

SOUTH COAST EDUCATIONAL COLLABORATIVE (SCEC)

Board of Directors' Meeting
June 15, 2023
Minutes

Present: J. Cabral, B. Runey, J. Robidoux, M. Pontes, J. Schoonover, T. Anderson, R. Drolet, M. Ryan, D. Heimbecker, J. Prendergast, L. Thibault

1.00 - Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Superintendent J. Schoonover at 1:09 PM.

2.00 - Minutes of April 13, 2023

The minutes of April 13, 2023 were presented for review and approved.

Motion, B. Runey: To approve the minutes of April 13, 2023
Second, J. Robidoux

Vote, Approved

3.00 - Financial Information

3.10 - Updating of the FY 23 Business Plan

At the end of May, SCEC shows an overall loss of \$152,000 for FY23. SCEC is projecting a loss of 1.1 million dollars for the year. In addition, SCEC has a great team of people applying for grants and currently has received two grants: The Doug Flutie Grant to purchase 28 chrome books and The Early Literacy Universal Screening Assessment Grant. SCEC received an approved summer learning grant at \$100,000 for development on curriculum FY2024.

SCEC currently has 228 students, with the movement of students, we are cautiously optimistic to start with a good amount of student with a business plan for next year 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 internet upgrades will occur in the month of July.

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 and will help shape FY24 positivity, beginning with student enrollment.

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 - Brianna Veveiros – Paraprofessional, 12 Months at Seekonk North

4.20 – Transfers:

4.21 - William MacDonald – Teacher, 12 Months at Palmer River in DR to GRAIS in Freetown/Lakeville

4.30 – Resignations: None

4.40 – Retirements:

4.41 – Barbara Brown – Teacher, 10 Months at Seekonk North Elementary

4.50 – Leave of Absence(s): None

4.60 – Termination(s):

4.61 – Joshua Robertson – Paraprofessional, 12 Months at Gallishaw

Discussion: Executive Director Heimbecker, stated SCEC does not take terminations lightly, we do whatever we can to keep our employees, but, when necessary, we must follow through.

Motion: J. Robidoux: To approve the New Hires, Transfers, Retirements, and Termination as presented.

Second, J. Cabral

Vote, Unanimous

5.00 - Executive Session: Motion: B. Runey: To discuss a 2-year extension (from 6/30/2024-7/1/2026) on Executive Director Heimbecker’s contract.

Second, M. Pontes

Vote, Unanimous

Executive Session – adjourned 1:34 pm

Superintendent R. Drolet wishes everyone the best.

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.

7.11 - SCEC is thinking about working with service animals, and all the benefits that come with it, but SCEC also understands the complexities that can come with this.

D/R and New Bedford use a comfort dog through their local police departments.

Superintendent Schoonover suggests speaking with our insurance company.

7.12 - SCEC is open for suggestions regarding usage of cell phones in the schools.

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

8.10 – Internal Professional Development

8.11 - The SCEC Deep Learning Team will continue in September to provide professional learning instruction and facilitation in New Pedagogies for Deep Learning (NPDL).

8.12 – DESE IEP Training Team went through the initial training with DESE. To prepare our SCEC staff for the new IEP, the following dates have been targeted for this year's PD days:

- September 5th - Opening Day
- October 6th - Full Day
- January 31st - Half Day
- March 1st - Half Day
- May 3rd – Half Day

8.20 - External Professional Development

8.21 - Executive Director Heimbecker noted that Dr. Carolyn McKearney is meeting with Bridgewater State University regarding the master's program, in June she had 27 people interested with more still interested.

Any staff interested should contact Dr. Carolyn McKearney for more information.

9.00 - Superintendent Issues

9.10 – SCEC continues to follow the new Strategic Plan which guides the deep learning work and is built in their union contracts.

9.20 – The Executive Director's Book Club:
From Surviving to Thriving by Rich Drolet and Armand Pires

Executive Director Heimbecker already read the book and thinks it's a valuable read he encourages everyone to read it. Each member of the board received a copy.

10.00 - Other Superintendent Issues

10.10 – MASS/MASC Joint Conference

A 2023 Joint Conference RFP has been submitted for SCEC colleagues to present at the November 2023 conference. The title is: Successfully Addressing Healthcare Staffing and Servicing Needs Through Partnerships. The proposed panelists are Melissa Eakin-Ryan, Superintendent, Berkley Public Schools, Alan Strauss, Superintendent, Freetown Lakeville School District, John Burke, School Committee member, Freetown Lakeville School District and Maggie Arruda, Health Services Administrator, SCEC. The proposed moderator is David Heimbecker, Executive Director, SCEC.

11.00 - Warrants:

Presented to Board Members through DocuSign approval.

12.00 - Other Item(s)

12.10 – The 2023-2024 Board Meeting dates have been scheduled.

September 14, 2023
October 26, 2023
December 14, 2023 (Award Ceremony)
January 11, 2024
February 8, 2024
April 11, 2024 (Admin Luncheon)
June 13, 2024

12.11 – SCEC Certificates awarded

Superintendent Anderson was awarded a certificate from SCEC.
Superintendent Drolet was awarded a certificate from SCEC.

12.12 – Superintendent Drolet confirmed our Seekonk building leases

13.00 - Adjournment

Motion, J. Robidoux: Motion to adjourn at 2:22 PM
Second, B. Runey

Vote, Unanimous