

SUPERINTENDENTS' MEETING NOTES MAY 14, 2019

1. Discussion began at 9:10 a.m. The following were present:

Superintendents:

Mr. Stephen Lemanski, Agawam

Mr. Todd Gazda, Ludlow

Ms. Jennifer Willard, Southwick-Tolland-Granville Regional

Collaborative:

Mr. Andrew M. Churchill, Executive Director

Ms. Anna Bishop, Director of Finance and Operations

- 2. Notes from the April 11, 2019 meeting were enclosed for review.
- 3. Mr. Churchill discussed an article that appeared in Education Week magazine which reported that high-achievers are attending certain vocational school programs. The group discussed scheduling and graduation requirements in order to get ninth-graders into Career TEC. Mr. Gazda indicated Ludlow could be interested in a ninth-grade start for some of its students.
- 4. As a number of member districts are in contract negotiations with Bargaining Unit A, we do not have an average salary increase increment for LPVEC staff for the coming school year. The past few years staff has been given a two-percent increase and attendees suggested Mr. Churchill propose the same for FY20.
- 5. Mr. Churchill and Ms. Bishop noted that the FY20 budget will be affected by reorganizational changes in special education. As enrollments have dropped, the per-student cost will increase. In addition, the assessment formula for apportioning administrative costs has been changed from 50 percent special education and 50 percent occupational education to 45 percent special education and 55 percent occupational education.
- 6. The Special Education team is developing new program titles and descriptions to better market our services. Mr. Lemanski would like this plan presented to his school committee. Mr. Churchill and the team will meet with member district special education directors tomorrow to present these program changes. Mr. Lemanski also expressed interest in a LPVEC alternative high school program.

Ms. Bishop noted that to offset any increases for FY20 as a result of these budget changes, the Collaborative may issue dividends from Unreserved Fund Balance so that member districts may subsidize that portion of the budget. She will present these revisions to business managers next week.

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LPVEC Notes/Superintendents May 14, 2019 Page Two

- 7. There was no interest in the school safety technology program, Crisis Go, which was enclosed for review. Districts are individually dealing with school safety issues.
- 8. LPVEC will seek to develop a new School Resource Officer job alike group in September. Mr. Lemanski will reach out to the district attorney's office with regard to possible professional development.

The group discussed challenges and approaches to vaping in schools.

9. The next meeting is scheduled for June 13th.

Discussion concluded at 10:03 a.m.