

**The Board of Directors of the Central MA Special Education Collaborative will meet  
Wednesday, November 8, 2017 at 12:00 pm at the Lobby Conference Room at  
14 New Bond St., Worcester, MA 01606**

**Meeting Agenda**

Meeting was called to order at 12:19 PM

**Board Members present: Ms. Maureen Binienda, Chair**

**Ms. Ruthann Goguen**

**Others Present:**

**Mr. Michael Tempesta**

**Ms. Beverley Tefft**

**Mr. Joseph Michelbeck**

**Mr. Brian Allen**

**Ms. Ann Ortiz**

**Ms. Jessica Pitsillides**

**Ms. Elizabeth Pinzino**

**Mr. Dan Smachetti**

**Mr. Michael Kelly**

**Mr. Robert Pezzella**

**Ms. Kathleen Baris**

**1) Approval of the October 19, 2017 Board of Directors meeting minutes (voting item)**

Motion to approve minutes from the October 19 BOD Meeting by Superintendent Goguen, seconded for approval by Superintendent Binienda.

**2) Presentation of the Unique Acquisition Proposal to CMC BOD and Worcester and Webster School Business Managers**

CMC Executive Director Michael Tempesta presented a PowerPoint that showed why the BOD should support the proposed 35,000 sf addition to the 14 New Bond facility. If negotiations and construction start soon, could be in new building by May or June, which would remedy the current space crunch with the ACT Program at 14 New Bond, CMA at Rockdale and Rockdale Recovery High School returning to 20

Rockdale St., as well as the anticipated need for an additional third Woodward Day School site needed for the increased numbers this spring. Although subject to negotiation, Mr. Tempesta presented that this expansion will solve all of the space crunch issues, allow CMC to return to its intended growth expansion plan for approximately \$ 50,000 more a year (at or below fair market value for educational space; \$16.00 per square foot). CMC will alleviate the risk of not being to fulfill the business plan that was the driving decision to come to 14 New bond Street. Tempesta stated there isn't much risk in terms of breaking even at the same place, even with adding in all the infrastructure and furniture we are still on track to break even because of the increase in ODD tuitions.

Superintendent Binienda questioned if the Recovery High School would be able to return to 20 Rockdale St. Mr. Tempesta stated that this was the plan and that if RRHS stayed at 15-20 students they would occupy the upstairs and Woodward Day School could occupy the first floor, or the opposite could happen if RRHS expanded to over 30 students, then the WDS could expand to the upstairs instead of downstairs. Another option would be to develop some programmatic linkage between the WDS program and the Recovery High School Program at 20 Rockdale and MaryEllen McGorry, our new RRHS Principal is already investigating these possibilities. Mr. Tempesta also spoke about the value added of 3 vocational shops with internships: Manufacturing, Horticultural, and Building trades that already have business internship relationships for CMC students to gain work experience in these fields.

Brian Allen stated that the lease cost this year for this space is 1.67 million which includes the ACT space. Mr. Tempesta stated that ACT they were not in the original plan for New Bond and that filling the 13 rooms with ACT and RRHS that were part of the CMC FY17-FY22 Business, we put the financial solvency of the business plan at risk. Tempesta says we will increase this year by at least another 28 tuitions (as we did last year) but we need the space available for this to happen---and that is why need to expand by 35,00 sf. Brian Allen asked, "Are there opportunities to bring in other districts for membership to expand?" Mr. Tempesta answered that there are opportunities for this and that he has already spoken to a couple of districts that have inquired about this possibility. Mr. Allen stated the only incentive would be to stop increasing WPS assessment annual assessment and this could actually happen if CMC continues to expand ODD at the rate it did over the last year (by 77% or a 1 million dollar revenue increase per year). Mr. Tempesta stated that the BOD committed to that when they voted to move to New Bond, but that CMC needs the actual space (empty rooms) to realize the existing CMC Business Plan that the BOD voted on in 2016.

Ms. Goguen and Ms. Binienda recommended vetting the numbers again with the Worcester and Webster Business Managers as well as with follow up meetings with Superintendents if needed and putting it on the December 7th meeting agenda for a vote.

### **3. Member Requests / New Business**

Donor's choice - Motion to approve by Superintendent Binienda, Seconded by Superintendent Goguen.

Harvard Pilgrim HealthCare- 2 mini grants totaling at \$500.00. Motion to approve by Superintendent Goguen, Seconded by Superintendent Binienda.

Superintendent Goguen motion to adjourn, Seconded by Superintendent Binienda.

**Meeting ended at 1:47 PM.**

*The matters listed are those reasonably anticipated by the Chair that may be discussed at the meeting. Not all items listed may in fact be discussed and other items not listed may also be brought up for discussion to the extent permitted by law.*