

EFC Minutes



EXECUTIVE FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES – April 30, 2015

In attendance:

Diana Fisher Gomberg, School Committee, Newton
Paul Ash, Superintendent, Lexington
Kathleen Bodie, Superintendent, Arlington
William McAlduff, Superintendent, Winchester Public Schools
Helen Charlupski, School Committee, Brookline (10:00am)
Colleen Dolan, Executive Director, EDCO Collaborative
Judith Vaillancourt, Associate Executive Director, EDCO Collaborative
Dean Poirier, Chief Financial Officer, EDCO Collaborative
Thomas Markham, Director of Business Management, EDCO Collaborative
David King, Treasurer

The meeting was called to order by Ms. Dolan at 9:10 am.

A **motion** was made by Dr. Ash and seconded by Ms. Fisher Gomberg to approve the minutes of the Executive Finance Committee meeting 3.3.15. The motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Dolan presented a draft agreement with Wellesley Public Schools which will provides that Wellesley will sign EDCO's Articles of Agreement in return for being considered nonmembers of FY16. EDCO will amend the articles during FY16 deleting Wellesley form the member list.

A **motion** was made by Mr. McAlduff and seconded by Dr. Bodie to recommend approval of the agreement to the Board of Directors. The motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Dolan presented a spreadsheet summarizing the cost to EDCO of the five retiree health insurance benefit packages currently in place. She noted the differences among the various tiers of employees were vast and expressed concern around the inequities. The Executive Finance Committee requested Ms. Dolan seek the opinion of EDCO's attorney regarding the minimum age required in some of the plans, the percentage EDCO must pay, and the right of the Board to make changes to plans.

Ms. Dolan shared that she received word from Mr. Sills, Superintendent in Bedford, that LABBB Collaborative is interested in being part of the discussion between CASE and EDCO around

increased collaboration or possible merger.

Mr. Markham presented a draft of the FY16 budget. He explained the assumptions behind budget development and discussed increases and decreases in the various cost centers. EDCO administrators expressed confidence in enrollment projections and explained the formula described in the Articles of Agreement was used to determine tuition rates. Cuts were made as needed when enrollment numbers were low and when tuitions were deemed to lack competitiveness.

In addition, deep cuts occurred in central office staffing in an effort to ensure the cost center is fully funded by indirect proceeds and assessment fees.

Mr. Markham presented a scenario for membership assessments depicting the impact of the loss of Wellesley Public Schools. Wellesley's assessment was \$27,108 in FY15. Committee members found the increases shown to be unacceptable and charged the administration with finding another way to offset the \$27K loss.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:35 am.

Respectfully submitted by Colleen Dolan, 5/26/15.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Colleen Dolan".