

## **Maine Learning Innovations**

Minutes for a Meeting of the Board of Directors held June 21, 2016

Pursuant to email and public website notices, a meeting of the Board of Maine Learning Innovations was convened by President Amy Carlisle in the MEVA Conference room in Augusta at 2:00 PM. Attending were Directors Amy Carlisle, Peter Mills, and Ed LeBlanc. Absent was Kevin Pomerleau. Also present were Melinda Browne, Jessie Thoman, Jessie's replacement, Fadia Afaneh, Sarah Berger, Jennifer Hight, David Jenkins, Kim Quinn-Hutchinson, Dan Weeks, Paul Sasso, and Kristen Tripp. On the phone were Kylie Tudela and Tiffany Jones.

### **Salary Discussion**

The meeting began with a productive discussion with the teachers present about how best to arrive at a new salary schedule for returning teachers while providing them with flexible support for this summer's transition to a new plan. Several options are contained in proposals already made and still others are being brought forward as Melinda is developing Title I programs that will keep several teachers engaged for part of the summer.

After the teachers left, it was unanimously voted to advance the proposed school year from August 15 to August 1 and to add \$1000 to each teacher's bonus to bring the total to \$2700 to be paid at the end of June.

### **Minutes**

Upon motion by Peter, seconded by Ed, the Minutes for May were unanimously approved.

### **Finance Report**

Upon motion by Peter, seconded by Ed, it was unanimously voted to approve the mid-year corrections to the budget as presented at the May meeting. This is being done to authorize up-loading the amended budget into the state system.

Kim reminded us that our Charter Application requires that we work toward keeping two months of operating expenses in reserve by the end of year three. Based on our budget of \$2.5M, we would need a reserve of \$400K. It would be good to end this year with half that, or about \$200K. The budget for next year is \$2.86M. Teacher costs will rise substantially next year.

Upon motion by Peter, seconded by Ed, it was unanimously voted to approve version 6 of the budget proposed for next year. It may now be uploaded to the state.

### **Head of School Report**

Upon motion by Peter, seconded by Ed, it was unanimously voted to approve the Educator Effectiveness Model presented by Melinda. Chuck Lamonte from the state oversees this program. Teach Point supports the Model for evaluation at a cost of \$27 per user, paid for under Title II.

We have \$9600 left in Title II funds and discussed how it might best be used.

The Title I summer program provides us with \$15K with which to pay stipends to five teachers for summer instruction. Another \$9K will be used to buy A+ and I-Ready platforms that we can use during the coming school year as well. It is unusual to have Title I funds available to spend on older kids like

ours. It is because we have no younger students that we are able to attend to the needs of our junior high students.

Our contracts with Presence Learning and Therapy Source are managed by K12. K12 Bills us \$500 for each computer not returned by a student who drops from the program. We need to make every effort to recover that equipment from students not returning.

### **New Positions**

We have agreed to retain Mike Susi as student advisor at a salary of \$46K for year round work within the MEVA office. The new Fine Arts teacher has been hired at a salary of \$40K. We need a new teacher to teach English half time and Title I half time to parallel what John Gilliland does in Math. Kirsten is teaching English but is also qualified in History.

The board agreed that Melinda should fill three vacancies with new teachers as she proposes at a salary range between \$36K and \$38K.

Sarah introduced Fadia Afaneh who has been employed by K12 to replace Jessie who is taking a new job with K12 in Massachusetts.

### **Head of School**

At the end of the meeting, the board agreed to pay Melinda Browne a bonus of \$4000 for the current year and to retain her as Executive Director for the coming year at a salary of \$84K upon terms as outlined in her original letter of engagement.

The meeting was then duly adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Mills, Secretary