

**Board Meeting Minutes**  
**September 19, 2022**  
**READS Collaborative**  
**44 Bedford St. Middleboro, MA**

Attendees: Joanne Haley Sullivan, Theresa Craig, Catherine Cooper, Chris Scott, Arnold Lundwall, Roland Joyal, Cathy Lawson, Fran Rosenberg, Donna Flaherty, Jennifer Gates, Susan Farrell, Liz McGonagle, Paulajo Gaines, Ruth Hersh.

**Welcome and Executive Director Report**

Theresa Craig called the meeting to order. Joanne Haley Sullivan welcomed everyone back. She made the Board aware of two new Executive Directors who she met with over the summer: Clarice Doliber at North River, and Pam Girouard at LABBB.

[Job-Alike meeting dates](#) are posted to our website. Joanne reviewed some updates on the work of these meetings. There was a request to start a Job Alike group for Payroll Staff; the Board felt it would be a mentoring relationship as so many systems and varied responsibilities are used.

**50th Anniversary of Chapter 766.**

Joanne reminded the Board that this year marks the 50th Anniversary of Chapter 766. Theresa Craig will be speaking at an event at the statehouse on September 21st on behalf of MOEC.

**AESA Update**

Cathy Lawson and Joanne will attend the [AESA Legislative Call to Action Conference](#) to acquire in-depth information to equip us for advocacy both in Washington and locally. In addition, the national conference will be held in Atlanta from November 30 - December 2.

**MASS/MASC Conference Update**

Joanne updated the Board about MOEC's inaugural breakfast session at the MASS/MASC Conference for Collaborative Board members.

**PR Update**

Joanne reported that we have continued publishing articles over the summer.

**Approval of the June Board Meeting Minutes (FOLDER 1)**

Cathy Lawson made a motion to accept the June 6 Board Meeting minutes as presented; Catherine Cooper seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Review of Goals for the Year**

Joanne reviewed the goals listed below for FY23 which were adopted in June.

1. **Curriculum Task Force for Programs Serving Students with Severe Special Needs**
2. [MOEC Website](#) The Board discussed which topics to focus on this year and chose: **family supports, assistive technology, and autism**. The Board decided not to add an employment opportunities page to the website.

3. **Membership Survey**
4. **Continue to expand Professional Development Offerings**

### **Update on Special Education Transportation Task Force**

The Task Force is led by Colleen Cavanaugh and met over the summer. Colleen made a presentation of the [spedtrans website](#) at READS. There was interest in having Colleen come to a General Membership meeting to share this with others.

### **Medication Delegation in Host Schools**

Catherine Cooper discussed medication delegation in host schools. The Board considered how to be sure that all are aware that communication (oral and written) should be in place with host nurses to clarify this and other matters regarding collaborative students. Joanne reminded the Board that we previously worked with DPH to create a [cover letter](#) and [checklist](#) to guide discussions between collaborative and host school nurses.

Catherine pointed out that there was a Bill filed to allow for diabetes management in the schools. However, the Bill was vetoed. A CLIA waiver is required if nurses are doing *any* glucose administration, because the nurse is interpreting results. The CLIA waiver is obtained via DPH.

It was recommended that MOEC establish a Job-Alike group for nurses to ensure they come together for greater awareness around certain issues. Catherine Cooper volunteered to represent MOEC in this Job Alike group.

### **Collaborative Students Participating in Athletics in Host Schools**

The Board was informed about some collaborative students being denied access to play competitive sports as part of their host school teams. We will be kept up to date about this matter.

[FY23 MOEC Committees](#) membership and chairpersons.

### **By-laws and Rules Committee Report**

Chris Scott shared that the By-Laws and Rules committee welcomes Sanchita Banerjee to the committee. The Committee recommended [an amendment](#) to reflect current practice. Donna Flaherty moved that the proposed amendment be recommended to the General Membership for approval at the October meeting. Fran Rosenberg seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Legislative Committee Report**

Catherine Cooper shared an update about what is happening regarding legislation. She provided an update on [An Act Relative to Educational Collaboratives](#). Matt Irish has suggested that Executive Directors call their State Representatives to encourage Representative Denise Garlick (Chair of Bills in Third Reading) to move the bill forward for a vote.

Matt Irish also recommended that we advocate for ourselves regarding Circuit Breaker Funding by requesting that the threshold for reimbursement be lowered to 3X foundation rather than, or as well as, increasing the reimbursement rate. Joanne and Catherine will meet with MASS to discuss.

MSBA funding: Paul Hilton, Legislative Committee member, recommends that MOEC form a Capital and Facilities Committee to discuss relevant issues. This will be discussed further at the October meeting, and then people will be invited to join the Committee.

The Governor's Economic Development Bill includes funding for collaboratives to create hotlines for school safety but does not include us in funding for school safety infrastructure. It is on hold at this time but we should ask to be included in the whole bill if it goes forward.

### **Professional Development Committee Report**

Liz McGonagle shared an update on the PD Committee's plans for this year and thanked Joanne for her work on the Leadership Academy which has about 40 people registered to attend.

The committee plans to continue the Let's Open Our Doors series for this year.

Liz also announced she will be retiring at the end of December. As a result, we will need a Board member replacement for the Professional Development Chairperson.

### **Finance Committee Report**

We received an update from Chris Scott about the Finance Committee meeting.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Chris provided the [Treasurer's Report](#) for the Board.

A motion was made by Donna Flaherty that the FY22 financial update be accepted as presented. Roland Joyal seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Regional Liaison Representative Reports**

We heard reports from our Regional Representatives:

- North Region, Central Region, and Greater Boston will be scheduling meetings shortly.
- Southeast Region - Catherine Cooper reported that SCRO has a symposium next week on Anxiety and School Avoidance. Discussed funds for students who had turned 22 during COVID and what services might be available. Also discussed DEI and staffing concerns.
- West Region - Roland Joyal filling in for Todd Gazda reported that Commissioner Riley attended a meeting with the Superintendents in their region. Roland and Todd have combined the superintendent meetings across the West region.

The Board held a discussion on topics for Regional Liaisons to review with Commissioner Riley on October 13th.

### **Brief Reports from Members who Represent us on Commissions**

- DESE/OASES Change Coalition (Cathy Lawson) - Cape Cod Collaborative and SEEM are part of the pilot program for the new DESE/OASES platform.
- Safe and Supportive Schools Commission (Susan Farrell) - Held a summer retreat.
- Special Education Advisory Council (Susan Farrell) - Did not meet over the summer. This group typically has a lot of parental involvement and focuses often on IEPs.

- Digital Learning (Angela Burke) - Ruth Hersh shared that the first meeting of the school year will be held next Thursday. The Department is also in the process of reviewing the CMVS regulations.

### **Plans for the October General Membership Meeting**

The Board developed plans for the October meeting.

### **Proposed Meeting Plans for the Year**

The Board reviewed the proposed meeting plans for the year and decided that we will discuss whether Board meetings need to be remote or in-person at the October meeting.

### **DESE Update**

We heard an update from Ruth Hersh and Paulajo Gaines.

- Collaboratives should provide remote invitations to Audit meetings for the year to Ruth and Paulajo; They will also be attending MOEC meetings remotely this year.
- Updating the Board Member responsibilities, those should be live in the coming weeks.
- Guide for Members of Public Boards and Commissions - discusses expectations for Board members and is in line with the DESE board member training.
- DESE is working to revise the Roles and Responsibilities of School Committee Members
- Update on reflection on EDCO.

### **Distribution of MOEC Annual Report**

The MOEC Annual Report was distributed to the membership. We will also be distributing it at the breakfast session at MASS/MASC and hope to also provide a copy to Senator Lewis at our October meeting.

**Follow up on Commissioner Riley's August meeting:** The Board briefly discussed any follow up needed about the implications of the meeting with the Commissioner in August.

Catherine Cooper made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Donna Flaherty seconded the motion. The meeting ended at 2:06PM

The Board is next scheduled to meet on November 7, 2022.