

SOUTH SHORE EDUCATIONAL COLLABORATIVE
75 Abington Street, Hingham, MA 02043

BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Friday, January 23, 2015

Present: Braintree Maureen Murray, Ed.D.
 Cohasset Barbara Cataldo
 Hingham Dorothy Galo, Ph.D.
 Hull Kathleen Tyrell, Ed.D.
 Marshfield Ellen Martin
 Norwell Matthew Keegan
 Randolph Thomas Anderson
 Scituate John McCarthy
 Weymouth Kenneth Salim, Ed.D.

 SSEC: Henry W. Perrin, Ed.D., Executive Director
 Richard Reino, Business Administrator

 Guest: Brian P. Fox, Murphy, Hesse, Toomey and Lehane, LLP

1. Approval of the minutes from the December 5, 2014 meeting; A motion to approve was made by Dr. Galo and seconded by Dr. Murray; unanimously approved, with Ms. Martin abstaining as she was not present for this meeting.

2. Mr. Fox addressed the board to review a draft version of an OPEB (other post-employment benefits) trust agreement. One of the requirements of the agreement is to set up a written trust agreement with a board of trustees who will oversee the funds for the trust. Mr. Fox went over several sections of the agreement and provided an explanation to board members of what the responsibilities would be pertaining to reporting requirements, along with responding to questions as they arose. Mr. Fox agreed to provide a revised agreement for the board to review at its meeting in March. Mr. McCarthy left the meeting at this time.

3. The draft SSEC employee handbook was presented for a first reading. Board members are reviewing it, and may make recommendations or request revision. It will be discussed in more detail at the next meeting. The board appreciates being aware of documents and procedures used by the SSEC; however, they need to focus on reviewing and approving policies. Board members expressed that they will vote on policies and on the contracts for the executive director, business administrator, and treasurer. Teachers, paraprofessionals and other positions are to be appointed by the executive director.

4. The executive director noted that union negotiations will be starting soon. A meeting that was scheduled for next week has been postponed at the union's request.

5. The draft SSEC annual budget for 2015-2016 will be presented at the March meeting. The business administrator expressed that the tuition increase will not exceed 3%, but hopefully will be around 2% or 2.5% for next year. Ms. Martin left the meeting at this time. The budget projection sheet and the financial summary update reports were reviewed. A motion to approve these items was made by Dr. Salim and seconded by Dr. Tyrell; unanimously approved.

6. The SSEC elopement policy for South Shore High School, Careers High School, and the Mini School High School classroom was recently revised. Adjustments were made to the policy for students who wish to leave the school building and have been assessed by a clinician to be safe. The policy outlines guidelines to be followed to ensure student safety and wellbeing under a variety of circumstances. Dr. Murray left the meeting at this time.

7. The executive director told the board that a Virtual Learning Academy is getting underway. It is comprised of 9 area collaboratives which represent 88 school districts. Additional information will be sent via email in the next week or so.

8. The DESE evaluation instrument was recently ratified by the union. The board chairperson may now sign this document as the board had reviewed it at an earlier meeting.

A motion to adjourn was made by Dr. Galo and seconded by Mr. Anderson; unanimously approved. The meeting was adjourned at 10:20 a.m.