

Southeastern Massachusetts Educational Collaborative Board
Minutes of June 13, 2012 Board Meeting

Members Present: Michelle Cusolito, Frank Kuthan, Gerald Johnson, Michelle Ouellette
Marlene Pollock*, Jonathan Schwartz

Members Absent: Brian Monroe, James O'Brien

Staff Present: Catherine S. Cooper, Executive Director

Visitors Present: John Nunes, Collaborative Treasurer

**Mrs. Pollock left the meeting following the discussion and vote on Agenda Business Item H.*

Mr. Kuthan called the meeting to order at 6:02 P.M.

1. **VOTED** To approve the Minutes of the Board's April 3, 2012 meeting. *Member Kuthan abstained.*
APPROVED
2. **VOTED** To approve the staff resignations and terminations indicated on Agenda Attachment 1.
APPROVED
3. **VOTED** To approve the maternity leave request as submitted on Agenda Attachment 2.
APPROVED
4. **VOTED** To receive, accept and place on file the FY12 LEA Budget update and to approve the proposed line item adjustments as indicated on Agenda Attachment 3.
APPROVED
5. **VOTED** To approve the updated FY12 Adult Service Budget as submitted.
APPROVED
6. **VOTED** To approve the Collaborative's application, submitted 5/4/12, for a short term business line of credit in the amount of \$200,000 through Rockland Trust to cover expenses and payroll while awaiting receipt of revenue. The Board acknowledges that this is in the Collaborative's and member districts' best interests to have this credit line available for emergencies.
APPROVED

7. **VOTED** To terminate the agreement with the town of Fairhaven for the purchase of employee health and dental benefits and to switch providers to the Tufts Health Plan and Altus Dental Group effective July 1, 2012. The Director showed the financial benefit of making such a change. The Director also informed the Board that the Fairhaven Town Administrator had verbally indicated to the Director that because the Town is self-insured, he believed that SMEC would be partially or fully responsible for any bills received by the Town for medical services provided to SMEC employees after July 1, 2012 even if the services had been provided prior to the termination of coverage on June 30, 2012. Discussion ensued and the general consensus of the Board is that any medical bills incurred prior to June 30, 2012 would be Fairhaven's financial responsibility.

APPROVED

8. **VOTED** To base the SMEC Transitional Services Program at Dartmouth High School beginning in September 2012, pending Dartmouth School Committee approval.

APPROVED

9. **VOTED** To approve the SMEC FY13 School Year Tuitions and Preliminary LEA Budget as submitted on Agenda Attachments 7 and 8 and to freeze the SMEC 2012 summer program tuitions at the FY12 rates.

APPROVED

10. **VOTED** To approve the FY13 Preliminary SAIL and Adult Day Health Budgets as submitted on Agenda Attachments 9 and 10.

APPROVED

11. **VOTED** To approve the FY13 Preliminary SMEC Administrative Budget as submitted on Agenda Attachment 11.

APPROVED

12. **VOTED** To exercise the Open Meeting Law provisions of 940 CMR 29.03 (1)(c) by posting notice of all SMEC public meetings to the SMEC website rather than individually through member communities from this point forward.

APPROVED

13. **VOTED** To receive, accept and place on file the Executive Director's self-evaluation for FY12 following a review of the 2011-2012 goals and follow up actions related thereto.

APPROVED

14. **DISCUSSION** The Director informed the Board that the Collaborative revenue will not meet expectations for FY12 and that the Collaborative is projected to incur a deficit of approximately \$275,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2012. The Director informed the Board that the Collaborative's unassigned fund balance of \$840,917 will be reduced by any actual deficit amount at the end of the fiscal year.
15. **DISCUSSION** The Director informed the Board that there has been no communication since the last Collaborative Board meeting from either DDS or the State Auditor's Office regarding the SAO's finding #4 and the DDS proposal to recoup approximately \$53,000 in LUSA payments to SMEC through compensatory services.
16. **DISCUSSION** The Director reminded the Board that certain provisions of the Chapter 43 legislation have taken effect and several more will affect the Board's activities during the next fiscal year, including the requirement for a minimum of six (6) meetings per year, annual appointment of Board members, updates to the SMEC Articles of Agreement and Board member training (following DESE guidance to be forthcoming).
17. **DISCUSSION** The Director provided an update regarding all SMEC programs and informed the Board that as of this date, certain programs, particularly the Primary Language Program, have decreased enrollment projected for September.
18. **DISCUSSION** The Director informed the Board that the Collaborative is offering a graduate course in Multiple Intelligences through Endicott College at our Welby Road location during the last week of June.
19. **DISCUSSION** The Director presented a synopsis of the activities of the Southeast Collaborative Regional Organization and current activities on behalf of all districts in MOEC Region V (SE MA).
- SET** The date for the next scheduled meeting of the Collaborative Board of Directors is Thursday, September 20, 2012 at 6:00 P.M at the Collaborative's administrative office.
20. **VOTED** To adjourn at 7:50 P.M.

APPROVED

Respectfully submitted,
Catherine S. Cooper
Secretary to the Board