



**SUPERINTENDENTS' MEETING
SEPTEMBER 13, 2018**

1. The meeting began at 9:05 a.m. The following were present:

Superintendents: Mr. Gordon Smith, East Longmeadow
Mr. Albert Ganem, Jr., Hampden-Wilbraham Regional
Mr. Martin O'Shea, Longmeadow
Ms. Jennifer Willard, Southwick-Tolland-Granville Regional
Mr. Michael Richard, West Springfield

Collaborative: Mr. Andrew M. Churchill, Executive Director
Ms. Anna Bishop, Director of Finance and Operations
Mr. Donald Jarvis, Director of Occupational Education
Ms. Sharon Goulet, Director of Special and Alternative Education
Ms. Amy Drake, Associate Principal
Mr. Charles Crowe, Transportation General Manager

3. B. Ms. Goulet introduced the new Associate Principal, Ms. Amy Drake. She reported that we have upcoming trainings scheduled for Lindamood Bell and ADOS as requested by member district SpEd Directors. She is also looking at other areas in which the Collaborative may provide services to districts to strengthen enrollments.

Mr. Churchill reported that our School Resource Officer, Karl King, is transitioning well and is working on safety protocols with staff.

- A. Mr. Jarvis reported that construction projects are progressing to house the merged Graphics and Design Programs. Fashion Design is now closed and the teacher has transitioned to support staff who have students with IEPs. He noted that 49 percent of the 472 Career TEC students have an IEP. This year, professional development for CTEC staff focused on differentiated learning based on inclusion of all students.

Mr. Jarvis also discussed working with the Regional Employment Board to develop an evening adult machine technology program. We have recently received grant funding to purchase new state of the art equipment for the Information Support Systems and Networking as well as the Machine Technology Program. Mr. Churchill noted that he had been contacted by Senator Lesser's office with regard to state budget funding that may be available with the Senator's support.

Mr. Ganem reported that he recently had an issue where he had denied a student's request to explore the Aviation Program at Westfield Academy. DESE responded to a parent's complaint stating that students be given access to vocational exploratory programs in the 9th grade. Mr. Churchill and Mr. Ganem will follow up with DESE.

The group discussed pathways and interest shown amongst 7th and 8th grade students as well as graduation equivalencies which would allow students to attend four years rather than just three.

- C. Mr. Crowe noted that with the addition of East Longmeadow regular transportation routes, the LPVEC is now transporting almost 15,000 students. Due to driver shortages, recruitment efforts continue while driver training progresses.

Mr. Churchill noted that we are still negotiating with the union and will be addressing economic issues which he hopes will have relatively minor effect on cost to districts.

Mr. Smith distributed information on a student-led initiative he has become involved in, "Unify Against Bullying". He will participate in a fundraiser for the program at the Superintendents' Summit and asked if any other superintendents are interested in participating and bringing student representatives.

- 4. The group noted that the recent SandyHook training was very informative and feels that using their threat protocols will help standardize efforts amongst area schools.

The group discussed Chromebook purchases within their districts with respect to sustainability, set up, insurance, bandwidth, and non-core services that collect data.

- 5. Mr. Churchill noted that he had been approached regarding whether or not the Collaborative may be interested in taking over the recovery high school for this region. DESE believes it may be more successful outside of Springfield where it is currently housed. He will investigate further if this becomes a need to member districts.

Mr. Ganem invited anyone interested in attending the Hampden-Wilbraham professional development offering on November 6th as the speaker that day will be Bill Daggett.

Mr. Ganem also questioned whether or not districts who cancel school during the day hold athletic events scheduled for the evening if weather permitting. Mr. Churchill will add this for discussion at the next meeting. The group also discussed athletic event attendance fees.

The meeting concluded at 10:45 a.m.