



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Monday October 12, 2020

4:00 – 7:00 pm

(via Zoom)

Minutes

Board of Directors Members present: Derek Cooley, Katie Flynn, Ben Hicks, Karen Howey, Trish Lopucki, Tami Mannes, Nikki Moore, Renee Thelen, Sarah Winslow, Deb Zelinski

Other Attendees: Abby Cypher, Executive Director; Sue Leach, MAASE Executive Associate

Call to Order 4:02 pm

A. Approval of Board Meeting agenda

Motion: **Approve 10/12/20 agenda**

Motion - Tami Mannes

Support - Sarah Winslow

Discussion - None

Passed unanimously

B. Consent Agenda

- Approval of Board Meeting minutes from July 29, 2020
- Approval of 2020-21 Membership Lists

Motion: **Approve consent agenda**

Motion - Katie Flynn

Second – Trish Lopucki

Discussion - none

Passed unanimously

C. Reports of Committees/CoPs:

Standing Committees

1. Legislative Action Committee - Abby

The committee is reviewing a couple bills. They also are looking at a partnership with SEILN on a dyslexia bill. The LAC is meeting October 20th to discuss structure and set meeting dates

2. Association Partnerships - Abby

The committee will be redefined now that MAASE has an Executive Director. Abby will reconvene group and seek a chairperson.

3. Membership Services

Memberships approved (above)

4. Finance & Legislation – No Report

5. MAASE Mini-Grants

Information was mailed to membership. Applications (available on the website) are due October 30.

Professional Learning

1. Developing Leaders

Prepared for three breakout sessions tomorrow (10/13/20).

2. SLIP Winter Conference

The Conference will be one day, January 14, 2021. Tina Lawson is confirming with presenters.

3. Summer Institute – Derek Cooley

It was a successful conference with over 500 attendees.

4. Tuesday Professional Learning

2020-21 presentations will be held on a virtual platform. Contracts are in place with presenters.

Special Projects

MAASE Focus Areas - Nikki Moore

Nikki and co-chair, Julie Gutman, meeting tomorrow to discuss background and develop next steps.

Communities of Practice (CoPs)

1. New Administrators – Ben Hicks

The CoP met this afternoon with three administrators. Meetings will be the Mondays prior to MAASE. Membership is being sent a link to submit topics, and other Board members will reach out to their committees, as well.

2. Early Childhood – Tami Mannes

The CoP met today. Conversation included the \$1M GEERS funding for EarlyOn and a new MDE position blending Part C and preschool special education. SEI/Adjudicated Youth - None

5. ISD collaborative – Renee Thelen

The CoP met today. The morning session was for new members and the afternoon session included OSE updates, regional reports, and general business discussion. Secondary

6. Transition

The Cop met Wednesday, October 14 at 12:00 p.m. Kelly Rogers has replaced Lauren Ringle as co-chair with Allison Michelle.

7. SLIP – No Report

8. Deaf/Hard of Hearing – Trish Lopucki

The CoP will be meeting on Friday.

9. Urban Special Education Administrators - None

Liaison Appointments

1. MAASE/CASE/MCEC Liaison - Ben Hicks

i. MCEC Conference will be virtual in March

ii. Collaborative effort with MCEC and MAASE to develop lesson plans via grant.

Tina Lawson is working on that; Ben is chairing the MCEC committee.

Governor's Grant went to MCEC (\$1.25M) and MAASE is a sub contractor

(\$45,000) to develop 10 lessons. MAASE received 1.5 million in the MDE budget to continue lesson development.

2. SEAC Representative - Nikki Moore
SEAC had a retreat in September; their next regular meeting is in October. The Retreat included a new member orientation and development of priorities for the year.

D. Additional Updates/Reports from Board Members

1. Renee Thelen
 - Participating in Hiring Mental Health Providers TA Workgroup. Has to do with 31N and general hiring and challenges.
 - CEC Equity Pledge
CEC has initiated "project2020" which reads: *We pledge to uphold the vision of diversity, equity, and inclusion, and to support all of our members, volunteers, and staff as well as the infants, toddlers, and students with exceptionalities and their families we serve, especially those differentially impacted by systemic racism.* Other associations have supported project2020. See link: <https://exceptionalchildren.org/project2020>
2. MAASE Strategic Plan Update – Nikki Moore
The current strategic plan will be reviewed/revised this year. The Leadership Team will be invited to participate in the work on the afternoon of January 21st.
3. ISD Administrators – Katie Flynn
Special Education Instructional Leadership Network (SEILN) is a new division of MAISA; all ISD special education directors are members. They had first general meeting in August. Conversation centered around advocacy so there's no duplication of effort between SEILN and MAASE.
4. LEA Administrators - No report
5. Regional Updates
Region 1A - UP Education Conference was held last Friday. It was the largest conference yet - 1125 participants.

E. Executive Associate Report – Sue Leach

1. Summer Institute showed a \$9,000 profit.
2. Member log-in is now on the home page next to the Join MAASE Today button
3. Awards
 - Batten award nominations are due November 2nd
 - Sue will send out a News & Notes focused solely on MAASE awards

F. Executive Director Report – Abby Cypher

1. Legislative Update
 - Waivers - SEILN is taking the lead on hour and day waivers.
 - Dyslexia Legislation - Five bills tie barred. Two bills center around teacher prep. The LAC is working on it; Finance & Legislation has been informed. Bills could pass. The strategy is to reach out to practitioners and educate the Legislature on how special education fits into literacy.
 - Educator Evaluations – There is a proposed bill to eliminate the need for student growth starting this year. Most organizations are in support.
 - Lame Duck Expectations - share with LAC & Board.
 - MAISA Funding Priorities - Weighted funding in special education. MAASE needs to decide where we stand and have the platform document reflect that.

2. Developing committee to explore finance and legislative committee needs and the possible restructuring of the LAC, F&L, and MLAS. A recommendation will be presented to the Board in December.
3. CARES/GEERS funds
 - MAASE entered into a Memo of Understanding with MCED to develop lessons for students in virtual settings.
 - The Legislature put \$1.5M in the budget for MAASE. The funds are in general budget (Section 351) to develop content. Abby and Sue will contact the MAASE CPA firm to discuss the receipt of this money and potential tax implications.
4. State funding
 - Budget Language
 - Next Steps
5. Sponsorship Proposal – MAASE has sponsors for Tuesday PL and Summer Institute. To expand sponsorships, MAASE could potentially use the MEMSPA sponsorship model:
 - > Silver - \$500: Presentation @ PL, signage @ PL
 - > Gold - \$2500: Presentation @ PL, signage @ PL, featured ad in News & Notes; listed on website; commercial at one virtual PD; notice of event; Ed feedback session
 - > Platinum - \$5,000: Presentation @ PL, signage @ PL, featured ad in News & Notes; listed on website; commercial at one virtual PD; notice of event; Ed feedback session, Summer Institute sponsorship
 - Continue to promote sponsors to membership through News & Notes (do not give out email addresses).
6. MDE is hiring five state complaint investigators.

G. Action Items

1. Sponsorship Proposal
 - Motion: **Adopt a structure for sponsorship as presented.**
 - Motion - Ben Hicks
 - Support - Deb Zelinski
 - Discussion - None
 - Passed unanimously
2. CEC Equity Pledge
 - Motion: **Sign on with CEC equity pledge.**
 - Motion - Tami Mannes
 - Support - Sarah Winslow
 - Discussion - None
 - Passed unanimously

Adjourn at 6:15 pm