



NORTHSHORE
EDUCATION
CONSORTIUM

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
May 15, 2024

Present:	Gloucester:	Mr. Lummis
	Hamilton Wenham:	Mr. Tracy
	Ipswich:	Dr. Blake
	Lynnfield:	Mr. Geary
	Marblehead:	Dr. McGuinness
	Masconomet:	Dr. Harvey
	North Reading:	Dr. Daly
	Peabody:	Dr. Vadala
	Pentucket:	Dr. Bartholomew
	Tri-Town:	Dr. Morrison
	Triton:	Mr. Forget
NEC:	F. Rosenberg	K. Mahoney
	K. Mahoney	NEC Treasurer
	D. Petronzio	AFT local Vice President 4293
Absent:	Beverly:	Dr. Charochak
	Danvers:	Mr. Bauer
	Lynn:	Dr. Alvarez
	Manchester-Essex:	Ms. Beaudoin
	Nahant:	Dr. Pierantozzi
	Reading:	Dr. Milaschewski
	Rockport:	Dr. Branco
	Salem:	Dr. Zrike
	Swampscott:	Ms. Angelakis

- I. **Call to Order:** Dr. Harvey called the meeting to order at 8:04 am (Ms. Angelakis was unable to attend) and read the following statement: This Open Meeting of the NEC Board of Directors is being conducted remotely consistent with Governor Healey’s extension of the temporary provisions pertaining to the Open Meeting Law to March 31, 2025.
- II. **Approval of Minutes and Attendance**
MOTION: A motion was made by Dr. Morrison and seconded Mr. Forget to approve the April 3, 2024 BOD Minutes, May 2024 Communications. Roll call was done 11 voted present and to approve minutes and board communications.
VOTE: The motion was approved
- III. **Executive Director’s Report** Ms. Rosenberg reported that it’s been a busy time at NEC as we get ready for the final weeks of school. Ms. Rosenberg shared information about the many exciting spring events that are happening and stated that she is proud of the approximately 50 students who will be graduating from our different programs with a higher level of skill that many thought they would never achieve.

Ms. Rosenberg stated the HVAC project is proceeding on schedule (more information in Facilities report) She gave an update on additional funds/grants we received to help fund a variety of internal and external trainings for staff. This money helps us sustain our operations during this tight budget period.

Ms. Rosenberg shared that she will continue as MOEC president for the FY25 School year and is proud of the work being done to support Collaborative leaders across the state.

Her full report will be included in with minutes

- IV. Finance Committee Report** Treasurers Report – Mr. Mahoney reviewed the March and April 2024 Treasurer’s Reports. For the March report reflects the special assessment for the HVAC project. The April report reflects our cash position with the collections for the month right on track.

There were no questions from the board

MOTION: A motion was made by Mr. Forget and seconded Dr. Bartholomew to approve the March and April 2024 Treasurer’s Reports. Roll call was done 11 voted to approve

VOTE: The motion was approved

- V. Facilities Committee Report** Ms. Rosenberg provided an update as Mr. Fleming was at the MASBO conference. Year-end projections are on track, but it’s uncertain how much of the project will be billed in FY24. Final year-end numbers won’t be clear until the audit is complete. The fire alarm project is progressing well. However, the HVAC project faced an unexpected delay due to the need for asbestos abatement. Contractors have tested the entire roof, and Ms. Rosenberg has been confident that proper steps were taken in terms of safety, but this has caused a few weeks' delay. The exact timeline and cost impact are still unclear. More information will follow.

Ms. Rosenberg reported on some Capital issues at our Peabody site. Condo association has scheduled new roof to be done next year.

Dr. Morrison suggested moving the Facilities Report earlier on the agenda to accommodate board members who may need to leave the meeting early.

Dr. Bartholomew questioned whether the roof was tested for asbestos hot spots before the project began. Ms. Rosenberg confirmed that it was, noting they were aware that there was asbestos in the roof tar, but were not aware of some small cracks which allowed trace amount of asbestos to get into the ceiling.

VI. New Business –

Update on the Regional Transportation – Ms. Rosenberg reported that many districts have stated interest in this project, and we will begin taking next steps. The first step will be to hire Ms. Cavanaugh to do the preliminary assessment as presented. The interested districts will be invoiced a fee (approximately \$3000) at the beginning of FY25. Ms. Cavanaugh will help us create the model, analyze the work and develop a RFP to bid in FY25 with the plan for a new contract to begin in FY26. Any remaining funds, after this assessment, would go into escrow. We will share more information once the study is done. Ms. Rosenberg asked members if we need a formal vote to proceed on this. Several members concurred that no vote was needed at this time. (Mr. Forget and Dr. Morrison)

WPOP Discussion – Covenant Christian Academy has expressed interest in buying our property in Peabody. Ms. Rosenberg and Mr. Fleming met with them and asked for a proposal with a timeline. This fits into our ongoing need for discussion around strategic, long-range space issues, including the consideration of a new space for RHS. In the coming year this will need to be added to agenda.

Board Leadership for FY25 - Dr. Harvey has agreed to be our board chair, leaving the Facilities Chairperson position vacant. Ms. Rosenberg thanked Dr. McGuinness for her efforts despite all the transitions in Marblehead. Nahant Superintendent Pierantozzi, who is retiring, was also thanked for his support. Former Board Member Mr. Liebow has been hired to replace him. A draft of the Board Subcommittees is included in the folder.

ED Contract: Dr. Bartholomew summarized the Executive Director's contract renewal. He stated that Ms. Rosenberg's current salary \$184,000 was below the average of other Collaborative Executive Directors in this part of the state, and that newer ED's with less experience were being paid higher salaries. The Negotiating Committee, therefore, agreed to raise her salary to \$200,000, reflecting her 11 years of service and excellent job performance, and placing her in a competitive range. The proposed contract is for five years, with annual COLAs not to exceed the COLA being received by Unit A employees. Ms. Rosenberg thanked the committee. She expressed her desire to remain at NEC until her retirement and to continue to work hard on behalf of our staff and students.

Dr. Harvey stated board should accept this recommendation and vote to approve the drafted contract. All were in agreement. Several members stated their full support for this increase based on the market analysis

MOTION: A motion was made by Mr. Tracy and seconded Dr. Milaschewski to accept and approve the Executive Directors 5-year contract and to authorize Ms. Angelakis to sign it. Roll call was done with 11 voting to approve contract

VOTE: The motion was approved

- VII. Friends of NEC/Development Presentation:** Sarah Seiler gave a presentation on the history of "Friends of NEC" and its achievements since 2006. The organization has raised about \$3.4 million, directly benefiting students through events, annual appeals, and grants. Friends of NEC has provided funding for rock walls, art and music programs, culinary initiatives, and libraries. Over the past five years, all technology upgrades have been grant-funded. Ms. Seiler discussed the Festivus 5K race and the role of the volunteer advisory board, which includes educational professionals, parents, and local business leaders. Ms. Seiler mentioned the work currently taking place on a short film about NEC. She thanked the Board for the support. Dr. Harvey, on behalf of the board, thanked Ms. Seiler for the contributions to the Friends of NEC over the years.

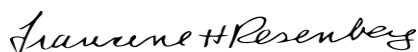
VIII. Adjourn

MOTION: A motion was made by Dr. Bartholomew and seconded by Dr. Blake to adjourn from the meeting at 8:59 am as presented. Roll call was done with 11 voting to adjourn

VOTE: The motion was approved



Kathy Mahoney, Administrative Assistant to Executive Director



Francine Rosenberg, NEC Executive Director