



MINUTES
Board of Directors' Meeting
LPVEC BISTRO
MAY 31, 2023

The meeting was called to order at 6:11 p.m. by the Chairperson of the Board, Mr. Jeffrey Laing. The following were present:

Board of Directors: Mr. Albert J. Christopher, Agawam
 Ms. Lisa Murray, Hampden-Wilbraham Regional
 Ms. Mary Keane, Longmeadow
 Mr. Jeffrey Laing, Ludlow
 Ms. Diana Coyne, West Springfield

Guests: Dr. Margaret Frieswyk, NESDEC

Mr. Laing addressed the Board with the following statement: We are pleased to report on the activities of the Lower Pioneer Valley Educational Collaborative Executive Director Search Screening Committee.

Over a period of approximately three weeks, the Screening Committee met on several occasions to review applications and interview candidates for the position of Executive Director. We enjoyed our conversations with applicants representing a wide range of experiences and backgrounds. We thank all those who expressed an interest in becoming our executive director.

The Screening Committee reviewed all the completed applications and subsequently selected a number of candidates who were invited to meet with the Screening Committee for a preliminary interview. Following the preliminary interviews and after much discussion and consideration, the Screening Committee, during its meeting on May 18, 2023, voted to recommend three candidates for further consideration by the LPVEC Board of Directors.

The three candidates, listed in alphabetical order, are:

Marlene DiLeo: currently Superintendent of Schools, Ware Public Schools

Alvin Morton: currently Interim Superintendent, Chicopee Public Schools

Mary Jane Rickson: currently Principal, Murdock Junior Senior High School,
Winchendon Public Schools

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On behalf of the Lower Pioneer Valley Educational Collaborative Board, I would like to thank the members of the Screening Committee for the many hours they devoted to reviewing applications, interviewing candidates and deliberating during the preliminary selection process. The conversations were lively, insightful and courteous. It was a pleasure to work with this group of truly dedicated people.

Dr. Frieswyk gave an overview of the interview process and specifically noted that each Board member must be present each interview or they are unable to vote to choose the final candidate. Generally, there is a show of hands. Candidates should be expecting and take the call from the Board chair who will offer to enter into contract negotiations.

Initially, June 6, 7, and 8 were chose to conduct final interviews. After discussion, it was the consensus of the Board to conduct all three interviews on Tuesday, June 6 beginning at 5 p.m. with deliberation that evening at approximately 8:30 p.m.

The group discussed themes identified in the Successful Candidate Profile in developing interview questions. Most will mirror those from the initial interviews and a Google Doc will be developed where Board members can finalize their questions and shared with the group.

Opening: understanding the scope of services offered and in the transition from public administration to director of a collaborative, the skills to perform in this capacity to be an effective leader.

1. supporting a cohesive team and positive work environment
2. experience as an educational leader
3. balancing responsibilities between staff advocacy and budget during contract negotiations
4. understanding the shift in vocational education and effectively marketing programs
5. ensuring consistent policies
6. social emotional supports
7. understanding the budget process


Closing: What do you wish to share that you may have not already articulated?

Before Tuesday, Board members will make reference checks on the three finalists and report to the full Board between each interview session. Dr. Frieswyk will meet with the new Director when it is time to develop their entry plan.

As there is no other business to come before the Board, Ms. Coyne moved to adjourn. Ms. Murray seconded. Approved unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

6/1/23

Date


, Clerk