

**Special Education Cost Model Task Force
Minutes of Meeting (conference call)
January 31, 2019**

Call to Order

Pursuant to notice filed with the Secretary of the State, the Special Education Cost Model Task Force by teleconference.

Matthew Galligan, chair, called the meeting to order at 1:06PM.

Task force members in attendance:

- Kathy Demsey, Chief Financial Officer, State Department of Education
- Stephen DiCenso, Consulting Actuary, Milliman, Inc.
- Liz Donohue, Designee of the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management
- John Flanders, Executive Director, Connecticut Parent Advocacy Center
- Matthew Galligan, Town Manager, South Windsor (Chair)
- Marie Salazar Glowski, Assistant Executive Director, Connecticut Association of Schools
- Michael Grove, Assistant Superintendent for Operations and Finance, Meriden Public Schools
- Patrice McCarthy, Deputy Director and General Counsel, Connecticut Association of Boards of Education
- Jan Perruccio, Superintendent, Old Saybrook Public Schools
- David Scata, Executive Director, Connecticut Council of Administrators of Special Education

Task force members absent:

- Jeffrey Kitching, Executive Director, EdAdvance
- Jeyaraj Vadiveloo, Director, Goldenson Center for Actuarial Research, University of Connecticut

Others in attendance:

- Rakesh Beniwal, Morgan Lewis, LLP
- Martha Deeds, Connecticut School Finance Project
- Janet Grace, Connecticut Department of Insurance
- Mary Glassman, Capitol Region Education Council
- Lisa Hammersley, Connecticut School Finance Project
- Cara Hart, Capitol Region Education Council
- Melinda Kauffman, Pullman & Comley, LLP
- Michael McKeon, Pullman & Comley, LLP
- Orlando Rodriguez, Connecticut Education Association
- Scott Sobel, AON
- Mark Sommaruga, Pullman & Comley, LLP
- C.J. Strand, Connecticut School Finance Project

1. Review and acceptance of November's meeting minutes

Task force members reviewed the draft meeting minutes from the November 5, 2018 task force meeting. Ms. Glowski asked for the following edits to be made: on page three, change

“seven” to “six; on page three, change “member” to “members;” on page three, second line, omit “the.” Mr. DiCenso asked that on page three it be made clear that AON’s benchmarking survey was mentioned in a discussion of the firm’s professional qualifications.

Ms. McCarthy moved, and Ms. Glowski seconded a motion to accept the minutes of the November 5, 2018 meeting, as amended.

VOTE ON MOTION

In favor: Demsey, DiCenso, Donohue, Flanders, Galligan, Glowski, McCarthy, Perruccio,

Opposed: 0

Abstained: Grove, Scata

Absent: Kitching, Vadiveloo

2. Update on the task force’s progress to date

Mr. Galligan apologized for the cancellation of the December task force meeting, explaining that it was due to his being hospitalized. Mr. Galligan discussed the need to extend contract deadlines with consultants. Ms. Perruccio asked whether the task force should discuss the initial discussion draft at this meeting. Ms. Donohue clarified that substantial changes were made to the initial draft, and the new draft will be different. Mr. Sobel confirmed that material changes have been made to the initial draft, and that further analysis is underway. Task force members agreed to review and discuss the second draft at the next meeting of the task force.

3. Review of DRAFT timeline for deliverables

Task force members reviewed a draft timeline of deliverables. Mr. Galligan clarified that the timeline includes target dates by week, not enforceable deadlines. Ms. Glassman, on behalf of CREC which is administering contracts on behalf of the task force, asked members to approve contract extensions that CREC submitted for review.

Mr. Galligan moved, and Ms. McCarthy seconded, a motion that the task force amend contracts with all vendors to extend the deadline until the report is completed, not to exceed June 30, 2019.

Discussion: Ms. Perruccio expressed concern that the timeline of deliverables was too tight. Mr. Galligan clarified that the timeline of deliverables is an internal document with target dates, not a part of the contract language. Ms. Demsey asked about the content of the contract language. Ms. Glassman informed the task force members that new language extends the original contracts to June 30, 2018 without specific deliverable deadlines. Ms. Demsey asked whether the contract could be extended, since the original deadline had passed. Ms. Glassman responded that yes, CREC’s attorney had reviewed the contract and that the vendors are in alignment with the updated language.

VOTE ON MOTION

In favor: Demsey, DiCenso, Donohue, Flanders, Galligan, Glowski, Grove, McCarthy, Perruccio, Scata

Opposed: 0

Abstained: 0

Absent: Kitching, Vadiveloo

4. Review of possible implementation timeline and process

Mr. Galligan presented an informational document which illustrates a possible implementation timeline for the Co-op. Mr. Scata agreed that the timeline is reasonable.

5. Scheduling of next task force meeting

Ms. Demsey, Ms. McCarthy, and Mr. DiCenso asked that the next meeting be held in-person. Ms. Perruccio asked that task force members have at least three days, and preferably one week, to read the draft feasibility reports from AON before the meeting is held. Task force members agreed to schedule the next meeting, in-person via scheduling poll.

6. Other Business

Mr. Galligan asked that task force members submit questions to him, in writing, after reviewing the draft feasibility study from AON, so that AON can prepare a presentation that speaks to the concerns of the task force.

7. Adjournment

Ms. Perruccio moved, and Ms. Glowski seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting at 1:40PM.

VOTE ON MOTION

In favor: Demsey, DiCenso, Donohue, Flanders, Galligan, Glowski, Grove, McCarthy, Perruccio, Scata

Opposed: 0

Abstained: 0

Absent: Kitching, Vadiveloo