

November Board Meeting Minutes
November 7, 2022
10:00 AM - 2 PM
Coffee and Conversation at 9:45AM
Zoom Video Conference

Attendees:: Joanne Haley Sullivan, Theresa Craig, Fran Rosenberg, Arnold Lundwall, Roland Joyal, Catherine Cooper, Cathy Lawson, Chris Scott, Paul Hilton, Sanchita Banerjee, Ruth Hersh DESE, Paulajo Gaines DESE, Karen Brann DESE, Christine Romancewicz DESE, Jim George, Dan Schaffner

Theresa Craig opened the meeting at 10:02AM

Executive Director Report
MASS/MASC Conference

Joanne Haley Sullivan attended the MASS/MASC Conference. A variety of members presented and we held our inaugural MOEC Board Member breakfast. The group was primarily school committee members and interested in supporting the goals of the collaboratives. Some in attendance were asking for a newsletter to be kept informed about MOEC. Catherine Cooper suggested that everyone add MOEC to their meeting agendas. Theresa suggested a quarterly one-pager to be included in the quarterly reports already sent to board members. This one-pager could be based on Joanne's Executive Director reports.

Funding for HVAC

There was a discussion about concerns about lack of eligibility for the HVAC funds that the legislature had set aside. Fran and Joanne met with DESE for some clarification and learned that specific districts were mentioned as eligible for this particular grant. They are continuing to meet with DESE and will gather data for needs.

Job Alike Groups have continued to meet. We are in the process of identifying nurse leaders to include in a new group which will meet for the first time on November 14.

Overview of Intensive Special Education Programming Nina Marchese connected us with the Education Secretary's Office to discuss ways to get information to pediatricians about the range of special education services in the state including collaborative programming.

Karen Brann referenced this bill [here](#): An Act Addressing Barriers To Care For Mental Health.

Financial Review and Taxes (Daniel Schaffner, CPA) (FOLDER 3)

Daniel Schaffner, CPA has completed his financial review for MOEC and has completed our tax return. He reported on his findings during the meeting.

Chris Scott made a motion that the Financial Review and Taxes be adopted as presented. Catherine Cooper seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Joint Committee on Education

Joanne has been asked to testify to the Joint Committee on Education's informational hearing in a panel setting with MAAPS. Below are the specifics on what they would like to hear in the testimony:

How has the pandemic impacted special education schools? What are the biggest challenges facing special education teachers and students this year, and to what extent are those a function of the pandemic? What resources/supports are needed that differ from prior to the pandemic?

Joanne reviewed a [draft outline](#) and there was a brief discussion on how we can increase the data and possibly anecdotes related to these issues we have surfaced. There was further discussion about staffing issues across a variety of positions.

Joanne will develop a quick survey to gather additional data regarding these issues.

Approval of the September Board and October General Membership Meeting Minutes (FOLDER 1)

Catherine Cooper made a motion that the minutes of the September Board meeting and the October General Membership meeting be adopted as presented. Fran Rosenberg seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Committee Reports

Finance Committee/Treasurer's Report

Chris Scott and Jim George provided the [Treasurer's Report](#) for the Board.

Roland Joyal made a motion that the November Treasurer's Report be approved as presented. Cathy Lawson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Professional Development Committee Report

We will receive [an update](#) from Liz McGonagle about the PD Committee plans for this year.

Arnold Lundwall volunteered to chair the committee, and was appointed by Theresa as the committee chairperson. The committee needs to discuss the next Fraud Awareness and Prevention training session. Fran suggested that Procurement may be a topic of interest for a future session.

Legislative Committee Report

Catherine Cooper shared that the Legislative Committee has not formally met since last month. However, Matt Irish did mention that we need to identify what we want to prioritize for the next informal session. Finance and Facilities are also important issues that need attention, in addition to the Ethics Bill. We want to ensure we're included in any additional financing/funding that may come available. The Legislative Committee should prioritize the issues that we'd like to focus on short term and long term.

Capital and Facilities Committee

Their first meeting will be on November 16. Paul Hilton was appointed as chairperson for this committee by Theresa. Chris Scott, Fran Rosenberg, Kim Oliveira, Rick Reino, John Demanche, and Kristin Shaver were appointed as committee members by Theresa.

Curriculum Committee

Theresa appointed Cathy Lawson as the chairperson for this committee as well as Kim Oliveira, Jennifer Gates, Sanchita Banerjee, and Susan Farrell as members of this committee.

Executive Director Salary Survey

The Board had a brief discussion about the [FY22 Executive Director Salary Survey](#) and determined we will initiate a new FY23 survey. Joanne will follow up with MASS/MASC for a copy of their salary survey to use as a model.

Regional Liaison Representative Reports

- Cathy Lawson (North) - There was no meeting
- Arnold Lundwall (Central) - Met on 10/11 and nothing has changed since our last MOEC meeting 10/17.
- Donna Flaherty (Greater Boston) - Not present, no report.
- Catherine Cooper (Southeast) - In the process of scheduling another meeting.
- Todd Gadza (West) - Not present, no report.

Preparation for the January General Membership Meeting

The Board discussed ideas for the January General Membership meeting. Colleen Cavanaugh is attending to discuss the Special Education Transportation Website and we plan to review and analyze the results of the MOEC Programs and Services Survey. We will also discuss communicating quarterly to the collaborative boards, and touch on how the collaborative boards report to school committees. Theresa will share information about the new law and mental health conversations.

Brief reports from members who represent us on commissions

- DESE/OASES Change Coalition (Cathy Lawson) - no update
- Safe and Supportive Schools Commission (Susan Farrell) - Not present, no report.
- Special Education Advisory Council (Susan Farrell) - Not present, no report.
- Digital Learning (Angela Burke) - Not present, no report.
- BirCH Project (Fran Rosenberg) - no update