



**North River Collaborative Board of Directors Minutes**  
**Friday, November 16, 2018-9:00 AM**

**Attendees:** Stephen Donovan, Ryan Morgan, Alan Cron, Patty Oakley, Matt Ferron Clarice Doliber, Derek Swenson, Liz Legault, Peter Schafer, Mike Laliberte

**Absent:** Christine Godino, Jeff Szymaniak, Maggie Rizzi

**I. Call to Order-** Chairman Peter Schafer called the meeting to order at 9:12 AM

**II. Approval of Minutes of October 10, 2018**

**Motion:** Alan Cron made a motion to approve the minutes of October 10, 2018. Derek Swenson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

**Approval of Executive Session Minutes of October 10, 2018**

**Motion:** Matt Ferron made a motion to accept and release the executive session minutes of October 10, 2018. Derek Swenson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

**Approval of Executive Session Minutes of June 8, 2018**

**Motion:** Matt Ferron made a motion to accept and release the executive session minutes of June 8, 2018. Derek Swenson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

**III. Approval of Financials and Warrants**

**Motion:** Patty Oakley made a motion to approve the financials and warrants. Matt Ferron seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

**IV. Discussion/Action Items**

**A. Independence Academy -Less than 45-day Pilot Program [Ryan Morgan]-** Ryan Morgan presented the "Upper Course" the new per diem service from 1 to 45 days for students who have been identified as benefiting from an intervention related to their use of substances. This pilot program will target students suspended from school for non-violent offenses. The program will run Monday through Friday from 10-2 and students will need a referral from their school. The responsibility of transportation will be on the sending district or family of the student. Academic work will be sent from the sending district for the student. The program will be limited to six students for now, but the long-range goal is to obtain funding and fully sustain the program moving forward. The per diem rate will be \$63 per day. A 45-day assessment will be \$2,500.

**Motion:** Patty Oakley made a motion to approve the Upper Course pilot program as presented. Derek Swenson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

**B. FY19 General Fund Revenue and Expense Projection-**Mike reviewed the FY19 General Fund Revenue and Expense Projection, informing the Board that there is currently a deficit of \$388,758 due mostly to the enrollment at Independence Academy and North River School. North River School has been working to stabilize the student population. Independence Academy at this time last year, had 20 students enrolled and ended the year with 34 students. Currently there are 15 students. Mike informed the Board that an administrative person has been cut and there may be two additional reductions to staff. Dr. Donovan added that this year there was no reimbursement for transportation. Dr. Donovan still would like to make a

commitment to the program for at least the next two years because it is an important service for kids in need. He also informed the Board that there would be a discussion this week with DESE about using Circuit Breaker to fund students who attend IA.

- Matt Ferron asked Mike when it is time to start worrying. Mike responded with January.
- Peter Schafer asked what other areas there are for concern and what is the worst-case scenario. Mike advised that he is watching two other programs but feels they will be fine. Worst case scenario there will be positions not filled and then layoffs.

**Motion:** Matt Ferron made a motion to accept the FY19 General Fund and Revenue and Expense Projection. Derek Swenson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

- C. Audit Report and Acceptance by Board (Enc. A)-** Mike presented the FY18 Annual Audit report and referenced the opinion portion. Once again there is no management letter. NRC ended the year with a surplus of funds.

**Motion:** Alan Cron made a motion to accept the FY18 Annual Audit Report. Liz Legault seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

- D. UFR Approval by Board (Enc. B)-** Mike reviewed the UFR.

**Motion:** Liz Legault made a motion to approve the UFR. Patty Oakley seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

- E. October Financials (handout at meeting)-No additional financials were distributed**

- F. Mid-Cycle Review (Enc. C)** Steve reviewed the findings for the mid-cycle review

- G. Grand Bargain- Paid Leave Act (Enc. D)-** Steve reviewed the new Paid Medical Leave Law for Massachusetts. Municipalities have the option of not participating in the leave.

**Motion:** Patty Oakley made a motion that North River Collaborative will not adopt the Paid Medical Leave Act. Matt Ferron seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

- H. FY20 Mayflower Municipal Proposed High Deductible and HSA (Enc. E)-** Mike reviewed the proposed high deductible health insurance with HSA. He voiced his concern that there is not enough information on the rate and how beneficial it would be for the Collaborative to offer it.

**Motion:** Liz Legault made a motion to table the option to offer a high deductible health plan with an HSA. Derek Swenson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

- I. Holbrook Request for Membership to North River Collaborative (Enc. F)-** Dr. Donovan reviewed the previous vote to accept Holbrook Public Schools as a member of the Collaborative as well as introduced the Holbrook School Committee minutes approving the request for membership.

- J. Learning Center Discussion: Dr. Donovan discussed the options of addressing the space needs for the Collaborative moving forward.**

**Option 1:** Add on to NRS at \$500 square foot, \$12,000,000 loan to cover cost. Tuitions would have to be raised. Steve doesn't see this as cost appropriate. Would put in NRC in a deficit for many years

**Option 2:** Lease space and renovate for need at an estimated cost of \$480,000 per year and doesn't include a lot of the additional costs NRC would have.

**Option 3:** Status Quo with gradual increase in rent to districts. Dr. Donovan believes this is the best option for NRC and that rents should increase to \$12,000 in FY20 and \$15,000 in FY21.

**Motion:** Patty Oakley made a motion to go with Option 3 authorizing NRC to pay rent to the districts for classroom space to \$12,000 in FY20 and to \$15,000 in FY21. Liz Legault seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

**K. Letters of Appointment to the NRC Board of Directors (received to date)**

Abington- Peter Schafer

Avon- Christine Godino

Bridgewater-Raynham- Derek Swenson

East Bridgewater- Liz Legault

Hanover- Matt Ferron

Rockland- Alan Cron

Stoughton-

West Bridgewater- Patricia Oakley

Whitman-Hanson- Jeff Szymaniak

**L. Acceptance of Staff Resignations, Terminations, and New Hires-handout at meeting**

**Motion:** Liz Legault made a motion to accept the staff resignations, terminations, changes in contract and hires. Peter Schafer seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

**M. Other Matters of Interest to the Superintendents**

1. Peter Schafer asked when was the last time NRC did a comparison for tuitions? Dr. Donovan advised that he would find that information.

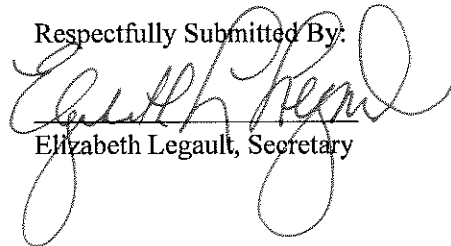
**V. Informational**

- A. Executive Director's Quarterly Report (handout at meeting)-Steve presented
- B. FY18 Medicaid Eligible Students-(**Enc. G**)
- C. Professional Development Offerings (**Enc. H**)
- C. Board Training -Ethics and Conflict of Interest-Pending
  1. Ethics Training Certificate- Szymaniak and Godino, *-please email cert. to Kelli*

**VI. Executive Session**

**Motion:** Liz Legault made a motion to adjourn, Patty Oakley seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 10:25AM

Respectfully Submitted By:



Elizabeth Legault, Secretary