

SOUTH COAST EDUCATIONAL COLLABORATIVE (SCEC)

Board of Directors' Meeting
December 12, 2024
Minutes

Present: T. Curley, J. Schoonover, J. Cabral, T. Aubin, J. Saba-Maguire, M. Ryan, B. Runey, R. Kidwell, A. Strauss, D. Heimbecker, J. Bouchard Prendergast, L. Thibault

1.00 - Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Superintendent J. Schoonover at 1:47 PM.

2.00 - Minutes of October 24, 2024

The minutes of October 24, 2024 were presented for review and approved.

Motion, B. Runey: To approve the minutes of October 24, 2024
Second, T. Aubin
Vote, All in Favor

Superintendent, R. Kidwell, Abstained

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 November is \$275,000. As of December 1, the Capital Reserve balance is \$119,000. SCEC's current OPEB liability is \$9.1M.

3.20 – Updating of the FY 25 Business plan/Budget

Director of Finance, Jennifer Bouchard Prendergast reports that in October, SCEC lost \$176,000 due to enrollments being below budget projections by 11.5 students. At the end of October SCEC's total loss is \$194,000. Cash reserves cover 3.24 months of SCEC's monthly expenses and exclude reserves for OPEB and Capital.

SCEC is still in the process of hiring additional staff and will continue to monitor the student/staff ratio. Currently, SCEC has 206 staff which is down one staff from the Business Plan. SCEC's 1:1 aide budget is 15 and as of December SCEC has 25 individual aides and with the student population currently attending SCEC a private nurse may be needed. SCEC Sr. Leaders with Executive Director, David Heimbecker will work with the appropriate insurance companies and lawyers to fit the needs of SCEC students.

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. Unfortunately, recruiting and retaining high quality staff and space issues are becoming increasingly difficult, and these issues are limiting program development efforts.

4.00 - Human Resources:

4.10 - New Hire(s):

4.11 – Douglas MacDonald, Para II @ GHS, 12 months

4.12 – Lori Rego, Para II @ Seekonk North, 12 months

4.20 - Transfer(s):

4.21 – Patrick Townson, Teacher @ GHS to Teacher @ Seekonk North

4.22 – Raymond Kenney, Para II @ LIFE to School lunch para @ LIFE

Motion: R. Kidwell: To approve the New Hires and Transfers as presented.

Second, J. Cabral
Vote, All in Favor

4.30 - Resignation(s):

4.31 – Kristie Pepin, PTA 12 months

4.32 – Sheena Martin, Director of Human Resources, Director of Payroll
and Title IX Coordinator, 12 months

Motion: J. Cabral: To approve the Resignations as presented.

Second, R. Kidwell
Vote, All in Favor

4.40 – Retirement(s):

4.41 – Mary Cooper, APE Teacher, 12 months

4.42 – Christopher Nametz, Teacher @ Seekonk North, 12 months

4.50 – Leave of Absence(s): None

4.60 – Termination(s): 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. Executive Director, David Heimbecker noted some updates that are needed on the Seekonk North Food Pantry. SCEC's students take pride in this environment and that SCEC will take care of these updates.

The heating system at North school in Seekonk requires a new regulator, and a replacement oven needs to be acquired at the Gallishaw school in Seekonk.

6.20 - Minor renovations have been completed in newly acquired program classrooms.

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 encouraged and solicited.

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

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.

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

8.21 – SCEC currently has two staff members participating in the BSU Emergency Licensure in Moderate PreK-8 & 5-12 DESE Project. Projected graduation is Fall 2025.

8.22- Dr. Carolyn McKearney is assessing potential interest in the following programs at BSU: Master's in educational leadership, master's in special education, bachelor's in special education, Social Emotional Learning Credential, ASD Credential, and Transition Credential. Recruitment will take place in Fall of 2024.

8.23 – SCEC is exploring a possible partnership with UMass Dartmouth for a Doctorate in Educational Leadership cohort.

8.24 – CPI Refresher trainings were conducted for Berkley Public Schools, Swansea Public Schools, and Freetown/Lakeville Regional School District in September 2024. Both Initial and Refresher CPI courses are available from SCEC’s CPI team. If interested, please contact Dr. Carolyn McKearney at (508) 922-6213 or cmckearney@scecoll.org.

9.00 - Superintendent Issues

9.10 – The South Coast Educational Collaborative Annual Report 2023-2024 has been submitted to the Board of Directors. If the Board approves the Annual Report, the Board must vote to:

“Approve the 2023-2024 Annual Report of South Coast Educational Collaborative and instruct the Board Chair and the Executive Director to certify that this action was taken by signing a document that memorializes the action taken.”

Motion: J. Cabral: To Approve the 2023-2024 South Coast Educational Collaborative Annual Report.

Second, A. Strauss
Vote, All in Favor

9.20 - Executive Director’s Book Review - Sustainability through Changemaking and Data-Informed Self-Correction

The SCEC Executive Director, David Heimbecker is happy to be part of this book club and feels it is a valuable part of the Board Meetings.

9.22 -According to Yuval Noah Harari in his latest book entitled *Nexus: A brief history of information networks from the stone age to AI* (2024) information and its use have been powerfully impactful throughout the history of the human species. The source of the power is seen by Harari in the potential to use information to self-correct. He believes that in sustainable institutions self-correction is built into the core of the organization and the use of it is celebrated. In this sense, self-correction is an ongoing process.

SCEC’s Executive Director strongly believes that the sustainability of the organization depends on developing and enhancing a culture committed to self-correction. Getting individual and community values aligned so that judgements made are self-correcting for SCEC and beneficial to the staff and individuals and groups being served will be challenging. But the resulting sustainability will benefit the entire community and result in a self-correcting organization that continues to positively evolve.

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>
January 9, 2025,	Board Luncheon	12:30 – 1:00 PM	GLC – 2
	Board of Directors' Meeting	1:00 – 2:30 PM	GLC – 2
February 6, 2025,	Board Luncheon	12:30 1:00 PM	GLC – 2
	Board of Directors' Meeting	1:00 – 2:30 PM	GLC – 2
April 10, 2025,	Adm Assistant Luncheon	11:30 – 1:00 PM	Rookery
	Board of Directors' Meeting	1:00 – 2:30 PM	Rookery
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 – AASA, March 6-8, 2025 in New Orleans

10.32 – ASCD, June 29-July2, 2025 in San Antonio

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

Executive Director, David Heimbecker mentioned the concerns with the rooms at Seacrest for the 2025 conference, but we are working on it.

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

11.00 - Warrants:

Presented to Board Members through DocuSign approval.

13.00 - Adjournment

Motion, T. Aubin: Motion to adjourn at 2:46PM

Second, J. Cabral

Vote, Unanimous