

SOUTH COAST EDUCATIONAL COLLABORATIVE (SCEC)

Board of Directors' Meeting April 10, 2025 Minutes

Present: J. Schoonover, S. Holcomb, R. Kidwell, M. Ryan, B. Starkie, T. Curley,
D. Heimbecker, J. Bouchard Prendergast, L. Thibault

1.00 - Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Superintendent/Chair J. Schoonover at 1:21 PM.

2.00 - Minutes of February 6, 2025

The minutes of February 6, 2025 were presented for review and approved.

Motion, S. Holcomb: To approve the minutes of February 6, 2025
Second, M. Ryan

Superintendent, Barbara Starkie abstained.

All in favor

The SCEC Board of Directors welcomed Barbara Starkie.

3.00 - Financial Information

3.10 - Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) Trust

Director of Finance, Jennifer Bouchard Prendergast, noted the current OPEB account balance at the end of February is \$275,000. OPEB decisions will be discussed at the June 12, 2025 meeting. SCEC's current OPEB liability is \$9.1M.

3.20 – Updating of the FY2025 Business plan/Budget

Director of Finance, Jennifer Bouchard Prendergast reports that at the end of February, SCEC had a profit of \$300K to date. However, there are currently 9 less students than budgeted. SCEC will continue the spending freeze on non-essential items.

SCEC is still in the process of hiring additional staff and will continue to monitor the student/staff ratios. SCEC currently has 202 staff, which is below budget by five.

With SCEC's low staffing numbers, SCEC nurses and related services staff as well as the program directors are helping in the classrooms on an as needed basis.

The Department of Education will conduct a financial audit this year at SCEC.

3.50 – FY2026 Business Plan/Budget

Currently, the Business Plan/Budget model being considered reflects 5% increases in tuition and other fees for services. All possible avenues are being considered and explored to reduce the potential increases, but as indicated major challenges exist. As always predicting student enrollment, the level of student challenges, acquiring suitable public-school classrooms, and medical insurance costs are the most significant factors.

Tier billing will remain the same.

Per the A & B Union contract- salaries for all union employees will move up a step if eligible and receive a 1.5% pay increase along with 5 days off for ESY, with a total of 217 working days for FY2026.

Health Insurance will increase 8.2% for FY2026.

Director of Finance, Jennifer Bouchard Prendergast worked with the program leaders to get a sense of SCEC's student to staff ratios. SCEC is currently estimating 18, 1:1 aide for FY2026.

Director of Finance, Jennifer Bouchard Prendergast, presented the FY2026 Business Plan for approval.

Discussion was had regarding- indirect costs, consultants and Related Services.

Motion, S. Holcomb: To approve the Business Plan/ Budget for FY2026 as presented.

Second, M. Ryan

All in favor

Director of Finance, Jennifer Bouchard Prendergast, presented the updated Capital Plan FY24-2030 for approval.

Motion, S. Holcomb: To approve the Capital Plan FY24-2030 as presented.

Second, M. Ryan

All in favor

4.00 - Human Resources:

4.10 - New Hire(s):

4.11 – Heather Brown-12-month Para at North School

4.12 – Emily Parsons-is moving from a 12-month Para at North School to a 12-month Teacher at North School.

4.20 - Transfer(s):

4.21 – Michelle Soares-12-month Para at Berkley Middle to a 12-month Para at SHINE @ DRHS

Motion: S. Holcomb: To approve New Hires and Transfers as presented.
Second, M. Ryan

All in favor

4.30 - Resignation(s): None

4.40 – Retirement(s): None

4.50 – Leave of Absence(s): None

4.60 – Termination(s): None

5.00 - Executive Session: None

6.00 - Building Program Update:

6.10 – SCEC’s Facility Director, Shane Vezina will be painting and adding new cameras to our time-out spaces/settling areas in the month of April.

7.00 - Policy and Procedures:

7.10 – SCEC’s fiscal review from DESE will take place in the month of April.

8.00 - Internal & External Professional Development – Prepared by Dr. Carolyn McKearney & Frank Gallishaw.

8.10 - Internal Professional Development – Prepared by Frank Gallishaw Jr.

8.11 - SCEC is working hard on the internal and external professional development.

8.12 - SCEC programs are hosting walk throughs for staff to be able to participate in their day to day and to see what each program has to offer.

8.20 - External Professional Development -- Prepared by Dr. Carolyn McKearney

8.21 -- Dr. Carolyn McKearney is exploring a possible partnership with UMass Dartmouth for a Doctorate in Educational Leadership cohort.

9.00 - Superintendent Issues

9.10 -- Business Office Team (BOT) Reorganization Study:

Board Treasurer, Josph Delude and John Ratcliffe, a principal at Pavento, Ratcliffe, Renzi & Co., LLC are completing a reorganization study of SCEC's BOT. This opportunity emerged with HR/Payroll Director, Sheena Martin accepting another position.

9.20 -- Update from SCEC Aquatics Facilitator Tracy Lancellotta

This partnership is greatly benefiting the Taunton Boys & Girls club along with SCEC staff and students in an exemplary fashion.

10.00 - Other Superintendent Issues

10.10 -- Schedule of Remaining SCEC Board of Board Directors Meetings for 2024-2025

<u>Date</u>	<u>Meeting Description</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Location</u>
June 12, 2025,	Board Luncheon	12:30 – 1:00 PM	GLC – 2
	Board of Directors' Meeting	1:00 – 2:30 PM	GLC – 2

10.20 -- Board Members Share Professional Learning Experienced gained throughout the year.

10.30 -- Executive Director, David Heimbecker noted there will be continuous Professional Learning Experienced Supported by SCEC for FY25.

10.31 -- ASCD, June 29-July2, 2025 in San Antonio

10.32 -- MASS Summer Institute, July 15-17, 2025 in North Falmouth

Board members who are interested in participating in any of these PD Experienced should contact Leah Thibault who will assist in obtaining registration and accommodations for all

Board Members. She can be reached at (508) 379-1180 extension 129 or lthibault@scecoll.org

10.40 - Superintendent, Jeffrey Schoonover, would like to discuss a policy with the Board regarding the Seacrest attendees in the future

11.00 - Warrants:

Presented to Board Members through DocuSign approval.

13.00 - Adjournment

Motion, S. Holcomb: Motion to adjourn at 2:25PM
Second, R. Kidwell

All in favor