



North River Collaborative Board of Directors

Friday, November 3, 2023 - 9:00 AM

Meeting Minutes

Present: Paul Tzovolos, Marie Grable, Ellen George, Mark Bodwell, Matt Ferron, Christine Godino, Peter Schafer, Ryan Powers, Joseph Baeta, and Alan Cron

Absent: Julie Hamilton, Jeff Szymaniak, and Liz Legault

I. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Chairman Alan Cron at 9:05AM

II. Approval of Minutes-September 22, 2023

Motion: Joseph Baeta made a motion to approve the minutes of September 22, 2023. Mark Bodwell seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously with one abstention by Matt Ferron.

III. Approval of Warrants

Motion: Matt Ferron made a motion to approve the warrant. Mark Bodwell seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

IV. Discussion/Action Items

A. FY24 General Fund Revenue and Expense Projection: Ellen George reviewed the General Fund Revenue and Projection report. Ellen updated information for the profit/loss from September. In September it was reported that the budgeted /projected enrollment at North River School was 37 students, however the actual enrollment was 30.9. The actual enrollment for October was 31.75. Paul Tzovolos has been working with Andrew Manning, Program Coordinator for North River School on enrollment and advised that there are additional students in the referral process. Ellen also advised that the Learning Center Program is breaking even with additional referrals in process as well. The current deficit position is (\$278,374).

Ellen reviewed the inventory for Transportation and advised the Board that NRC will be selling 5 older vehicles at auction which will reduce insurance cost and provide a one-time payment. In addition, there are currently 5 new transit vans on order.

There are currently 26 vans without dedicated drivers but 10 will be held for future hires as well as an additional 10 will be held for spares for breakdowns, etc.

Ellen advised the Board that NRC has decided to consolidate the fleet locations and no longer maintain an office in Stoughton. This will help in the reduction of administrative costs.

Motion: Matt Ferron made a motion to accept the FY24 General Fund and Expense Projection. Mark Bodwell seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Collaborative Reciprocity Update-Paul discussed with the Board the current reciprocity agreement between North River Collaborative, Pilgrim Collaborative, and South Shore Educational Collaborative. Paul shared that both Pilgrim and South Shore no longer abide by the reciprocity agreement to several non-member districts and feels it would be in North River Collaborative's best interest to discontinue the reciprocity practice at the end of the fiscal year and provide notification for budget planning purposes.

Motion: Matt Ferron made a motion to discontinue the North River Collaborative Reciprocity Agreement at the end of the fiscal year. Joe Baeta seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

C. Job Description/Posting: Community Outreach and Recruitment Coordinator: Paul reviewed the new job description and internal posting for a Community Outreach and Recruitment Coordinator who will report to Assistant Executive Director Marie Grable. The position will conduct outreach and recruitment for Drivers and Monitors. It will also work on identifying and recruiting Community Based

Vocational sites, identify Community Based Activities (such as transportation training, and adult agency connections such as MRC, DMV, and the Social Security Office. In addition, it will assist the Assistant Executive Director in the hiring process of Job Coaches and Support Staff.

Motion: Joe Baeta made a motion to approve the job description/posting for a Community Outreach and Recruitment Coordinator. Mark Bodwell seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

D. Transportation Referral Bonus Extension: Paul reviewed the current referral bonus for drivers and monitors and asked the Board to extend the referral bonus to instructional and office staff.

Motion: Matt Ferron made a motion to extend the referral bonus to instructional and office staff. Mark Bodwell seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

E. Appointment of Sick Bank Committee Members: Paul asked the Board for their approval to appoint on their behalf two additional members to the 2023-2024 Sick Bank. The employees voted for Eileen Millett and Lauren Enos for their choices out of the employees who volunteered to be on the committee. The next two candidates would be Barbara White and Karen Gunnison. Paul explained the Sick Bank Policy that asked for the Board to approve two additional employees to represent the Board in the Sick Bank Approval policy.

Motion: Joe Baeta made a motion to approve the appointment of Sick Bank Committee members Barbara White and Karen Gunnison. Matt Ferron seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

F. Regional PD Day Calendar Discussion: Paul led the discussion with regards to a regional professional development day for member districts. This would provide more consistency and an opportunity for districts to come together. Several dates were discussed including election day in 2024.

G. Regional Paraprofessional Compensation Discussion: Paul asked for a snapshot from member districts of current Paraprofessional compensation and thanked those member districts that had completed his request already. Matt Ferron went on to say he thought it was a good idea to move forward.

H. Acceptance of Staff Resignations, Hires, Terminations, and Changes in Contract

Motion: Ryan Powers made a motion to accept the staff resignations, hires, terminations, and changes in contract. Matt Ferron seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

I. Other Matters of Interest to Board Members

V. Informational

J. Transportation Recruitment Flyer (attachment)

K. Previous Inquiry Updates: BPS Membership and Previous Staff Agreements

L. MOEC Updates (attachment)

M. Quarterly Report Purpose and Feedback

N. Student Success Plan Survey Update

O. Professional Development Offerings (attachment)

Motion: Peter Schafer made a motion to adjourn. Mark Broderick seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 9:45AM

Respectfully submitted by:
Julie Hamilton, Board Secretary