

SOUTH COAST EDUCATIONAL COLLABORATIVE

Board of Directors' Meeting

Date: October 16, 2014

AGENDA

- 1.0 - Call to Order
- 2.0 - Minutes of August 7, 2014
- 3.0 - Financial Information
- 4.0 - Human Resources
- 5.0 - Executive Session
- 6.0 - Building Program Update
- 7.0 - Policies and Procedures
- 8.0 - Professional Development
- 9.0 - Superintendent Issues
- 10.0 - Warrants
- 11.0 - Other Items
- 12.0 - Adjournment

SOUTH COAST EDUCATIONAL COLLABORATIVE

Board of Directors' Meeting

October 17, 2013

1:00 PM

BACKUP

1.00 - Call to Order

2.00 - Minutes of September 26, 2013

The minutes of the meeting held on August 5, 2013 are presented for review and approval.

3.00 - Financial Information

3.10 - Although SCEC had an average of more revenue than cost for July and August of 2013, the September loss of \$17,819 brings the year-to-date loss to \$11,679 compared to a profit of \$135,262 last year at the same time. This trend results in a reduction of cash reserves, which were being rebuilt. As the month of August, 2013 closed, the cash reserves were only .69 months compared to a goal of 3.0 months.

- The budget slow down at SCEC is being caused by decreasing student enrollment and an increasing indirect costs. The indirect cost expenditures have been necessitated to accommodate renovations to accommodate an increasingly challenged student population.

3.20 - Business Plan/Budget for FY 14

As concluded in the Executive Summary of September, 2013, the major concerns going forward into FY 2014 has to be the continued effort to increase all student enrollments, keeping staff levels down to coincide with student levels, and reducing or keeping all expenses level. This is the way to replenish cash reserves, currently only covering operating expenses of slightly over 0.69 months and even less than the .88 months reported for June and July. These continued efforts will also provide SCEC the much needed recovery of the past years deficits.

3.30 - SCEC Financial and Control Policies

The policies and procedures that are currently in place are being followed. As new ones are required or emerge, Board participation and oversight will be encouraged.

4.00 - Human Resources

4.10 - New Hires

None

- 4.20 - Resignations
None
- 4.30 - Retirements
None
- 4.40 - Leave of Absence
None
- 4.50 - Educational Leave
None
- 5.00 - Executive Session: Personnel
- 5.10 - Teacher and Paraprofessional contract negotiation
- 5.20 - Executive Director performance assessment and consideration of contract issues
- 6.00 - Building Program Update
- 6.10 - Repairs and replacements have continued on an as needed basis. This has led to increases in indirect costs necessitated by repairs to ageing rental properties and renovations needed to accommodate an increasingly challenged student population and to create additional instructional, office, and storage space.
- 7.00 - Policy and Procedures
- 7.10 - As SCEC updates and revisions in existing policies and procedures are necessitated, the Board will be informed and involved. For example, the newest revised edition of the Paraprofessional Policies and Procedures Manual is included for Board member input. If additional policies and procedures are required, Board participation will be required by the emerging collaborative regulations.
- 8.00 - Professional Development – Presented by Stacey Kaminski
- 8.10 - The SCEC/Boston University Administrators Licensure Program’s first Informational Open House was held on September 23, 2013 from 4:00 – 6:00 PM, and 8 candidates attended the meeting. In addition, 7 more candidates have requested application packets.

A second Open House is scheduled to be held on November 19th from 4-6 PM in GLC-2 at the SCEC Swansea location. To date, 8 candidates have requested to attend on the 19th.

With sufficient enrollment, a January 2014 start date is anticipated for this Licensure Program.

- 8.20 - The Framingham State University for Professional Licensure program for general educators is continuing recruitment. Additional informational open houses are being scheduled.
- 8.30 - “Bridge to Teaching” is a SCEC/Northeastern University partnership program designed for paraprofessionals who would like to earn a Bachelor's Degree in Liberal Studies with a Concentration in Education. An Informational Open Houses was held on September 26, 2013 from 4:30 – 5:30 PM, and 5 potential candidates attended. A second information session, which will be facilitated virtually, will be held on November 13, 2013 from 4-6 PM. 12 participants have registered for this November 13th presentation.
- 8.40 - The SCEC partnership with the Northeastern University Doctoral Program continues to grow beyond the expectations of NEU officials. SCEC staff members are still being asked to provide information on the program and high quality individuals are being encouraged to apply to this Educational Leadership program.
- 8.50 - The Simmons/SCEC Master’s Program in Special Education Teaching Cohort #18 began last summer. Since it appears that Simmons College is migrating away from the type of satellite programming that has been in existence for the last two decades, this will be the last cohort. Candidates are scheduled to graduate in May of 2014.
- 8.60 - Officials at Bridgewater State University have agreed to partner with SCEC in offering a cohort model Master’s Program in Teaching in Special Education. Aspiring educators will be eligible for initial licensure as a special educator (moderate or severe) and will complete the necessary requirements to earn their Master’s degree. Courses will be offered at SCEC. An Informational Open House is scheduled on October 30, 2013 from 4:00 – 6:00 PM, and 9 participants have registered. With sufficient enrollment, the first SCEC/Bridgewater State University cohort will begin studying in January of 2014.
- 8.70 - Under the able leadership of Co-Directors Anna Bradfield and Stacey Kaminski, the Readiness Center at Bridgewater State University continues to prosper.
- 9.00 - Superintendent Issues
- 9.10 - Update from the meetings of the South Coast Regional Organization (SCRO) Governing and Operating Boards

As was briefly mentioned at the last Board of Directors’ meeting, SCRO’s Governing Committee recently voted to continue the organization’s efforts to bring cost-effective, high-quality services to the 88 school districts in the region. In addition, the Governing Board members re-emphasized their desire to have the SCRO service as the model for Commissioner Chester’s collaborative organizational efforts.

At their October 7, 2013 meeting the SCRO Operating Committee decided to continue the efforts to make SmartPD available to all school districts in the region. Although the effortless use of this software and service takes time and training to achieve, ultimately, it seems to provide seamless scheduling and warehousing of all professional development activities.

- 9.20 - Progress Report concerning SCEC and Forensic Consulting fingerprinting partnership

If negotiations go as expected, fingerprinting should be available through SCEC within a month. It appears that there will be 8 sites emerging throughout Massachusetts within the next month with at least an additional 25 emerging in the coming months. Regardless, the SCEC Leadership Team is reasonably confident that SCEC staff will be providing the fingerprinting services at the 2201 G.A.R. Highway site, and in some cases, in convenient locations within member and participating school districts.

- 9.30 - FY 14 - Continuous Learning Opportunities for Board Members

- 9.31 - AASA Annual Conference on Education will be held in Nashville from February 13-15, 2014 (Repeated from the September 26, 2013 Board Backup)

The following focus on education zones will be stressed:

- >Common Core Standards
- >School Board/Superintendent Partnerships
- >Innovations in District Management
- >Governance and Executive Leadership
- >Student Achievement and Accountability
- >Healthy School Environments

>Pre-conference programs are also available.

Interested members should contact Jewel Woodside, SCEC's Travel Assistant, as soon as possible, to make registration, flight, and accommodation arrangements in a timely fashion. Jewel can be contacted at either 508.379.1180, extension 29 or jwoodside@scecoll.org.

- 9.32 - ASCD Annual Conference on Every Learner in will be held in Los Angeles from March 15-17, 2014 (Repeated from the September 26, 2013 Board Backup)

The following themes for focusing on every learner will be:

- >Moving beyond institutional structures that confine
- >Viewing students as individuals and partners
- >Rallying with international community on behalf of children
- >Achieving what is truly believed will help students
- >Becoming increasingly interconnected
- >Reflecting the diversity of the world
- >Preparing learners to be creative, critically minded, and compassionate
- >Stressing student engagement that amplifies brains and hearts
- >Making differences in lives of learners, propelling them into the world as beacons of success & hope
- >Daring to be innovative: empowering students, embracing differences, and acting on beliefs

>Pre-conference programs are also available.

Interested members should contact Jewel Woodside, SCEC's Travel Assistant, as soon as

possible, to make registration, flight, and accommodation arrangements in a timely fashion. Jewel can be contacted at either 508.379.1180, extension 29 or jwoodside@scecoll.org.

9.33 - Brief discussion of quotation from:

Ravitch, Diane. (2013). *Reign of error: The hoax of the privatization movement and the danger of America's public schools*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, p. 325.

Genuine school reform must be built on hope, not fear; on encouragement, not threats; on inspiration, not compulsion; on trust, not carrots and sticks; on belief in the dignity of the human person, not a slavish devotion to data; on support and mutual respect, not a regime of punishment and blame. To be lasting, school reform must rely on collaboration and teamwork among students, parents, teachers, principals, administrators, and local communities.

Despite its faults, the American system of democratically controlled schools has been the mainstay of our communities and the foundation for our nation's success. We must work together to improve our public schools. We must extend the promise of equal educational opportunity to all the children of our nation. Protecting our public schools against privatization and saving them for future generations of American children is the civil rights issue of our time.

Diane Ravitch can be contacted through her website at www.dianeravitch.com.

Upon request, *Reign of terror* will be made available for members of the SCEC Board of Directors. As with other continuous learning opportunities, Jewel Woodside is available at 508.379.1180, extension 29 or at jwoodside@scecoll.org.

9.40 - Superintendents are encouraged to have their Boards vote to accept the new SCEC Collaborative Agreement and have their Board Chairs sign it. An Executive Summary that frames the request and the suggested wording of the motion to approve are included with this Board Backup.

9.50 - Other Superintendents' issues

10.00 - Warrants

11.00 - Other Items

12.00 - Adjournment