratives**

The Approved Special Education Schools (maaps schools) received federal funding to offset their costs associated with COVID. We have reached out to DESE to get support for collaboratives as well. We are also reaching out to the legislature for their support to access funds. We will meet with Commissioner Riley on Wednesday, May 12 about the funding we have requested.

**Input to DESE on the Innovations Pathways Grant**

Liz, Cindy Landanno, and Joanne met with members of DESE's Office of Innovation team to discuss a grant opportunity for which collaboratives were not included. There may be room for collaboratives to be more involved in the future; and we've opened the door for future conversations about career opportunities for our students after they graduate. DESE will be presenting additional information at our June Board meeting.

**Cumulative Surplus Guidance**

The Cumulative Surplus Guidance is not ready to be shared at this time; the goal is to have Ruth Hersh and Paulajo Gaines review the guidance with Executive Directors and Business Leaders over the summer.

**MOEC Annual Report**

Joanne and Liz presented this year's annual report in slide format to share the work that was accomplished during the fiscal year. This report includes accomplishments and challenges, as well as updates from each of our committees.

### **MOEC Executive Director Evaluation**

To continue to provide transparency to the membership, Liz provided a brief summary of the new evaluation process and the evaluation of the Executive Director. Joanne's performance level was exemplary and communication is exceptional.

### **MOEC Treasurer's Report**

Chris Scott presented an update about the MOEC finances.

David Heimbecker made a motion to accept the [Treasurer's Report](#) and the [FY22 Budget](#) as presented and second by Catherine Cooper. Motion passed unanimously.

### **New MOEC Policies**

Chris Scott shared the work that the By-Laws and Rules Committee completed on the policies below that were approved by the Board of Directors this year. They are included here for your information.

1. [Conflict of Interest Policy](#)
2. [Document Retention Policy](#)

### **Strategic Planning coming out of COVID**

The membership broke into smaller breakout groups to provide input to DESE around the use of ESSER funds in the state. The answers will inform regional representatives in a future meeting with the team from the Center for Educational Options. We began with a brief overview of the acceptable uses of [ESSER](#) Funds. We discussed the following:

- i. Mental Health/Social Emotional Needs of Students
- ii. Return to face to face instruction--balancing the need for flexibility for individual students who continue to require remote learning (medically or emotionally) with the need for leverage to return the most vulnerable students to learning environments
- iii. Academic/learning needs, compensatory services, staffing and other

### **Recognition of Members Who are Leaving**

Every year at this time we say our fond goodbyes to members who are retiring or moving on to a different position. Patric Barbieri from LABBB Collaborative is retiring this year and, although he was unable to join us, we took an opportunity to honor his work and contributions to the field.

### **Closing Thoughts for the Year**

Joanne shared that everyone has gone above and beyond to make learning continue for their students in amazing ways that no one could have imagined as we began the year. She thanked everyone for their hard work and dedication.

David Heimbecker made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Catherine Cooper seconded it. Motion was passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 12:15pm.