



EDCO
COLLABORATIVE

*Strength in diversity
Quality through collaboration*

BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING December 8, 2016

In attendance:

Board of Directors:

	Glenn	Brand	Superintendent	Acton-Boxborough Reg, School District
x	Kathleen	Bodie	Superintendent	Arlington Public Schools
x	Jon	Sills	Superintendent	Bedford Public Schools
x	Elyse	Shuster	School Committee	Belmont Public Schools
x	Helen	Charlupski	School Committee	Brookline Public Schools
	James	O'Shea	Superintendent	Carlisle Public Schools
	Diana	Rigby	Superintendent	Concord Public Schools, CC Regional
x	Mary	Czajkowski	Superintendent	Lexington Public Schools
x	Rebecca	McFall	Superintendent	Lincoln Public Schools
	Bella	Wong	Superintendent	Lincoln-Sudbury Reg. School District
	Diana	Fisher Gomberg	School Committee	Newton Public Schools
x	Anne	Wilson	Superintendent	Sudbury Public Schools
	Drew	Echelson	Superintendent	Waltham Public Schools
x	John	Brackett	Interim Superintendent	Watertown Public Schools
	Robert	Tremblay	Superintendent	Weston Public Schools
x	Judith	Evans	Superintendent	Winchester Public Schools

Advisory Council

x	Lucie	St. George	School Committee	Sudbury Public Schools
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EDCO Collaborative

Colleen Dolan, Thomas Markham, Rick Atkins, Judith Vaillancourt, James Sullivan, David King, Dana Mullaley

Kathleen Bodie welcomed back John Brackett as the Interim Superintendent in Watertown.

Kathleen Bodie called the meeting was called to order at 10:24.

No public participation

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Recommended Action: To approve consent agenda items as proposed.

Rebecca McFall requested a revision to the November 10th minutes. She requested that the phrase "questioned the viability of EDCO" be revised striking the word "questioned" and replacing it with "a need to think more". A **motion** was made by Jon Sills and seconded by Mary Czajkowski to approve consent agenda items, including amended minutes of the Board of Directors meeting 11.10.16. The agenda were approved unanimously.

LABBB Contract update

The Executive Finance Committee discussed the LABBB contract. The contract for FY 17 not yet been signed but historically this is not unique. The billing and collections have been occurring consistently. However, the goal going forward should be to have an agreement signed by July 1st. LABBB is requesting a one-year contract for FY17 and then a two-year contract for FY 18 and 19. The FY 17 contract will be signed at the upcoming LABBB Board meeting.

EDCO Showcase

Colleen Dolan provided an update on November 17th presentation with Congresswoman Katherine Clark and reported approximately 60 people in attendance. Ms. Dolan expressed appreciation to Robert Tremblay and Elyse Schuster for representing the board. During the presentation, Congresswoman Clark urged attendees to “stay involved”. Don Poulin of SBI Consulting Group was also present at the event and was recognized as a Friend of EDCO for his ongoing generosity.

US Attorney Carmen Ortiz will be present at EDCO on in January 11th and all are welcome to attend.

Ms. Dolan reminded everyone that the EDCO Update, which includes updates on PD and Roundtable participation, is included in the board packet.

Jon Sills indicated that Bedford Public Schools still has teachers that are seeking the SEI Endorsement course and requested more courses. Rick Atkins responded that EDCO is running several courses right now and we will be offering more in the fall. He added that the number of courses that EDCO can run is dependent on having trainers available. He suggested that Bedford might try reaching out to those districts who have contracted with EDCO to run a course to see if they have available seats.

Colleen Dolan added that EDCO will do another outreach to instructors to see about adding additional courses.

Follow-up to November 10th Board meeting on facilitated conversation.

Colleen Dolan asked for each Board member to go to polev.com/colleendoclan882 to participate in a poll to help EDCO prioritize its goals. The results of the poll are indicated below.

1. EDCO’s top priorities should be Professional Learning, Roundtables, Advocacy and Tuition Programs in that order.
2. Sixty percent of EDCO districts are accessing tuition programs, 30% are not and 10% are unsure.
3. Of those districts who responded “no”, 57% are not accessing them because of grade level incompatibility and 43% because of geography.

4. Thirty-three percent of districts responded that they would like an elementary therapeutic program offered, 17% percent indicated a need for an elementary language-based program and another 17% requested a secondary language-based program.
5. When asked if each district participated sufficiently to justify membership, 71% responded “yes” while only 29% responded “no”.
6. Of the 29% who indicated they were not participating sufficiently, sixty-seven percent responded that it was due to programs not being relative to district work and thirty-three percent responded that it was due to price.
7. When asked about how each district currently makes decisions regarding Professional Learning choices, districts responded that those decisions are mainly made by the Assistant Superintendents, but also at content roundtables and through polls to Superintendents.
8. When asked for input on decisions regarding Professional Learning content, comments included that the offerings seems strong. It was suggested that the district goals and priorities should be reviewed annually, but that the current process in place for making PD related decisions seems to be working. One district suggested increasing PD consultations directly to districts for on-site sessions and coaching.

Kathleen Bodie expressed a need for Professional Learning for the minority groups and niche groups such as OTs and BCBAs. Jon Silles suggested looking at when each district is offering full PD days and to offer workshops on those days for niche positions.

It was noted that EDCO has started BCBA roundtable for this school year.

Kathleen Bodie also commented on DESE’s effort to promote personalized learning and project-based learning. Ms. Bodie recognized that there have been opportunities but wondered if EDCO should focus on that area as it may become more of a push through DESE.

Mary Czajkowski shared that her district is currently reviewing Middle School schedules to allow for more project based learning opportunities. The current system of 45-minute blocks prohibits these types of learning opportunities and they are looking at re-scheduling.

9. When asked if the current offerings offer an appropriate balance of live and online opportunities, most districts (78%) responded that they did not know. Twenty-two percent indicated yes.
10. Forty-four percent of districts indicated that their districts participate in roundtables sufficiently enough to justify membership, while 33% said no and 22% responded that they were unsure.
11. When asked if roundtables should be offered virtually, 60% said “no” while only 30% said “yes”. Ten percent had no opinion either way.

Comments on this question included that districts are trying to model for kids that face-to-face conversations are important. On the flip side, it might be worth exploring for members of those outlying districts who may not be able to participate otherwise.

Helen Charlupski added that Brookline allows members to phone in to Board Meetings and asked if EDCO could try it out. Colleen Dolan responded that certain laws may prohibit it but if there is a minority phoned in, it could work and she agreed to research it.

12. When asked about additional roundtables, No one indicated that we needed more but when specifically asked about additional groups for Human Resources staff or Administrative Assistants, the group in general thought they were a good idea but may be hard to release people

13. One hundred percent of members agreed that they were in favor of using a consent agenda for the Board of Directors meetings as well as inviting speakers to the BOD meetings.

Some speakers and topics suggested included Fernarndo Reimers from Harvard on Personalized Learning and/or Global Leadership, the MSBA Director Jack McCarthy, Jeff Wulfson on MCAS 2.0, DEEC Commissioner Tom Weber, and Anne Kaufman of NAPLE.

14. When asked what advocacy efforts should look like, twenty percent responded that there should be an annual legislative forum and 70% thought it should be something else. When asked about that, members thought EDCO should have more of a presence and be more involved with position papers, petitions and sending messages. There was agreement that advocacy for high quality public education is going to be very important and it should be regularly added to the agenda. Noah Berger was a name that was suggested as potential speaker on the topic of Advocacy.

15. One hundred percent of members agreed that Wednesday evenings work best for attendance at EDCO's Distinguished Speakers Series. It was also suggested that Speaker Series could coincide with dates for the Board meetings.

Annual Audit FY16

Auditors from Fritz DeGuglielmo, LLC were present to summarize their findings. The audit is complete and just needs the Board to vote and approve. Auditors plan to file by next Thursday. Revenues decreased significantly by 3.3 million primarily because of the transfer of the transportation program billing to LABBB. Professional Learning increased by .5 million over the fiscal year. There was a decrease in payroll and administrative costs. Overall, EDCO had a deficit of \$246,000 but the true deficit is actually closer to \$107,000. Payroll is the most significant expense but where the collaborative has historically been.

A **motion** was made by Rebecca Mcfall and seconded by Mary Czajkowski to recognize and accept the representations of management and the expression of the opinions by Fritz DeGuglielmo, LLC, as embodied in the basic financial statements, supplemental and subsidiary financial statements and schedules and independent auditor's report contained in the Uniform

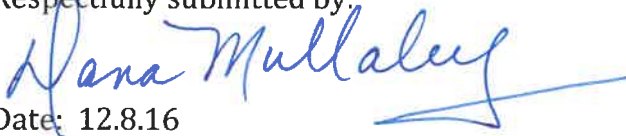
Financial Statements and Independent Auditor's Report (UFR) for the period ended June 30, 2016. The motion carried unanimously.

A **motion** was made by Jon Sills and seconded by Mary Czajkowski to approve EDCO's annual report for 2016. The motion carried unanimously.

Colleen Dolan announced that this will be the final Board Meeting for Rick Atkins and thanked him for his service to EDCO.

A **motion** was made by Kathleen Bodie and seconded by John Brackett to adjourn the meeting at 11:15 a.m. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by:

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Dana Mullaley". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Date: 12.8.16

