



**Central Massachusetts Collaborative
Board of Directors Meeting
Thursday, June 6, 2019, at 9:30 a.m.
14 New Bond Street, Worcester, MA 01606**

Meeting Minutes

Board Members present: Maureen Binienda, Chair, Superintendent, Worcester Public Schools
 Ruthann Petruno-Goguen, Superintendent, Webster Public Schools

Also Present: Michael Tempesta, Executive Director, CMC
 Susan Farrell, Executive Director, CMC
 Beverly Tefft, Director of Finance, CMC
 Kay Seale, Manager of Special Education and Intervention Services, Worcester Public Schools
 Kathy Baris, Director of Student Support Services, Webster Public Schools
 Jessica Pitsillides, Program Director, Hartwell Learning Center
 Elizabeth Pinzino, Program Director, THRIVE Program
 Daniel Martin, PD.D., LABA, BCBA-D, May Institute
 Lisa Edmonson, BCBA, Department Head for Worcester Public Schools

Superintendent Binienda called the meeting to order at 9:44 a.m.

1. Approval of the May 30, 2019 Board of Directors meeting minutes (voting item)

Superintendent Goguen made a MOTION to approve the May 30, 2019, Board of Directors meeting minutes.

Superintendent Binienda seconds the MOTION.

2. Executive Director Report

- Proposed Action Plan re: May Institute Consultation Summary and Recommendations dated February 28, 2019
Ms. Seale provided the board a consultation summary action plan and next steps document pertaining to May Institute, Inc.

Ms. Seale further explained that after meeting with the CMC program directors and then with Dr. Farrell, Ms. Seale would like to discuss continuation of monitoring visits by the May Institute and WPS team to the other programs at the Collaborative. In the meeting with Mrs. Farrell, there was a discussion of the possibility of CMC completing their own Assessments.

Dr. Martin, Director of School Consultation Services/Clinical Director of Eastern MA Consultation Services at the May Institute, Inc. addressed the alignment of resources to ensure evidence-based therapeutic interventions that promote therapeutic milieu to address clinical needs that align with social-emotional learning. CMC needs to consider direct services based on students' individual needs and use data-based decisions relative to student program offerings within each CMC program. A recommendation was made to shift from individualized behavioral plans to class-wide behavior support practices.

Dr. Martin touched upon Hartwell Learning Centers high number of ODR's and the possibility that supports and interventions provided at HLC should be an applied behavior analytic function-based approach to student problem behaviors. HLC is encouraged to consider the use of Modular Approach to Therapy with students anxiety, depression, trauma.

Ms. Seale looking at next steps and inquiring if the board wants the initial team to move forward and continue with the program evaluations?

Superintendent Goguen stated that the Webster Public Schools wants to see systems change at CMC.

Dr. Farrall absolutely wants to proceed on building a core program that will help our students feel safe, create common practices, and help expand CMC programs.

Mr. Tempesta feels that the individual programs work in silos, there has never been a full collaborative program review.

Superintendent Goguen expressed that change is difficult but it is necessary to make changes at CMC, the board has been discussing this all year, it is time to take action.

Superintendent Binienda agrees that it is really important to make changes.

- Update on Water Conditions at 14 New Bond Street - The landlord is implementing a new filtration system that will alleviate the water discoloration by removing lead and iron.

Mrs. Tefft informed the board that there have been a lot of plumbing issues at 14 New Bond Street. The plumbing issues started in the fall of 2017. There was an episode of significant back-up, which resulted in the flooding of two offices with raw sewage in RGA. This caused a mold concern in those offices by some staff. Mrs. Tefft's had an air quality company come in and test for mold and the levels are in the acceptable range. No remediation is required.

- FY20 Calendar Approval
The Board moved this agenda item to the July meeting

- AIC Rental Contract for 121 Higgins
The Board moved this agenda item to the July meeting
- Reallocation of Staff over summer to meet enrollment demands - Mr. Tempesta and Dr. Farrell are working on vetting student enrollments. Dr. Farrell will provide an analysis of actual students in seats and will present to the board at the July board meeting.

3. Member Requests / New Business

Superintendent Goguen confirmed that Mr. Tempesta would sign the 2019-2020 employee employment letters.

Superintendent Goguen will submit a letter to request extending Webster Public School withdrawal letter from the collaborative upon the final collaborative agreement being completed and approved through the DESE. The DESE stated that they are extending the date to complete the agreement, and will bring back to the board for approval.

Superintendent Binienda thanked Mr. Tempesta for his efforts at CMC and the beautiful buildings, the board wished him much success.

The next board meeting will be held on Monday, July 15, at 10:15 a.m., at CMC, 14 New Bond Street, Worcester, MA.

4. Executive Session

Superintendent Binienda made a MOTION to enter Executive Session according to M.G.L. Ch. 30A, Section 21, Subsection 2, for the purpose of conducting strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with nonunion personnel or to conduct collective bargaining sessions or contract negotiations with nonunion personnel.

Not to return to open session.

Superintendent Goguen seconds the MOTION

Roll Call Vote: Superintendent Binienda yes, Superintendent Goguen yes.

5. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10:51 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Joanna Bilotta