



Mission: To work in partnership with districts to provide programs and services of the highest quality and to improve results for students.

Executive Director's Report: June 2014

The following topics are offered for discussion at our June Board meeting:

Status of Programs and Services. As of June 6, enrollment in CAPS programs was 97. Enrollment in specific CAPS programs from March 2014 to June 2014 is shown in the table below. We have received six (6) referrals since the May Board meeting. A spreadsheet with a projected profit/loss for FY 14 has been included in the handouts for the June Board meeting.

CAPS Enrollment by Program: March 2014 to June 2014					
<u>Program</u>	<u>March</u>	<u>April</u>	<u>May</u>	<u>June</u>	
Jr/Sr High	16	16	15	16	
Gateway	18	19	19	19	
Odyssey	5	4	4	4	
Kelly Day Pre	8	8	8	8	
Kelly Day Elem	8	8	8	8	
Kelly Day Middle	5	5	5	5	
Jr. Senators	8	8	8	8	
Sr. Senators	9	8	8	8	
Horizons	8	8	7	7	
Deaf pre	7	7	7	7	
LINK	7	7	7	7	
TOTAL	99	98	96	97	

Update on Status of Agreement/Board Appointments. As of June 6, we have received nine (9) Agreements signed by school committee chairs. We have received five (5) confirmations of reappointments of Board members. (We have received only two school committee minutes confirming these appointments.) Follow-up letters have been sent to school committee chairs of districts that have not sent signed CAPS Agreements or written confirmation of CAPS Board appointments.

DESE/Collaborative Developments. The five Central MA collaboratives are scheduled to meet on June 12 at South Worcester Educational Collaborative. More information on DESE/MOEC initiatives will be shared and discussed at this meeting. Relevant information from this meeting will be reported to Board members.

New Initiatives – Bussing/DHHP/Other New Programs

Bussing. CAPS has been asked to explore transportation services as a new initiative and revenue-generator. As a first step, I have asked the issue of bussing to be placed on the agenda for the Central MA Collaborative meeting mentioned above. (Both Assabet Valley Educational Collaborative and South Worcester Educational Collaborative offer bussing to their districts.) My intent in placing it on the agenda is to use this as a first step toward a meeting of collaborative transportation directors.

Consultations & Program Evaluations: Walker/League School. CAPS has continued to solicit expert advice on improving our programs and practices. On June 5, I met with Frank Gagliardi, (Director of the League School) and Jim Earley (Director of Walker School Partnerships) to continue dialog on program improvement. Both generously provided helpful advice free of charge, but potential follow-up meetings are being discussed.

Programs for Deaf/Hard of Hearing Students. As reported previously, CAPS is exploring the development of a deaf/hard of hearing classroom for students from Austine School for the Deaf in Brattleboro, Vermont. (The school is closing but planning on re-opening in 2016.) CAPS staff visited Austine on XXX and discussion of the number of students and their needs were discussed. Five potential students for the program have been identified. Discussions have been held with Winchendon administrators regarding placing the classroom at either the Winchendon middle or high school. Discussions are being held with district special education directors.

K-1 programs. On a related topic, the CAPS Preschool for Deaf/Hard of Hearing students is likely to have nine students in the very near future. Three of these students are ready to transfer to a comparable K-1 program. At the same time, the Kelly Day Preschool program is also receiving multiple referrals. Therefore, a K-1 program at Hubbardston Center School is being explored as well.

Additional Information on new hires and donations.

New Hires. An assistant teacher, Michelle O’Leary, has been hired to assist with a student with intensive needs from the Gill Montague district. (The potential enrollment date in the Sr. Senators program is Tuesday, June 10. This student is not included in the enrollment count in table above.) Ms. O’Leary’s resume is available upon request. The resumes of two other summer employees, Peter Pianka and Ed Verrochi, are also available upon request. Both Mr. Pianka and Mr. Verrochi are licensed teachers who have worked for CAPS as assistant teachers in our extended school year (ESY) programs for several summers. They have applied for assistant teacher positions for our ESY 2014 programs.

Donations. CAPS has received three more donations in memory of Mr. DeCarolis. These three donations total \$250.00. (A donation of \$100.00 was made by the grandmother of the student in our Kelly Day High School program. The grandmother makes a donation every year.) The three donations bring the grand total of donations in the memory of Mr. DeCarolis to \$1,210.00. As mentioned previously, CAPS greatly appreciates the generosity of Mr. DeCarolis and his family. Letters of thanks have been sent to the family as well as to all donors.