



APPROVED 4/30/14

**TECCA Commonwealth Virtual School
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Tuesday, March 25, 2014 at 1:30 p.m. ET**

Held at the following location and via teleconference:
Natick Town Hall, 3rd Floor
13 East Central Street
Natick, MA 01760

I. Call to Order

Mr. Sanchioni called the meeting to order at 1:34 p.m. when all participants were present and able to hear each other.

II. Roll Call

Board Members Present: Peter Sanchioni, Jean Kenney, Liz Pape and Robert McGuire (all in person);

Board Members Absent: Kirby Salerno;

Guests Present: Liz McGonagle and Daniel Shovack, TEC staff; Dave Schmidt (all in person); Ted Ochs, Allison Reaves, Megann Arthur and Heather Woodward, Connections Education staff (via phone).

III. Public Comment

Mr. McGuire noted that he had received a communication indicating there was an additional screening process he needed to complete with DESE prior to being appointed to the Board. Following Board member discussion, he indicated that he would not vote at today's meeting, and would follow up with the representative who had sent the communication to him prior to the Board's next meeting, to complete any necessary process.

IV. Routine Business

a. Approval of Agenda

Mr. Sanchioni asked the Board if there were any changes to be made to the Agenda. There being no changes noted, a motion was made and seconded as follows:

RESOLVED, that the Agenda for the March 25, 2014 meeting of the TECCA Commonwealth Virtual School Board of Directors, as presented, is hereby approved.

The motion passed unanimously.

The Board immediately began discussion on the Educational Products and Services Agreement (EPSA) with Connections Academy, LLC.

Approval of Educational Products and Services Agreement (EPSA) with Connections Academy of Massachusetts, LLC

Mr. Sanchioni discussed the Educational Products and Services Agreement (EPSA) with Connections Academy of Massachusetts, LLC with the Board. He reviewed the development process that the proposed EPSA has currently completed, as well as several specific points of interest that have been discussed in depth.

[Mr. Ochs joined the meeting at 2:05 p.m.]

The Board had extensive discussion on specific sections of interest within the Agreement, and negotiated terms with Connections management.

[Ms. McGonagle and Mr. Shovack joined the meeting at 2:10 p.m.]

The Board reviewed specific terms within the EPSA, focusing on course offerings, fee schedules, necessary agreements between all parties involved in the school and the school leader job description and hiring process.

[Mr. Ochs left the meeting at 2:45 p.m.]

The Board discussed the School Leader job description and the steps of the hiring process. Ms. Reaves discussed the assistance Connections' HR and her team can provide to the Board during the hiring process, and all present discussed the steps completed to date by Ms. McGonagle. There being no further discussion, a motion was made and seconded as follows:

RESOLVED, that the appointment of Liz Pape and Jean Kenney as Board Designees to work with Connections Academy and Liz McGonagle on the school leader posting and hiring process, as discussed, is hereby approved.

The motion passed unanimously.

The Board then re-directed their discussion to specific terms within the EPSA. Following the Board's satisfaction that they had evaluated the major points within the Agreement requiring additional negotiation, a motion was made and seconded as follows:

RESOLVED, that the appointment of Peter Sanchioni as the Board Designee to negotiate, finalize and execute the Educational Products and Services Agreement (EPSA) with Connections Academy of Massachusetts, LLC on behalf of the Board, as discussed, is hereby approved.

The motion passed unanimously.

V. Oral Reports

a. Update on Terms of Certificate / Implementation Timeline

Mr. Sanchioni provided the Board with an update. He reviewed recent communications on the terms of certificate, and highlighted significant details of the school's implementation timeline.

b. Update on Contract Negotiations with TEC

The Board indicated their intent to discuss this item later in the meeting.

c. Update on Course Offerings for the School

The Board discussed this item earlier in the meeting.

d. Update on School Leader Posting

The Board discussed this item earlier in the meeting.

e. Update on Enrollment Documentation for School

Mr. Schmidt provided the Board with an update. He reviewed the enrollment documents distributed for Board review, and submission to the necessary parties at the state. Board members had discussion regarding the enrollment documentation, including the Lottery Policy. Board members discussed proposed revisions to the Lottery Policy. There being no further discussion, a motion was made and seconded as follows:

RESOLVED, that the Lottery Policy, as discussed and amended, is hereby approved.

The motion passed unanimously.

VI. Action Items

a. Approval of Directors

This item was not considered at this meeting.

b. Approval of Officers

This item was not considered at this meeting.

c. Approval of Educational Products and Services Agreement (EPSA) with Connections Academy of Massachusetts, LLC

This item was considered earlier in the meeting.

d. Approval of Board Counsel Engagement

The Board discussed the need for Board Counsel to partner with the Board to review key legal documents on their behalf. Board members had discussion on the most appropriate Counsel for this purpose, and the work done to date with Counsel working on the EPSA. The Board further discussed the potential conflict of interest with TEC's primary Counsel being the same as TECCA's. There being no further discussion, a motion was made and seconded as follows:

RESOLVED, that the engagement of Murphy, Hesse, Toomey & Lehane as Board Counsel, with the exception of TEC's primary Counsel, is hereby approved.

The motion passed with three affirmative votes; Ms. Pape voted against the motion.

[Mr. Schmidt left the meeting at 4:10 p.m.]

e. Approval of Lottery Policy

This item was considered earlier in the meeting.

The Board indicated their desire to discuss the current status of negotiations with TEC regarding the school facility location for TECCA. The Board discussed the anticipated space required for the school, as well as the communications to date with TEC on the facility options in Walpole.

[Ms. Woodward left the meeting at 4:29 p.m.]

There being no further discussion, a motion was made and seconded as follows:

RESOLVED, that the appointment of Daniel Shovack as the designee to work with the Board and TEC on the negotiation of terms for the school facility, with approval of a lease to be considered by the Board at a future meeting, is hereby approved.

The motion passed unanimously.

VII. Information Items

a. Update on School Logo

The item was tabled for discussion at a future meeting.

b. State Relations Update

This item was tabled for discussion at a future meeting.

VIII. Adjournment and Confirmation of Next Meeting

Mr. Sanchioni noted that the Board was at the end of its agenda and that the next meeting was scheduled to be at the call of the chair. The being no further business, at 4:37 p.m. the Board made and seconded the following motion:

RESOLVED, that the adjournment of the TECCA Commonwealth Virtual School, March 25, 2014 Board meeting, be approved.

The motion was approved unanimously.