

**MA Consortium for Innovative Education Assessment
November 17, 2016 Meeting Agenda: 2:00 – 4:30 p.m.
Massachusetts Secondary School Administrators Association
33 Forge Parkway, Franklin**

Minutes

Updates. The MASS/MASC MCIEA workshop presentation went very well, with almost 50 people attending and a number expressing interest in joining. Lessons learned from the Vote No on 2 victory are that people value public schools and the public's view about charters and funding was shifted by the Vote No on 2 messaging.

Selection of new superintendent co-chair. Salah Khelfaoui was unanimously elected as the new superintendent co-chair of MCIEA

Year Two expectations – can districts continue to have their choice of one or both? There were divergent views of whether any decision had ever been made about whether member districts had to sign on to both the performance assessment and school quality measures work beginning in the second year. There was some sentiment that both Bourne and Ludlow may have pulled out of the consortium because of the requirement to sign on to both efforts beginning in the second year.

Agreed:

- ***Member districts do not have to sign on to both the school quality measures and performance assessment initiatives in future years.***
- ***Erik will reach out to the teacher union presidents for Bourne and Ludlow to inform them of the decision and see if they want to consider rejoining the consortium. Salah will do the same for the respective superintendents.***

NOTE: This decision may need to be discussed again in future years if and when the consortium decides to press DESE to submit a request for a federal waiver to enable consortium districts to forego MCAS 2.0 testing in favor of the consortium accountability model.

MCIEA budget and reporting. MCIEA funds come from two sources – MA FY 2017 state budget and New Venture Fund. Due to (a) some district concerns that the New Venture Fund grant originates with the Gates Foundation, and (b) the potential threat of claw-back of unspent funds due to a state budget deficit, CCE will be paying out all consortium district grants using the state budget funds. These grants will only be going to those consortium districts engaged in the performance assessment work, as this is the work in which teachers will be most engaged, though there are ample funds allocated for both the performance assessment and school quality measures work.

Agreed:

- ***A standing Finance Subcommittee was formed (Salah, Diane, Adeline, Erik) to work with CCE on managing the budget. The role of the Finance Subcommittee is to (a) develop and follow a proposed process for how future budget decisions will be made, (b) review and approve all grant reports that are to be sent out to funding sources, and (c) broad oversight of the budget.***
- ***Dan will send out the current budget to the Finance Subcommittee and then schedule a subcommittee meeting soon after Thanksgiving to gain approval so we can get district grants out the door.***

District membership in MCIEA. Arlington and Cambridge have both expressed interest in joining MCIEA, and we are in the process of meeting with the superintendent, teacher union president, and school committees from each district. This led into discussions about consortium governance.

Agreed:

- *Both the teacher union president and superintendent need to be in favor of joining the consortium for a new district to be accepted. If one party (teacher union president or superintendent) withdraws from the consortium, the entire district withdraws.*
- *The superintendent and teacher union president, or their respective designees, of each member district are the sole voting members of the consortium. All other organizational representatives are non-voting members.*
- *Dan will write up a proposed consortium decision-making process, based on the conversation, for discussion and approval at the next meeting.*
- *Review and approval of the prior meeting minutes should be the first order of business at each consortium meeting.*

Proposed MCIEA governing board decision-making process:

- *Consortium decisions can only be made if a majority of each voting constituency is present (currently, with six consortium districts, this would mean that at least four union presidents and four superintendents are present). The preferred model of decision-making will be by consensus (i.e., most people support the decision and everyone can live with it and will abide by the decision). If consensus cannot be reached, the fall-back decision-making method will be by majority vote. In these cases, a decision is made when a majority of those present within each constituency votes in favor (e.g., with the current six districts, if five superintendents and five teacher union presidents are present, a minimum of three of each constituency must vote in favor for a motion to be approved).*

Performance Assessment work. There was some concern about how to prevent the performance assessments that are designed by consortium teachers from being misused in the hands of others. The intent is to assign a Creative Commons license to every performance assessment task with authorship assigned to the teacher(s) who created them.

Agreed:

- *CCE will develop a proposed process for the review and approval process of consortium performance tasks that are created that ensures governing board sign-off prior to them becoming open source. The proposed process should include a description of the proposed Creative Commons license. Individual consortium districts will have the option of not signing on to approved performance tasks.*
- *The performance assessment institutes will take place at the Holiday Inn in Dedham.*

Future meeting locations. We will rotate districts for all future meetings. Attleboro has graciously agreed to use MSSAA as its meeting location.

Future MCIEA Governing Board Meetings (locations to be determined)

December 15, 9:00 – 11:30 am, Revere Public Schools, 101 School Street, Revere

January 19, 2017, 2:00 – 4:30 pm, Winchester Public Schools

February 17, 9:00 – 11:30 am, Boston Public Schools

March 17, 9:00 – 11:30 am, Somerville Public Schools

April 27, 2:00 – 4:30 pm, Lowell Public Schools

May 18, 2:00 – 4:30 pm, MSSAA

June 15, 9:00 – 11:30 am, Revere Public Schools