

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

BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Friday, May 20, 2016

Present: Braintree Frank Hackett, Ed.D.
Cohasset Barbara Cataldo and Louise Demas
Hingham Dorothy Galo, Ph.D.
Marshfield Jeffrey Granatino
Norwell Matthew Keegan
Quincy Richard DeCristofaro, Ed.D.
Randolph Thomas Anderson
Scituate John McCarthy

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

Guests Jon Reynard, Community School Coordinator
Erin Holder, Community School Coordinator

1. Approval of minutes from the Friday, April 8 meeting. A motion to accept the minutes was made by Dr. Galo and seconded by Mr. Anderson; unanimously approved with Dr. Hackett, Mr. Granatino, Mr. Keegan and Dr. DeCristofaro abstaining as they were not present for that meeting.
2. Financial update and summary. The business administrator noted that the current bank balance is good, and the credit line has not been accessed since November. Current enrollments are high in the Quest School; referrals are down this year in both the Community School and the Mini School. As positions are being vacated they are not being filled right away, and 10-12 voluntary layoffs have been accepted for the 2016-2017 school year. The FY17 budget is very conservative with regard to enrollment and is based on a realistic number. Mr. Granatino arrived at this time. A motion to accept the financial update and summary presented on May 20th was made by Dr. Galo and seconded by Mr. McCarthy; unanimously approved.
3. Personnel for the 16-17 school year. As mentioned briefly in the previous section, as people resign or retire from their positions at SSEC these positions are not being filled immediately. The SSEC anticipates starting the next school year with the appropriate number of staff to meet the needs of the students in attendance.
4. The business administrator provided an update on the energy purchasing bid process. The SSEC has a new consultant, Titan Energy, who will be going out to bid on gas and electricity in early June. The following communities have already signed on to purchase energy cooperatively: Cohasset Public Schools, Scituate Public Schools, SSEC, Plymouth Public Schools, Town of Plymouth, North River Collaborative and Hull Public Schools. Additionally, the business administrator has asked Titan Energy about the possibility of putting solar panels on the building at 75 Abington Street.

5. Classrooms at Randolph High School and 40 Pond Park Road. The lease of the SSEC building located at 40 Pond Park Road ends in October, 2016. A long term goal was to have the building at 75 Abington Street full and perhaps have some classrooms located in community district schools. Mr. Anderson offered Randolph High School classrooms to Mini School students this year. Randolph staff has been welcoming and the classroom space is comfortable. SSEC is looking for classrooms located on the first floor for next year as students currently located in classrooms at 40 Pond Park will be relocated. The location of Randolph High School offers great opportunities for students with its proximity to stores and provides opportunities to integrate students within the community.
6. Milton Public Schools is requesting membership into the South Shore Educational Collaborative. A copy of school committee meeting minutes approving the request to join the SSEC has been provided, which is the first step in the process. A motion to begin the process of accepting Milton Public Schools into membership at the SSEC was made by Mr. Anderson and seconded by Dr. Galo; unanimously approved. An amendment to the SSEC collaborative agreement will be sent to the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education for review, and following its approval, a vote will be taken by each SSEC member district school committee. If all of this is complete by December, 2016, Milton may be able to become a member of SSEC on July 1, 2017.
7. The strategic planning committee is seeking a volunteer from the SSEC board to serve on the committee. Mr. McCarthy volunteered, and Dr. Galo will stop in during the meetings on August 4th and 5th. Mr. Keegan mentioned that he would not be available on Friday, August 5th.
8. Two SSEC staff members, Crystal King and Tracy Foley, recently applied for a competitive technology grant. The SSEC was awarded \$33,000 which will be used for a digital copy center which will include plastic 3D printers.
9. Election of SSEC Board Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson for 2016-2017. Mr. McCarthy offered to become the chairperson, so Mr. Granatino made a motion to accept Mr. McCarthy as the chairperson for 2016-2017 and Dr. Galo seconded that motion; it was unanimously approved. Mr. Anderson offered to become the vice-chairperson, so Dr. Hackett made a motion to accept Mr. Anderson as the vice-chairperson for 2016-2017 and Dr. Galo seconded that motion; unanimously approved.
10. The first meeting of the Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) Board of Trustees will take place immediately following the adjournment of this meeting.
11. The board was asked to authorize the transfer of up to \$96,393.38 from SSEC funds to OPEB funds. The OPEB board of trustees will meet with representatives from Rockland Trust to gather information about setting up an OPEB account. Bank representatives have told the business administrator that there is no minimum amount that must be deposited into an OPEB account. Following a brief discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Granatino and seconded by Dr. Galo to approve the transfer of up to \$96,393.38 from SSEC funds to an OPEB account; unanimously approved.
12. The meeting dates for the 2016-2017 SSEC board meetings were reviewed. Mr. Keegan asked if the December and March dates could be changed as he has conflicting meetings on those dates, and board members agreed to the change. The SSEC board meeting dates for 2016-2017 are now September 30; December 9; January 20; March 10; April 7 and May 19.

13. The executive director offered to bring board members on a tour of the SSEC programs following the meeting.

14. In other business;

- The executive director handed out information provided by the Massachusetts Organization of Educational Collaboratives (MOEC) explaining how the DESE will be building an Inclusive Practice Network to disseminate ESE resources to Massachusetts principals. Collaboratives have been chosen by DESE to roll out initiatives statewide. Board members expressed that their principals practice inclusion effectively and that the time frame to complete this work is not feasible.
- A new program for Low-Income Education Access Project (LEAP) will improve educational access and outcomes for Massachusetts students living in poverty.
- DESE information regarding Next Generation MCAS and the Review of the Learning Standards was distributed to board members.
- The SSEC included letters from DESE explaining that the FY 15 Annual Report requirements were met and approved by DESE, and that the Coordinated Program Review progress reports have been completed and accepted for all programs.
- The third Boston University cohort will hopefully be up and running for September, 2016. Three more students are needed in order to meet the minimum requirement. The courses are held at SSEC and are convenient and cost effective for students.

A motion to adjourn was made by Dr. Galo and seconded by Mr. Anderson; unanimously approved. The meeting adjourned at 9:20 a.m.