



Assabet Valley Collaborative Board of Directors Meeting

August 23, 2022

VIRTUALLY :

Minutes

Present: Amber Bock-Chair, Jay Cummings, Gregory Myers, Gregory Martineau, Mary Murphy, Marco Rodrigues-Vice Chair, Joseph Sawyer, Jeff Zanghi

Absent: Beth Chamberland, Kirk Downing, Brian Haas, and Ernie Houle

Also Present: Cathy Cummins, Sarah Spatafore and Suzanne Pomerleau

CALL TO ORDER

After a roll call (Amber Bock-Chair, Jay Cummings, Gregory Martineau, Mary Murphy, Gregory Myers, Marco Rodrigues-Vice Chair, Joseph Sawyer, Jeff Zanghi) the meeting was called to order at 4:04 pm.

COMPLETION OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S CONTRACT

Amber welcomed those in attendance and shared their excitement for the start of a new school year. Amber informed members that Cathy's contract expired in June, and after reviewing they agreed on a 2% increase to be effective from July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023. This provides for a 2nd year available with a negotiated increase for the following year.

Joe Sawyer motioned to approve the Executive Director's contract as presented. Jeffrey Zanghi seconded the motion. A roll call vote was collected: Amber Bock-Chair, Jay Cummings, Gregory Martineau, Mary Murphy, Gregory Myers, Marco Rodrigues-Vice Chair, Joseph Sawyer, Jeff Zanghi (8-0) to approve the Executive Director's contract as presented.

APPOINTMENT of ERICA STEARNS, DIRECTOR of THE EVOLUTION and REACH PROGRAMS

Cathy informed the Board that AVC started the 2022-2023 school year the day before. She discussed the hiring process for the Director of Evolution & REACH Programs, including the search, hiring team and 8 candidates were interviewed for this position. The candidate pool was narrowed to 4 people and then the hiring team invited Erica Stearns to come to AVC and meet the community. She met with all Programs and staff, also met with some Special Ed Directors from member districts virtually for a Q & A. She presented an entry plan to staff in attendance as well as those who joined virtually including students. This presentation was recorded and shared with staff who were unable to attend as well as Board members.

Prior to joining AVC Erica had been at another Collaborative for 16 years, and approximately a decade at other places. She started as a PTA, then a teacher of the visually impaired. She got her license to become a teacher and then went back to school to obtain her degree and become licensed as an administrator.

Marco Rodrigues made a motion to appoint Erica Stearns, Director of the Evolution and REACH Programs. Jay Cummings seconded the motion. A roll call vote was collected: Amber Bock-Chair, Jay Cummings, Gregory Myers, Gregory Martineau, Mary Murphy, Marco Rodrigues-Vice Chair, Joseph Sawyer, Jeff Zanghi, (8-0) to appoint Erica Stearns, Director of the Evolution and REACH Programs.

Cathy Cummins left at 4:15 pm.

Jay Cummings motioned to exit the regular meeting and enter into executive session. Mary Murphy seconded the motion. A roll call vote was collected Amber Bock-Chair, Jay Cummings, Gregory Myers, Gregory

Martineau, Mary Murphy, Marco Rodrigues-Vice Chair, Joseph Sawyer, Jeff Zanghi, (8-0) to enter into executive session at 4:17 pm to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair declares.

Respectfully submitted,

Suzanne Pomerleau
Administrative Assistant