

SOUTH COAST EDUCATIONAL COLLABORATIVE (SCEC)

Board of Directors' Zoom Meeting March 3, 2022 Minutes

Present: T. Anderson, T. Aubin, A. Azar, J. Cabral, R. Drolet, B. Gifford R. Medeiros,
J. Robidoux, M. Ryan, J. Schoonover
M. Canner, D. Heimbecker, J. Prendergast

1.00 - Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Board Chair R. Medeiros at 1:03 PM.

2.00 - Minutes of January 20, 2022

The minutes of January 20, 2022 were presented for review and approved.

Motion, T. Aubin: To approve the minutes of January 20, 2022
Second, R. Drolet

Vote, Unanimous

3.00 - Financial Information

3.10 - Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) Trust

The OPEB Trustees will meet on April 14, 2022 at 11:30 AM and will share updates during the Board meeting at 1:00 PM. The Trustees Board will have to reorganize due to changes in the SCEC Board of Directors.

3.20 – Updating of the FY22 Business Plan

There is a small profit showing at the end of January, 2022. Overall there is a loss of \$716,000 for the year. This is student related as the current enrollment is at 232 students and is below budget by 16 students. Staff numbers at the end of January are under budget at 214. This is nine (9) less staff than budget.

3.30 – FY23 Business Plan/Budget

SCEC is beginning the budget process at this time. Due to Pandemic-driven uncertainty, it is difficult to construct the budget because costs will be different. Additionally, since the trend seems to be students who are being referred to SCEC have more challenges than in the past, student staff ratios will need to be adjusted in the FY23 budget/business plan. The plan will be presented to the Board at the April 14, 2022, Board of Directors' meeting.

The PPP Loan has been forgiven and has been approved as a grant. In addition, SCEC has just received a DESE grant of \$75,000 for reading and literacy curriculum.

Executive Director Heimbecker will present a proposal for the PPP grant at the April 14, 2022 Board of Directors' meeting.

3.40 – SCEC Financial and Control Policies

As existing policies are honed and new ones emerge, Board member participation and oversight will be encouraged and solicited

4.00 - Human Resources

4.10 - New Hires:

4.11 – Eric Peloquin, Paraprofessional II, Gallishaw High School, 12 months

4.12 – Brianna Gordon, Teacher, Gallishaw High School, 12 months

Motion, J. Cabral: To accept new hires as presented

Second, J. Robidoux

Vote, Unanimous

4.20 – Transfers

4.21 – John Machado, Paraprofessional II at Bishop Connolly High School to Gallishaw High School, 12 months

4.30 - Resignations:

4.31 – Kate McGovern, Paraprofessional II at LIFE Academy, 12 months

4.32 – Hayley Snow, Paraprofessional II, ABA, 12 months

Motion, J. Cabral: To accept resignations as presented

Second, T. Anderson

Roll Call Vote:

T. Anderson – Yes

T. Aubin - Yes

A. Azar- Yes

J. Cabral - Yes

R. Drolet – Yes

B. Gifford – Yes

R. Medeiros – Yes

J. Robidoux – Abstain

M. Ryan – Yes

J. Schoonover – Yes

Vote, Passed

4.40 – Retirements:

- 4.41 – Maria Bairos, Paraprofessional II, Gallishaw High School, 12 months
- 4.42 - Ralph Marziali, Paraprofessional II Gallishaw High School, 12 months

Motion, J. Cabral: To accept retirements as amended
Second, M. Ryan

Vote, Unanimous

4.50 – Terminations: None

4.60 – Leave of Absence: None

4.70 – Educational Leave: None

5.00 - Executive Session: None

6.00 - Building Program Update

6.10 - Repairs and replacements at most SCEC sites are being completed on an as needed basis.

7.00 - Policy and Procedures

7.10 – As current administrative policies and procedures are refined and new ones emerge, Board participation and oversight will be solicited.

8.00 - Internal & External Professional Development – Prepared by Dr. Carolyn McKearney & Frank Gallishaw – Highlights provided during the Board meeting by the Executive Director

8.11 - Executive Director Heimbecker reviewed the afternoon of reflection and promotion of staff well-being that is part of our Deep Learning professional development work. In keeping with this, Dr. Jean Clinton will present to the SCEC staff over the next four months. Dr. Clinton is a Child Psychiatrist and a New Pedagogies for Deep Learning (NPDL) Special Advisor. Interested Board members are invited to send participants to these sessions. As soon as the schedule for her presentations are available, it will be sent to Board members with a link to register.

8.22 - SCEC is partnering once again with Bridgewater State University to offer a master's program in Special Education. Dr. Heimbecker referred to the flyer in the board backup which gives information about this.

9.00 - Superintendent Issues

9.10 - Dr. Heimbecker spoke about the reminder from Ruth Hersh and Paula Jo Gaines at DOE to instruct Board members about the need to stay current with the DESE Role and Responsibilities of Collaborative Boards. Dr. Heimbecker will reach out to individual board members as needed.

9.20 – The final year of SCEC’s Strategic Plan is underway and more information will be available as we look at the appropriateness of our goals.

9.30 – As part of the process of requesting the admission of Fall River into SCEC, a letter has been sent to Commissioner Riley requesting that the accommodating changes in our Collaborative agreement be finalized.

9.40 - Executive Director Heimbecker continues to informally explore the possibilities with education department staff from both RI and the MA Departments of Education for having SCEC staff provide services in RI schools.

9.50 - The Executive Director’s Book Club Reflections – Continuous Learning Service for the SCEC Board of Directors:

Executive Director Heimbecker shared his reflections on two books. The first text was written by Thomas Harding and is entitled *White Debt: The Demerara uprising and Britain’s legacy of slavery*. This is an opportunity to read about another country and gain a better understanding of our own country. The second book reviewed is Jenny Rogers’s *Are you listening?* The author is one of the world renowned coaches and she writes about the importance of the impact of our personal lives on our professional lives.

10.00 - Other Superintendent Issues

10.10 – Board members who recently attended the AASA national conference discussed the highlights of the conference.

10.20 – Accommodations and registration for the 2022 Paul J. Andrews Executive Institute in July has been arranged for all SCEC Board members who have requested assistance. Board members can continue to reach out to Dennis Henriques for further assistance if needed.

10.30 – Executive Director Heimbecker referred to the Plot Plan document in the board back-up and explained all the issues in the Reis Boundary Dispute. This involves SCEC being caught in a dispute between two neighbor whose properties are adjacent to the SCEC property on Walker Street. In order to resolve this, the SCEC attorney has recommended to move the boundaries slightly and sell a very small slice of land.

Motion, J. Cabral: That the Collaborative is authorized to enter into a transaction to convey the real property shown as Parcel 1 and Parcel 3, as shown on a plan entitled “Plan of Land 61 Walker St., 93 Walker St. & 2201 GAR Highway Swansea, Massachusetts” prepared by Horsley Whitten Group, dated 7-14-2021” recorded with the Bristol (Fall River) Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 167, Page 49 and Dr. David Heimbecker, the Executive Director of the Collaborative, acting singly, is hereby authorized and empowered on behalf of the Collaborative and in its name to make, execute and deliver any and all instruments necessary or desired to effect the same, including deeds, bills of sale or other documents of transfer, all in such form as may be necessary and to execute any and all instruments necessary or necessary to effect the same or incidental thereto, including, without limiting the generality of the foregoing, certificates, assignments, transfers, conveyances, agreements, powers of attorney, and any other instruments, with power to endorse the same in the name of the Collaborative, and generally to execute any instrument or do any other act required, necessary

or deemed advisable in connection with such sale, and that all past acts of such officer in negotiating the terms of such sale and in executing agreements and documents on behalf of this Collaborative are hereby ratified and confirmed.

Second, A. Azar

Discussion: Executive Director Heimbecker, in response to a question regarding the possibility of any costs to the collaborative or districts, explained that there would be no costs to either. He also stated that all Board members need to sign the document containing the motion which is included in the back-up and this cannot be done through DocuSign. Each Board member will have a document to sign and have notarized.

Vote, Unanimous

10.40 – Superintendent Anderson and Superintendent Gifford have both been very supportive of Influence 100. The Influence 100 Fellows are very appreciative of this support and guidance. They are in the process of deciding whether or not to do this initiative again next year.

10.50 – Executive Director Heimbecker shared the highlights of the February 2022 accomplishments at the Gallishaw High School Program. They were written by John Murphy and had been presented at the Senior Facilitators meeting. These are students who are very challenged yet have been able to accomplish so much. Superintendent Medeiros asked that Dr. Heimbecker convey the board's continued support for their work.

10.60 – Executive Director Heimbecker reviewed the remaining SCEC Board of Directors' meetings scheduled for 2021-2022. He noted that the April 14, 2022 meeting will be in person at the SCEC Administrative Building.

The luncheon honoring the Administrative Assistants will be held prior to the board meeting on June 16, 2022.

The Board discussed plans to honor those board members who will soon be retiring from their positions as Superintendents. This may take place following the June 16, 2022 Board of Directors' meeting.

11.00 – Warrants: To be signed via DocuSign

12.00 - Other Item(s)

12.10 - Updating and Discussing Leasing Property for Instructional Purpose

Executive Director Heimbecker discussed concerns regarding space to operate SCEC programs and gave updates on the various possibilities that he is pursuing. He is actively talking with the South Coast YMCA regarding LIFE Academy.

12.20 - Board members discussed Superintendent positions and openings in the districts.

12.30 – Board members shared updates regarding Covid-19 from their district

13.00 - Adjournment

Motion, R. Drolet: To adjourn meeting at 1:42 PM
Second, B. Gifford

Vote, Unanimous