

Executive Board of Directors of the
Keystone Educational Collaborative
Meeting Minutes for February 4, 2021,8:30am
ZOOM meeting link:

<https://zoom.us/j/94068551465?pwd=MmFGblQ3MlpKVEJiSm5sbnBHUIlhUT09>

Voting Members Present:

Dr. Kathleen Burnham
Dr. Mary Malone
Ms. Ellen Holmes
Mr. Robert Jokela
Ms. Joan Landers
Mr. Richard Meagher
Dr. Steven Meyer
Mr. Brad Morgan
Dr. Sheila Muir
Dr. Mark Pellegrino

Non-Members Present:

Mr. John Demanche
Ms. Terri Burchfield

Dr. Malone called the board meeting to order at 8:30 am.

An announcement was made that this meeting was being recorded.

Roll Call: Dr. Burnham, Dr. Malone-Yes, Ms. Holmes-Yes, Mr. Jokela-Yes, Ms. Landers-Yes, Mr. Meagher-Yes, Dr. Meyer-Yes: Mr. Morgan-Yes, Dr. Muir-Yes, Dr. Pellegrino-Yes.

The agenda was taken out of order to accommodate the early departure of board members from the meeting.

Action Items:

Review building options regarding the Notre Dame site analysis; determine and vote on the next steps-Strategic Goal 2 of Collaborative:

Mr. Demanche explained that if the collaborative consolidated two of the programs, 78% of the leased sites payments could be diverted into a permanent site.

Mr. Demanche presented a “Keystone Building Purchase Analysis” and explained the four different options regarding the construction/purchase of property. Mr. Demanche recommended #2 as the ideal option: Purchase and renovation of Proposed site under prevailing wages. Mr. Demanche proposed a “Unique Acquisition Sale” vs a typical RFP.

Dr. Pellegrino alerted the board to a vacant building in his district of Gardner and suggested the collaborative tour the property. Mr. Demanche agreed to take a tour of the Gardner site.

Mr. Jokela asked about the financing for this Notre Dame project. Ms. Burchfield explained that she is speaking with the collaborative bank and Mass Development regarding a bond. Mr. Jokela indicated his concern regarding transportation expenses.

Dr. Malone requested a cost analysis regarding the current collaborative leases vs the Notre Dame building purchase and a cost analysis regarding any additional transportation costs for member districts to the Gardner site.

Dr. Malone motioned to authorize Mr. Demanche to continue a cost analysis regarding the Notre Dame site, approval to enter into an “Unique Acquisition Sale” and also schedule a tour of the Gardner property.

Mr. Jokela requested that this motion be amended into two separate motions as follows:

Dr. Malone motioned to authorize Mr. Demanche to continue the analysis of the Notre Dame site and grant approval to enter into an “Unique Acquisition Sale”. Motion was seconded by Dr. Pellegrino. Roll Call: Dr. Burnham-Yes, Dr. Malone-Yes, Ms. Holmes-Yes, Mr. Jokela-Yes, Ms. Landers-Yes, Mr. Meagher-Yes, Dr. Meyer-Yes: Mr. Morgan-Yes, Dr. Muir-Yes, Dr. Pellegrino-Yes. Motion was passed.

Mr. Jokela motioned to allow the Executive Director to keep all options open and to explore the Gardner property as another potential site. Motion was seconded by Ms. Holmes. Roll Call: Dr. Burnham-Yes, Dr. Malone-Yes, Ms. Holmes-Yes, Mr. Jokela-Yes, Ms. Landers-Yes, Mr. Meagher-Yes, Dr. Meyer-Yes: Mr. Morgan-Yes, Dr. Muir-Yes, Dr. Pellegrino-Yes. Motion was passed.

Vote to accept new member- Narragansett RSD-

Mr. Demanche reminded the board that Narragansett RSD expressed interest in joining the Keystone Collaborative with no objections from the Keystone Board at the October 29th board meeting. Mr. Demanche reported that the Narragansett RSD School Committee approved the decision to seek membership into the Keystone Collaborative on November 17, 2020. The Narragansett district would also like to discuss possible rental space abilities within their new middle school program for the collaborative.

Ms. Holmes motioned to accept Narragansett RSD as a new member to the Keystone Educational Collaborative. Dr. Pellegrino seconded the motion. Roll Call: Dr. Burnham-Yes, Dr. Malone-Yes, Ms. Holmes-Yes, Mr. Jokela-Yes, Ms. Landers-Yes, Mr. Meagher-Yes, Dr. Meyer-Yes: Mr. Morgan-Yes, Dr. Muir-Yes, Dr. Pellegrino-Yes. Motion was passed.

Vote to accept the revised Keystone Agreement (reflecting new member)- 1st Reading-

Ms. Holmes motioned to accept the revised Keystone Agreement reflecting Narragansett RSD as a new member, 1st reading. Ms. Landers seconded the motion. Roll Call: Dr. Burnham-Yes, Dr. Malone-Yes, Ms. Holmes-Yes, Mr. Jokela-Yes, Ms. Landers-Yes, Mr. Meagher-Yes, Dr. Meyer-Yes: Mr. Morgan-Yes, Dr. Muir-Yes, Dr. Pellegrino-Yes. Motion was passed.

Vote to accept the Keystone Budget SY2021-2022-

Ms. Holmes motioned to accept the Keystone Budget SY2021-2022. Dr. Pellegrino seconded the motion. Roll Call: Dr. Burnham-Yes, Dr. Malone-Yes, Ms. Holmes-Yes, Mr. Jokela-Yes, Ms. Landers-Yes, Mr. Meagher-Yes, Dr. Meyer-Yes: Mr. Morgan-Yes, Dr. Muir-Yes, Dr. Pellegrino-Yes. Motion was passed.

Approval of Minutes:

Ms. Holmes motioned to approve the minutes of the December 17, 2020 meeting. Dr. Muir seconded the motion. Roll Call: Dr. Burnham-Yes, Dr. Malone-Yes, Ms. Holmes-Yes, Mr. Jokela-Yes, Ms. Landers-Yes, Mr. Meagher-Yes, Dr. Meyer-Yes: Mr. Morgan-Yes, Dr. Muir-Yes, Dr. Pellegrino-Yes.

Mr. Jokela left the meeting at 9:03 am.

Status Update:

Census Update-

Mr. Demanche reported that the collaborative has been meeting projected census and has a referral list in review. Mr. Demanche stated that the collaborative has a current enrollment of 147 students.

Referral Process-

Ms. Demanche stated that the referral process continues to increase.

Space Agreement-

Mr. Demanche thanked Ms. Landers from the Winchendon PS who has allowed us two classrooms. Mr. Demanche reported that one classroom is in use and an anticipated second classroom will open in the next few months.

Cooperative Purchasing:

Footsteps to Brilliance-

Mr. Demanche stated that he has not been in communication with Footsteps to Brilliance since his request for data and their cancellation of the last meeting.

Discussion:

Interface- Mr. Demanche shared with some districts the data regarding increasing trend for anxiety and depression in the teenage population. Dr. Malone requested that Interface issue a report more often than on an annual occurrence.

Learn Well- Mr. Demanche reported an increase of students being placed in hospitals and utilizing Learn Well as a service. Mr. Demanche's concern with Learn Well was that not all the "teacher on record" were certified Massachusetts teachers. Mr. Demanche requested that Learn Well state the name of the teacher on record and their teacher license number. Mr. Demanche stated another concern was regarding billing to districts at different rates. Mr. Demanche was told that they will be looking into this issue. Mr. Demanche talked to districts and asked that they investigate their Learn Well "teacher on record" for compliance issues. Mr. Demanche also asked the districts to clarify the number of days in attendance (10-day grace period) with Learn Well.

Edgenuity- Mr. Demanche also investigated the teachers from Edgenuity. The same issue with “teacher on record” was seen at Edgenuity regarding expired licenses, temporary licenses, not all were MA certified teachers, etc. Mr. Demanche met with several Edgenuity administrators and expressed his concern. The board questioned if they should look at other providers.

New Business:

Dr. Muir asked to discuss the referral process and the initial 45-day assessment process. Dr. Muir does not feel that additional assessments may be necessary. Mr. Demanche explained that not all districts are accurately assessing the students before they are referred to the collaborative. Dr. Muir requested a detailed analysis regarding how often districts are not accurately presenting assessment evaluations to the collaborative upon a student’s arrival. Data should include how often they occur, seeing a problem or trend, member vs non-member? Mr. Demanche agreed to develop this report for the next meeting.

Executive Session:

Not performed- Review and Evaluate Executive Director

Adjournment:

This meeting was adjourned at 9:40am.

Respectfully submitted,
Marsha Januskiewicz
Recording Secretary