A new board member orientation meeting was held at 6:00 PM

Karen Reuter, Sarah Molloy, Alli Schlachter, Aaron Buford, Bill Tomb, and Dan Hayes were in attendance.

Call to Order and Introductions – Dan Hayes

Dan Hayes called the meeting to order at 6:33 PM.

Getting to Know Each Other

Dan mentioned how meeting virtually has been difficult. Before the pandemic we had the half hour before each meeting to chat and get to know each other, but that hasn’t been possible so we wanted to take some time to get to know each other. The Board went through and introduced themselves, shared their reasons for joining their school committee and for being our representative, and their passions.

Public Comment

There were no public comments.

Approve Minutes of March 31, 2021 Board of Directors Meeting; May 17, 2021 Policy Committee Meeting; May 18, 2021 Finance Committee Meeting

- A copy of the minutes of the March 31, 2021 Board of Directors meeting was included in the Board packet on pages 2-12, with the slideshow from the presentation during that meeting on pages 13-30.

Dan explained that if a member was not at the meeting they do not have to vote nor abstain.

Jonathan Schmidt moved to approve the minutes of the 3/31/21 Board of Directors meeting. Laura Fallon seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. None abstained. None opposed and the motion passed unanimously.
A copy of the minutes of the May 17, 2021 Policy Committee meeting was included in the Board packet on pages 31-32.

Don Sluter moved to approve the minutes of the 5/17/21 Policy Committee meeting. Laura Fallon seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. None abstained. None opposed and the motion passed unanimously.

A copy of the minutes of the May 18, 2021 Finance Committee meeting was included in the Board packet on pages 33-38.

Jen Mallette moved to approve the minutes of the 5/18/21 Finance Committee meeting. Jonathan Schmidt seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. None abstained. None opposed and the motion passed unanimously.

Executive Director Search – Dan Hayes

Dan explained that the Executive Director search began with the Board setting parameters for the process. The process was very inclusive and we tried hard to make sure we cast a very wide net, really advertising in many areas and ways in order to attract a diverse pool of candidates. We had a lot of applications. They were screened and then whittled down and brought to a screening committee. Each committee was composed of a diverse group of people including superintendents, CES staff, community members, and Board members, with each person having their own diversity. The screening process was done blindly so names and any kind of indicator of age, race etc. was redacted so we could base moving those candidates to an interview committee on skills and qualifications. The screening committee moved 14 candidates on to be interviewed. Two candidates withdrew before the interviews. From there we came out with three strong candidates to come before the Board. We had one withdraw before the Board interviews. The two finalists were given a series of questions and the Board voted to hire Todd Gazda. The contract has been signed so we will see him July 1st. Dan noted he appreciated everyone who contributed in many ways and listed out the members on each committee. He added that all along, he and Cheryl worked together and stayed in contact with the SJE (Social Justice & Equity) team at the Collaborative. He thinks it was a very inclusive process. Dan then thanked Karen Reuter who has been the Interim Executive Director and also serving as the Deputy Director, noting that she has done a great job with various tasks, such as sustainability at the Collaborative.

Hires & Separations for 3/16/21 – 5/15/21

A copy of the hires and separations report for the period of 3/16/21 - 5/15/21 was included in the Board packet on pages 39-40.

Dan explained that it’s a state requirement that every meeting the Board gets a list of everyone who has left and is hired.

Jonathan Schmidt moved to approve the hires and separations for the period of 3/16/21 - 5/15/21 as presented. Laura Fallon seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. None abstained. None opposed and the motion passed unanimously.

Financial Report – Barbara Siegel
• A copy of the Financials for the period ending 3/31/21 was included in the Board packet on pages 41-42.

Changes in Fund Balance

Barbara Siegel directed the Board to the Changes in Fund Balance document on page 41 and walked them through the following highlights:

• As of March 31st we have a ($58,545) deficit. Compared to where we were a year ago, ($521,073), this is a marked improvement.
• The program net amounts, found at the bottom of page 41, show that Operations & Business Development has a $79,000 surplus at the end of March. Birth to Age 22 has a ($204,329) deficit, the majority of which is due to our inability to take on more students at HEC Academy based on COVID restrictions and Professional Services has a $65,921 surplus.
• All three General Fund departments are in better financial shape than they were at the same time last year.
• Grants and Contracts have a net zero balance.

Statement of Activities

Barbara directed the Board to the Statement of Activities document on page 42, walked them through the following highlights. This report includes all changes to the budget for the period.

• This year we started with an overall budget deficit of ($1,125,065). Our staff worked hard to cut costs and we were able to eliminate the Shared Services portion of the deficit completely which is reflected in the Adjusted Budget column.
• We saw savings due to COVID such as: reduction in travel and staff development because there was no chance for staff to physically go to any professional development; the purchase of COVID supplies and capital improvements projects that were budgeted for FY21 but were already completed by June 30, 2020 and therefore charged to FY20.
• The Birth to Age 22 budget still remains at ($386,608). This deficit will likely remain at year end. We expect HEC Academy will have a ($350,000) deficit which is equivalent to 6 students. COVID restrictions around space limited our ability to bring in more students.
• The Professional Services budget remains at ($94,691) and will likely remain based on the anticipated deficit in the Licensure Program. Barbara met with the team this morning and heard about some of the specific ways COVID impacted the program. They had 7 candidates ready for their practicum who chose to defer it to next year. Those who chose to move forward did so in a hybrid/remote manner. They had budgeted for 50 new enrollees, but only reached half of that goal. The number of attendees at open courses was down and half of those would have taken the courses for grad credit, which provides additional revenue. Two cohorts out of Lowell didn’t progress as anticipated. The open enrollment course revenue is a loss forever but all the other lost revenue can be earned in the coming year as current candidates progress and new candidates enroll.
• Related Services will likely have a year end ($15,000) deficit. That is harder to pinpoint because we have contracts with schools to provide services to their students and there
are barriers between specialists and students. Unless they get in front of the student we cannot collect on that contract. While we always plan to provide all the contracted services, it’s not realistic to complete 100% of the work in a normal year and COVID was a major obstruction this year.

- There are about $350,000 worth of contracts currently in Salesforce which indicates that there is work to be completed by June 30th and it’s been reported that it’s highly likely all will be fulfilled. There’s another $40-50,000 that will be deferred to be completed in the next fiscal year.
- The Birth to Age 22 Special Revenue budget increased by almost $60,000 which represents a new $40,000 grant from the United Way of Pioneer Valley and a $20,000 increase to the Connecting Activities grant.
- Professional Services saw a decrease by about $55,000 due to program cuts in the Tobacco Cessation and TARC grants.
- DYS’s budget increased by $994,427 for Title I work which unfortunately does not include indirect.

Dan paused and asked Barbara to explain what indirect is for our new members. Barbara explained that the indirect is a line item expense charged to grants, contracts, and fee for service rates that is intended to cover the shared operating costs of the agency. The percentage that we can charge for indirect is usually determined by the funding source or a governing entity and the rate allowed can be anywhere from zero to 15%.

Barbara ended her report by reflecting on the amazing effort of the CES staff, with the support of the OCT, to eliminate $643,766 from the original ($1,125,065) budget deficit bringing us down to ($481,299). It has taken tremendous effort and restraint from all to reign in expenses and postpone every expenditure possible - not an easy accomplishment with a budget that is so lean to begin with. She expressed pride in her colleagues and gratitude for their collective efforts.

Barbara asked if there were any questions and there were none.

*Jen Mallette motioned to accept the 3/31/21 financials as presented. Jonathan Schmidt seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. None abstained. None opposed and the motion passed unanimously.*

Dan mentioned that this information goes to the Finance Committee first and listed the members of the committee. It gives us an opportunity to see what superintendents have to say about this, the budget and rates. Jen Mallette mentioned that this is a difficult year and gives a lot of credit for bringing down a deficit as large as it was, which is a lot of work.

*Jen Mallette motioned to accept the adjusted budget as presented. Don Sluter seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. None abstained. None opposed and the motion passed unanimously.*

**FY22 Draft Budget**

- A copy of the FY22 draft budget, which included FY22 rates, was included in the Board packet on pages 43-58.

Barbara walked the Board through the FY22 draft budget and rates with the following highlights:
Page 44 lists the assumptions used when creating the budget. No COLA was applied to the FY22 budget and just as there was no COLA applied to this year’s budget. Many of our grant applications have built in a 2% COLA as a placeholder in hopes that a COLA will be allowed before the year end.

The teachers and specialists step increase is included in the budget. The SEIS and DYS union members are receiving a negotiated FY21 2% COLA. DESE approved an FY21 COLA for the SEIS non-union employees, but since the rest of the agency doesn’t have the option, that is not being implemented. DYS did not approve non-union members to receive a COLA.

No increase to health insurance but dental insurance went up by 9%, unemployment went up from .08% to 1%, and there is no anticipated increase for workers compensation insurance.

The Non-member rate surcharge is capped at 25% above the member rate based on the CES Collaborative Agreement.

On page 57 is a list of all of the grants and contracts used in building this budget. In the past several years we have come with a number that’s a holding spot and that we don’t attribute to anything in particular - it has just been a goal. This year we approached it differently. Rather than having an abstract concept we looked at which departments need additional revenue to balance their budget and then we considered their previous track records bringing in new funds over time. This allowed us to reduce the risk of planning for unknown future revenue. While we don’t have an approval or contract in hand for everything on the list, it represents funds that we have tremendous confidence in receiving. We will continue the current practise of updating the board on our Special Revenue goals.

Received our PPP loan of $5,825,000 in FY20 which helped us to survive through the uncertainty and expense of COVID. It resides as a liability on our books as long as it remains a loan. We are applying for loan forgiveness and meet all the criteria. Were the loan forgiven the liability would be removed and the funds would be considered revenue in the year they are forgiven. We were very encouraged to learn that the TEC collaborative in East Walpole had their loan forgiven.

The total agency-wide budget is presented on Page 45. The FY22 budget is not balanced, if reflects a ($716,522) deficit to start the fiscal year. Having gone through this process with the OCT (Operational Continuity Team) and departmental heads, this budget reflects what it costs to operate this organization. There’s never been any fluff built into our budgets, but we tried to present a bare bones budget that does not compromise our ability to deliver the services.

Page 46 looks at the General Fund budget. This contains fees-for-services work and the Shared Services budget.

($351,467) of the deficit is within Shared Services. We could eliminate expenditures but then we would be decimating our ability to provide the services to our colleagues that are needed to operate.

The OCT was established at the start of COVID in order to understand how the threats from COVID could impact our financial position and what we could do to mitigate those threats. We are bringing more voices to the table with the intention to look at things differently, with varying perspectives. Their contributions have been instrumental in managing through this time.
● The ($413,717) deficit in Birth to Age 22 is primarily a result of budgeting for HEC Academy based on the number of students we believe we are able to safely enroll as opposed to starting with the maximum we could possibly enroll without COVID restrictions.
● Professional Services is showing a surplus of $48,673 that is an offset to the budgeted deficits in other areas of CES.

Jen asked if COVID guidelines changed in the Fall if that would change things for HEC Academy and how many students would be allowed. Karen confirmed that would be the case and added that what we tried to do is use current enrollment and what we anticipate referrals to be at the start of the school year, but we could see revenue and student numbers increase.

Barbara continued with the budget presentation:

● In the past when we had a surplus within a department, that department looked at how to use those funds within their department. We tend to be siloed but this year we’re asking everyone to look at the budget and see how they can help their colleagues in other departments to cover some of their deficit.
● Shared Services budget – it’s a large area of deficit and it is the structure of the organization. The member assessment is based on October student count. HEC Academy pays “rent”. We had two mortgages, one for 97 Hawley and one for 228 Pleasant Street until 2012 when we refinanced rolling the two into one. The “rent” is 40% of the mortgage which is based on the original mortgage for the school. Internal indirect is 12% for each department’s contribution towards the costs of Shared Services. Web Development and Marketing provide web hosting, web development services, and graphic design. Cooperative purchasing, and bank interest round out the list of revenue sources.
● On page 47 is the Shared Services line item budget. It includes details about contractual expenses which include some efficiencies and improvements both with our financial software and our HR software for onboarding and hiring, and funds for a consultant to help us write a capital plan, which is in direct response to the hope of receiving PPP loan forgiveness. If we do receive forgiveness, then we have to work to plan how to use those funds as there are limits on what we can do and in order to secure funds to either repair current buildings or purchase/development of a new building where we can be on one campus. We need a plan to evaluate the cost to stay vs the cost to move elsewhere. Once the capital plan is developed and should the Board approve it, it has to go to each district for approval. Once we have it we are then obligated to fund it. Right now it’s budgeted at $0 which we would amend were we to receive PPP forgiveness if the Board voted to establish the fund.
● On page 48 are the rates for Business Development’s services.
● Page 49 has the member assessment for FY22 and the previous three years.

Laura asked if the student count has been a topic of discussion with the superintendents as it shows the census is down by about 6% over last year. School committees and superintendents have been up in arms about this in regards to Chapter 70 funds. They expect that students who left during the pandemic will return. She asked if the legislature agrees to use accurate head counts to fund schools, are we also going to use accurate head counts for students for CES. Barbara and Karen said it has not been brought up with superintendents, but the OCT has
discussed this. There is a point at which we will have to address this and whether we’re going to raise a per pupil fee while being sensitive to our member districts.

Barbara continued with the budget presentation on page 50:

- Under Birth to Age 22 - Afterschool’s fee for service work has a surplus from the programs we currently run in Southampton and Granby and a new program in Hatfield. We anticipate a $17,710 surplus and if we have the attendance that Hatfield expects us to have that surplus will grow and potentially double.

- HEC Academy shows a ($278,591) deficit. Sherry Smith reports that the team has continued to refine the budget but the changes could not be included since the draft budget was already shared with the Board. Those changes will be seen in the adjusted budget at the September meeting financial report.

- Related Services has a deficit of ($152,838). The OCT is continuing to look more closely at the areas of concern. There were some changes implemented this year that increased revenue and we are gathering data on what other districts and collaboratives are charging. We still can’t cover our costs even though we increased our rates. Our rates are equal to the mid range charged in the Boston area. We have the highest rates in western MA. Our colleagues at Lower Pioneer Valley Educational Collaborative (LPVEC) eliminated their related services a few years ago, letting their entire staff go. They worked with Futures, who extended an offer to all the LPVEC specialists then LPVEC contracted with Futures to provide the services to their students. They did this because they could not afford to cover the costs of the specialists which is the very same predicament we find ourselves in at CES.

- Page 51 has rates for Birth to Age 22 - the Mt. Tom tuition has not increased this year. We anticipate that an increase will be needed next year. HEC Academy Summer School tuition was presented and approved at the January meeting. The proposed HEC Academy school year rate has a 2% increase to members and 16% increase to nonmembers.

- Related Services rates increased by 4-5% for members and 15% for non-members.

- DESE recommends we compare ourselves to all schools across the state. The programs that are listed on page 52 are in our neighborhood and like HEC Academy in terms of services they provide. We are well below local programs and far below state average.

- Page 53 shows the Professional Services budgets - they have a $48,000 surplus and all of their departments are breaking even.

- Page 54 has their rates where there are some increases. The yellow line for online courses means those have yet to be developed. That rate will come back in June if we have it and if not in September. Otherwise they are modest increases where there is one and in some cases it looks like a high percentage, but it’s modest dollars. For Transition Assessments, she doesn’t think we’ve changed that rate in 5 years.

- Special Revenue overview is on Page 55 – everything balances because all grants have a net zero budget.

- Page 56 shows the SEIS and DYS budgets. We received a new contract for SEIS effective on July 1, 2020. We used the FY21 DYS budget figures because the new contract has not been awarded yet for next year.

- Page 57 lists all grants and contracts that we used to develop this budget. There are three highlighted lines that reflect the programs we identified had a need and a high probability to bring in new revenue as was shared earlier in this report. Should any of the
three not be successful in acquiring the needed funding, we have planned remedies. We are prepared to postpone new hires or eliminate positions rather than take on the additional losses. The employees who would be affected are aware of the plans.

- The last page, Page 58 is a lexicon that consists of all the abbreviations we use at CES.

Barbara noted that the Board cannot vote on the FY22 Budget tonight per the Collaborative Agreement. You will be invited to vote on it at the June meeting.

Dan asked where we are with the DYS contract. Karen responded that we are hoping to get notification by June 1st of the result. Negotiations could take a full month, but we’d like to know if we’ve been selected as staff working in those contracts need to be notified quickly.

Jen asked if the percentages on Page 57 are indirect rate percentages. Barbara confirmed that they are. Those to the far right are the individual grant indirect rate and each department's cumulative rate is listed at the bottom of each department section.

**Policy Committee Update – Art Scott**

- A copy of the proposed policy updates and additions were included in the Board packet on pages 59-68.

Art walked the Board through the policy updates. The first one is the addition of the state holiday, Juneteenth, which we will make effective in the next fiscal year. Laura clarified the date is accurate, Art confirmed it is.

*Laura Fallon moved to approve the addition of Juneteenth as a CES Paid Holiday as of 7/1/21. Don Sluter seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. None abstained. None opposed and the motion passed unanimously.*

Art then walked the Board through the funeral policy changes. He explained that we’re loosening the terminology to recognize that not all family relationships are biological or traditional. We have added guardians as a proxy for non-biological parents and aunts, uncles and cousins to that same group for a three day benefit. We also added a new benefit of one day for a friend or colleague. The idea is it would be flexibly managed in terms of employee needs.

*Jen Mallette moved to approve the updated Funeral / Bereavement Leave policy. Don Sluter seconded the motion.*

Before the roll call vote was taken, Dan opened the floor up for discussion.

There was a question regarding if it’s retroactive or not. Karen said the intention was to start July 1st.

Bill Tomb asked if we would be changing this policy if it were not for COVID. Art responded that’s a hard question and we did make similar changes a few years back to break up some of the most traditional family language. We were definitely motivated by COVID in this case and seeing people concerned about different losses, but this also reflects CES’ general direction in reflecting on all of our policies. Karen added that it also reflects the SJE principle around community of care and it’s brought to light this year that it would be in line with this particular principle. Don noted that Franklin County Tech did a similar thing about a year and a half ago. Dan added that things do change and evolve and oftentimes HR is seeing these issues percolate so this culminates to a response.
A discussion followed around the flexibility of the policy and how it could potentially be abused. Dan noted that this conversation happened in the Policy Committee as well and the sentiment seemed to be they wanted to give some flexibility with oversight. This will be monitored and if we need to change the policy we certainly can, but it reflects the sentiment of what’s happening.

A roll call vote was taken (motion and second above). None abstained. None opposed and the motion passed unanimously.

Dan thinks it's good to ask good questions and express opinions and it's good to have a really robust conversation and thanked everyone for that.

Art then walked them through the public records policy. CES has not historically had an agency policy. We’ve relied on the law, which as you know was updated a few years back. Following that we’ve had a significant increase in the number and variety of public records requests. It’s been something that from time to time requires a fair amount of time so we want to be clear about where our obligations begin and end and that we would follow the law. If it takes too long we may charge for copies and charge for time. It very much reflects the Secretary General’s guide to the public records law so we’re just reflecting what the law requires and allows.

Don Sluter motioned to approve the addition of the Public Records Request policy. Jen Mallette seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. None abstained. None opposed and the motion passed unanimously.

Strategic Planning Update – Karen Reuter

Dan introduced the topic noting we have entered into a strategic planning process. Karen noted that we have been working with Strategy Matters on this. The Strategy Matters team was engaged in a very extensive stakeholder engagement process, which included a Board focus group – she gave her appreciation for their participation in this. Up until the beginning of May Strategy Matters was engaged with interviews, surveys, and focus groups. It’s been such a demanding and challenging year, but we were able to get a superintendents focus group as well. After that we developed a SWOT analysis. They presented to both the Strategic Planning committee and our Social Justice & Equity (SJE) leadership team. It was a really thoughtful and critical discussion. The week of May 11th we had anticipated we’d present the SWOT analysis and then two days later go into goal setting. Once we dug into the results of the SWOT analysis though there was a lot of discussion around if we have collected all of the necessary stakeholder input we needed internally and externally. By the Thursday meeting that week Strategy Matters did come back with condensed themes from the SWOT analysis. External stakeholders say we do great work and it’s very important to know that who we work for believes in the work. The other piece is CES staff really value one another and their efforts. What’s emerging is that SJE is going to lead our next strategic plan. It’s really infused in all the work we do, but it looks different in each department, but it’s there. An area for growth is there are some obstacles to internal collaboration. She noted that Barbara spoke to the siloing to the nature of how the programs exist. We may need to do a better job keeping each other informed. We owe it to each other that we are communicating within the agency as well as to our external partners. There is some concern that multiple funding sources are driving some of our internal equity issues. Strategy Matters is taking a step back and looking at the information gathered from staff and putting together a couple of options for our work plan. The Strategic Planning team, with about 12 members from across the agency, will lead with this. With the new Executive Director
it’s important to include Todd and allow him the opportunity to get up to speed so he can be a critical part of moving that forward. We are waiting on Strategy Matters to bring us some proposals. It’s most likely we will get a plan to the Board in September. It’s important we really dig deep and if we skip a step and don’t understand the information we might not hit the mark.

Dan added that having participated in some of those sessions, as Christy alluded to in regards to how our Board meetings go, he kind of feels the same way in participating in the whole process. We’ve all gone to conferences and workshops and you listen to the keynotes but oftentimes when you learn the most or have some sort of enlightening experience is when walking down the hallway or through the connections you made while sitting down at lunch. The Zoom session took away being able to have those. You’re listening to a speaker then all of a sudden are sent into a breakout room then back in another spot. He thinks that the human connection makes a difference. Karen noted that the consultants have asked about how we’re doing about people coming together again and if we can consider that.

2021-2022 Board Meeting Schedule

- A copy of the draft 2021-2022 Board meeting schedule was included in the Board packet on page 69.

He’s hoping that by now everyone has had an opportunity to plug into their phones and calendars the dates. Barbara wondered if there is an appetite for the June meeting to be moved to June 22nd rather than 29th. We are required by law to have the budget approved by the Board, Certified by the Treasurer and distributed to every member district’s School Committee Chair by June 30th. Dan noted that it’s always challenging so perhaps we move a date to where it makes it more feasible to get the information out appropriately that makes sense. The one fall back is hopefully we can at least get the Executive Committee to get that final vote if there is not a quorum. Dan asked if people feel okay moving the date. All were okay. The date of the June meeting in 2022 will be moved to June 22nd.

Interim Executive Director’s Report – Karen Reuter

- A copy of the Interim Executive Director’s report was included in the Board packet on pages 70-97.

Karen noted that given the time, she wants to give the following highlights:

- Graduations – The class of 2021 for HEC Academy will be 9 students, which will be a great problem to have. Mt. Tom will be graduating 4 students. 2 of those actually finished well before December, but we’re excited they’re coming back to graduate with their class.
- The Family Institute for Student Success (FISS) from DESE - The department came to us to leverage the Collaborative and its member districts to bring the program to Western Massachusetts. It’s primarily in urban districts in the eastern side of the state. Because we have small districts it will pair up our 21st Century Community Learning Center resources with district resources. The model comes from an organization in California and through grant funding DESE will provide the curriculum to us so we can share it with districts. The first launch will be Amherst Middle School. We’ve done some training with Parent Institute for Quality Education (PIQE) in California and hope to be able to expand...
that into member districts. They do parent graduations so maybe at the close of next year we can give some video of that event.

- DYS Art Showcase which happens annually is virtual this year. We’ve shared the link so you can minimally take a look at some art the students in our programs have created.
- We’ve been monitoring the potential change in remote participation in the Open Meeting Law. It may be rescinded as of June 15th. We’re looking for that information, but we’re not sure if that will impact our June meeting or not so we’ll keep everyone posted.
- Operational Continuity Team – we would not have been able to cut this deficit without the work of a lot of people, good thinking, and Barbara's numbers. She wanted to point out the participants in the group in her report.
- We often talk about the prevention needs assessment that SPIFFY does and it gives us very important information about our students. She read through the summarized results, which is included in the report. Clearly students still feel cared for and supported.

The Amherst Mobile Market: Cultivating Change video that is linked on page 75 was shown to the Board.

The Mobile Market is an effort to put power and decision making back into the hands of those people in the community. We hope to highlight more of their work next time.

We did apply for our pre-approved provider vendor status for Special Education, Co-Teaching and Inclusion and English Language Learners and that status is now valid through 2025. That’s very important for our sustainability. It means we can apply for grants that only a contingent of organizations can apply for.

Lastly, Kathy Levesque and our leader in Development are working on communications with our districts. We need to make a slightly different effort in this area. There was a conversation in the Finance Committee meeting about if members are choosing organizations other than CES. We are also working on a development plan, which we have not done before. We have been more reactive to what is coming out. To be more sustainable we are looking at what efforts we can put into motion to have a little more control over the resources we do secure. We’re hoping that plan will be complete by the early Fall.

**Topics of Board Interest**

Dan let the Board know that if they ever have an item they’d like to discuss to please send it to himself, Sarah, or Karen and we will do what we can to address concerns, needs, or thoughts.

Dan noted that the video was phenomenal. It was motivating and inspirational. For new people this is just one of the many things that people in CES do to serve students, families, and communities. He’s always so proud to be a part of this organization.

Laura brought up that she could have sworn we did get a legislation update that they filed the extensions for the remote participation. Karen confirmed that since we created this document they did file for an extension, but there is not a decision. There was then some conversation around how many of the Board members’ school committees are going in person or have a plan to.

**Adjournment**
Dan thanked everyone for their participation, questions, and contributions. The meeting adjourned at 9:02 PM.