



Strength in diversity
Quality through collaboration

Board of Directors' Meeting
EDCO Collaborative, 36 Middlesex Turnpike, Bedford, MA 01730
Wednesday, December 12, 2018, 2:30 p.m.

In attendance:

Board of Directors:

	Peter	Light	Superintendent	Acton-Boxborough Reg. School District
x	Kathleen	Bodie	Superintendent	Arlington Public Schools
x	Jon	Sills	Superintendent	Bedford Public Schools
x	Andrea	Prestwich	School Committee	Belmont Public Schools
x	Helen	Charlupski	School Committee	Brookline Public Schools
	James	O'Shea	Superintendent	Carlisle Public Schools
x	Laurie	Hunter	Superintendent	Concord Public Schools, CC Regional
	Julie	Hackett	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
	Brad	Crozier	Superintendent	Sudbury Public Schools
	Drew	Echelson	Superintendent	Waltham Public Schools
x	Deanne	Galdston	Superintendent	Watertown Public Schools
x	Marguerite	Connelly	Superintendent	Weston Public Schools

Advisory Committee Members in attendance:

Anne Guay, Bedford; Kathleen Lenihan, Lexington; Tara Mitchell, Lincoln

EDCO Collaborative staff:

Jim Amara, Nadine Ekstrom, Andrew Kelley, David King, Thomas Markham, Dana Mullaley

1.0 CALL TO ORDER: 2:40 p.m.

1.1 No Public Participation

2.0. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

2.1 Approve Board of Directors meeting minutes 11.15.18

A **motion** was made by Jon Sills to approve the BOD meeting minutes 11.15.18, and seconded by Rebecca McFall. The motion carried unanimously. With Andrea Prestwich and Deanne Galdston abstaining.

3.0. NEW BUSINESS

3.1 FY18 Annual Report

A link to the Annual Report is in the BOD shared drive and not yet print ready.

Highlights:

- Ability to streamline executive team to 4 members
- North Crossing population expanding with Middle School students as well as 45-day program.
- Russell Johnson to host regional meetings @ EDCO. It has been successful and will continue this year
- Ability to increase teleconference capacity

Expansions with McSwiney

- Events scheduled for most Saturdays
- EDCO held a collaborative PD day in November 2017 for the first time with 120+ participants
- IDEAS 1st annual conference with Beverly Daniel Tatum (to be repeated this year with Zaretta Hammond)

A **motion** was made Anne Guay to approve Annual Report (“print ready” version will be finalized prior to submission to ESE) and seconded by Helen Charlupski. The motion carried unanimously.

3.2 Transportation LABBB/EDCO

Since LABBB is now housed in Burlington, LABBB Executive Director, Patric Barbieri proposed that LABBB take on full fiscal responsibility. EDCO currently has two staff members with .2 positions designated for LABBB. It is difficult for EDCO to make the transition mid-year because of the budget so it would take effect for FY20.

The LABBB/EDCO transportation partnership will still stay intact (pricing will not change); it is just a matter of fiscal efficiency.

Board members requested more information about the financial impact therefore delaying a vote until the next meeting.

3.3 McSwiney Public/Private Professional Learning Partnerships

McSwiney Center is proposing another way to look at Professional Learning by going out of district and looking at private schools because their infrastructure is different. Currently seeking approval to go out to schools and find out what they need and if EDCO can fulfill their needs. There are 220 private schools in the Boston and Worcester area. EDCO liaisons would travel to these schools and tailor the professional learning to the needs of the school. The proposal is to go out in 2019 and market the program and then start working with schools that are interested in the 2019-2020 school year.

Rebecca McFall pointed out that due to proportionate share, districts are already required to reach out to the Private Schools and they usually decline. Ms. McFall also raised a concern that as public school districts, members should not be putting efforts into supporting private schools.

Thomas Markham explained that private schools may decline funding because Title I funding comes with strings and the amount is often not large enough to warrant it. Some schools may be prepared to put in their own money because it would be tailored to their needs. Tax payer dollars would not be subsidizing this project – the funding would come from private school funds. Vocational and charter schools would also be included.

Rebecca McFall also noted that these schools are essentially our competitors and it seems counter to our mission as we are trying to keep kids in our districts.

Jon Sills expressed an appreciation for the entrepreneurial efforts to provide an income stream to help subsidize EDCO but would prefer it is done in a way that supports public schools.

Anne Guay suggested looking at other ways to support other public schools who may need Professional Learning and could benefit from our expertise. It could make sense to target those districts that aren't part of a collaborative.

Nadine Ekstrom noted that one goal of MOEC this year is to figure out a way is work with each other on each Collaboratives' strengths rather than competing with each other.

Anne Guay also suggested providing training to parents (specifically around Mental Health or severe long-term issues) and noted that 776 schools do it well.

Overall board members expressed a desire to look for other creative ideas for revenue that serve our public school districts.

3.4 Deaf and Hard of Hearing Program – Field Trip to the Regional Academic Bowl in Pennsylvania.

The EDCO Collaborative Deaf and Hard of Hearing Program earned a spot to compete in the Academic Bowl at Gallaudet University in Pennsylvania.

Board members requested assurance that EDCO has the appropriate travel insurance to cover all potential situations. EDCO has coverage for students on field trips in-state and out-of-state but Tom Markham will verify that everything is covered.

A **motion** was made by Laurie Hunter to approve the field trip for EDCO students to compete in the regional Academic Bowl in Pennsylvania and seconded by Jon Sills. The motion carried unanimously.

4.0. DISCUSSION:

4.1 CELC - FY18 and FY19

Nadine Ekstrom informed the board that the CELC program has been running at a deficit with contracted services more than revenue. She suggested that this may be a good time to review whether or not the partnership still makes sense. EDCO has been carrying the full deficit as LABBB and CASE are not sharing in the deficit.

Steve Donovan has resigned as the coordinator for the program and a copy of FY18 invoices are in the BOD file. (CASE and LABBB were just given the documents yesterday.

Board members agreed on a need to have Executive Directors and Chairs from all three collaboratives come together to discuss first before putting it forth for a vote.

4.2 Changes to Partners Program

The Partners Program is currently running at deficit for this year. There were nine enrolled students at the beginning of year and then it went up to 10 but there is a possibility that it is going down to eight students. The Program Director, Dot Lucci, has resigned but will still work with EDCO as a consultant.

Out of the (10) students, only two were from member districts as a lot of districts seem to be building their own programs in-house. Nadine Ekstrom is proposing the possibility of changing this program to more of an 18 – 22 transition program which could service more students. The Bedford location is ideal for this type of program. LABBB has a program which is similar but is a different profile. CASE also runs a program but it is more for medically challenged students.

This idea will be explored further and EDCO will come back with a proposal.

4.3 45-Day Suspension Program

EDCO is also exploring a program for regular and special education students who have been suspended for substance use and are in need of tutoring services.

Jon Sills agreed that there could be a need for this type of program but there are transportation issues that will need to be worked out. EDCO will further explore this as an option and come back with more information.

5.0 ADJOURNMENT

A **motion** was made by Jon Sills, and seconded by Deanne Galdston to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

The EDCO [UPDATE](#) is provided in your [packets](#).

Respectfully submitted by:

Dana Mullaley, 12.12.18