

SOUTH COAST EDUCATIONAL COLLABORATIVE (SCEC)

Board of Directors' Meeting
April 13, 2023
Minutes

Present: A. Strauss, J. Cabral, B. Runey T. Aubin, J. Robidoux, M. Pontes
D. Heimbecker, J. Prendergast, M. Canner, L. Thibault

1.00 - Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Superintendent J. Robidoux at 1:00 PM.

2.00 - Minutes of February 9, 2023

The minutes of February 9, 2023 were presented for review and approved.

Motion, T. Aubin: To approve the minutes of February 9, 2023
Second, B. Runey

Vote, Approved

3.00 - Financial Information

3.10 - Updating of the FY 23 Business Plan

At the end of March, SCEC is up by \$40,000 but shows an overall loss of \$882,000 for FY23. SCEC is projecting a loss of 1.1 million dollars for the year. The two months of the health insurance holiday is amortized for the remainder of FY23. In addition, SCEC has a great team of people applying for grants and currently has received two grants: The Doug Flutie Grant to purchase 22 chrome books and The Early Literacy Universal Screening Assessment Grant.

At the end of March there were 228 students, and currently there are 232 students. Next year the business plan is based on 223 students.

Director of Finance, Prendergast spoke about the application that SCEC submitted for E-Rate. Funding for this project has been approved and received. During the first-year new internet lines will be put into four major sites at SCEC.

The FCC's E-Rate program makes telecommunications and information services more affordable for schools and libraries. With funding from the Universal Service Fund (fcc.gov/general/universal-service-fund), E-Rate provides discounts for telecommunications, internet access, and internal connections to eligible schools and libraries.

3.20 – FY24 Business Plan/Budget

It appears the steps taken by the SCEC Leadership Team and Finance Committee to slow the FY23 losing trends are having a positive impact.

3.30 – 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 - Amy Neveu - Nurse, 12 months
- 4.12 - Joshua Robertson – Paraprofessional, 12 months, Gallishaw HS
- 4.13 - Sean Miranda – Paraprofessional, 12 months, Seekonk North
- 4.14 - Deon Perry – Paraprofessional, 12 months, Seekonk North

Motion, J. Cabral: To approve new hires as presented.
Second, B. Runey

Vote, Unanimous

4.20 – Transfers: None

4.30 – Resignations:

- 4.31 - Melissa Silverman – Nurse, 12 months, Gallishaw HS
- 4.32 - Jesse Blakely – Paraprofessional, 12 months, Seekonk North
- 4.33 - Sean Miranda – Paraprofessional, 12 months, Seekonk North

Motion, J. Cabral: To approve resignations as presented.
Second, M. Pontes

Vote, Unanimous

4.40 – Retirements:

- 4.41 – Patricia Steele, Administrator, 12 months

Motion: T. Aubin: To approve the retirement as presented.
Second, M. Pontes

Vote, Unanimous

4.50 – Leave of Absence(s): None

5.00 - Executive Session: None

6.00 - Building Program Update:

6.10 - Executive Director Heimbecker spoke about the time spent on repairing and replacing SCEC building needs. SCEC is exploring new software that will allow the monitoring of necessary repairs.

7.00 - Policy and Procedures

7.10 – As current administrative policies and procedures are always being refined new ones emerge, Board participation and oversight is always encouraged and solicited.

SCEC is spending time reflecting on our DEI initiatives and how they are reflected in policies.

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

8.10 – Internal Professional Development

SCEC has software that assists in helping staff reapply for licenses.

8.20 - External Professional Development

Executive Director Heimbecker noted that Dr. Carolyn McKearney is consulting closely with Dartmouth, Dighton-Rehoboth, King Phillip Middle School, Mashpee, and other districts and mentioned how valued these collaborations are. Fall River is the newest district Dr. McKearney has started consulting with along with Donna Cranshaw-Gabriel. They will be joining the Fall River Special Education Task Force. Executive Director Heimbecker also notes that our reach has expanded way beyond the catchment area, and he thanked Superintendent Pontes for allowing SCEC to partner with her district.

9.00 - Superintendent Issues

9.10 – SCEC continues to follow the new Strategic Plan which guides the DEEP learning work.

9.30 – The Executive Director’s Book Club: Considering the Role of Relationships in Sustainability.

9.31 - The Executive Director’s Book Club: A sign-up sheet was available for Board members who were interested in receiving copies of the books discussed.

He noted that relationships are so important and predictive of quality in a person’s life. It is important to think about this in leadership roles.

Executive Director Heimbecker spoke about two books:

- (1) *The Good Life: Lessons from the world’s longest scientific study of happiness (2023)*
- (2) *Life Worth Living: A guide to what matters most (2023)*

Executive Director Heimbecker referred to the quote in *The Good Life*.

“Judge each day not by the harvest you reap but by the seeds you plant.”

Executive Director Heimbecker referred to the quote in *Life Worth Living*

“We must honor our responsibility to share our journey toward acceptance, peace, and happiness.”

Members of the Board each shared a piece of their personal story.

10.00 - Other Superintendent Issues

10.10 – Opportunities for Continuous Professional Learning

The Paul J. Andrews MASS Executive Institute is scheduled at Sea Crest Resort/Mashpee High School for July 11-13, 2023.

Executive Director Heimbecker spoke about the AASA national conference on education that was scheduled February 16-18, 2023, and the importance of taking the time for recalibrating at conferences. Board members discussed the value of the sessions they attended.

11.00 - Warrants:

To be signed via DocuSign

12.00 - Other Item(s)

12.10 - Updating and Discussing Leasing Property for Instructional Purposes

Board members reviewed all updates on leases.

SCEC will be leasing six classrooms at Dighton-Rehoboth Regional High School.

12.12 - Executive Director Heimbecker updated board members on the closing of Bishop Connolly High School at the end of school year 2022-2023 and its impact on SCEC.

SCEC students at BCHS will be attending LIFE Academy for at least half the summer.

12.13 – Superintendent Strauss informed the SCEC board members that he is 1 of 8 superintendents nationally named to the college board tests. He suggests that board members who may have questions contact him.

13.00 - Adjournment

Motion, T. Aubin: Motion to adjourn at 2:14 PM.

Second, M. Pontes

Vote, Unanimous