

**BELMONT SCHOOL COMMITTEE MINUTES
SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION BUILDING CONFERENCE ROOM
March 16, 2012**

Present: Ms. Laurie Graham, Chair
Ms. Rebecca Vose, Secretary
Ms. Laurie Slap
Mr. Dan Scharfman
Mr. Kevin Cunningham
Ms. Anne Lougee
Dr. Thomas Kingston, Superintendent of Schools
Ms. Janice Darias, Assistant Superintendent

Also present: Dorsey Yearley, Executive Director of EDCO

1. OPEN SESSION

1.1 Ms. Graham called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. in the conference room of the School Administration Building.

1.2 Ms. Yearley updated the Committee on the legislative changes which will necessitate changes to the structure of the EDCO Collaborative. Ms. Yearley has been meeting with School Committees of member districts to explain the law that was precipitated by problems at another Collaborative.

EDCO is made up of two entities; one of which is private and the other public. The private collaborative (Education Collaborative for Greater Boston - ECGB) was founded in 1969 and consists of 21 member districts (Acton, Acton-Boxborough, Arlington, Bedford, Belmont, Boxborough, Brookline, Carlisle, Concord, Concord-Carlisle, Lexington, Lincoln, Lincoln-Sudbury, Newton, Sudbury, Waltham, Watertown, Wellesley, Weston, Winchester, Archdiocese of Boston). The Seefurth Fund which provides grants and support for professional development, and Wrentham Habilitative Services, providing support to adults are also part of ECGB. The Board of ECGB consists of 2 voting members from each district, a Superintendent and a School Committee member.

EDCO was founded in 1988 and consists of 20 member districts (Acton, Acton-Boxborough, Arlington, Bedford, Belmont, Boxborough, Brookline, Carlisle, Concord, Concord-Carlisle, Lexington, Lincoln, Lincoln-Sudbury, Newton, Sudbury, Waltham, Watertown, Wellesley, Weston, and Winchester – the Archdiocese is not part of EDCO). The Board consists of one voting member from each District, a Superintendent or a School Committee member.

Ms. Yearley explained that EDCO is proposing to dissolve the Corporation which would mean disbanding ECGB. A single Board would be created and all the contracts from the private entity (ECGB) will be transferred to EDCO. The Archdiocese of Boston will become a member of EDCO; however, since they are private, they cannot be a voting member.

Ms. Yearley stated that this new structure will allow for more transparent oversight. The member districts will be required to vote on dissolving the private agency with a 2/3rds vote needed. The Belmont School Committee plans to vote at their next meeting on March 27th.

9. ADJOURNMENT

At 11:00 a.m on a motion offered by Becky Vose and seconded by Kevin Cunningham, it was

VOTED unanimously (6-0) to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted by



Rebecca Vose, Secretary



Education Collaborative for Greater Boston, Inc.

Governance Changes Required by New Collaborative Legislation

Presented to the Belmont School Committee
March 16, 2012

Dorsey Yearley, Executive Director

ECGB, Inc. and EDCO Today

Education Collaborative for Greater Boston, Inc.

*21 Member Districts
2 Voting Board Members per District*

Programs:

- Seefurth Fund
- BPS/Archdiocesan Program
(NCLB Titles I & II)
- Wrentham Habilitative Services

EDCO Collaborative

*20 Member Districts
1 Voting Board Member per district*

Programs:

- Special Education Programs
- Special Member Programs
- Special Ed Transportation
- Professional Development
- LABBB Management
- State and Federal Contracts
 - Surrogate Parent Program
 - EDCO Youth Alternative
 - Mass Migrant Education

**Joint administration for both
EDCO and ECGB, Inc.**

Proposed New Structure

EDCO Collaborative

20 Member Districts

1 Voting Board Member per district

Administration and Programs

- Special Education Programs
- Special Member Programs
- Special Education Transportation
- Professional Development
- Seefurth Fund
- LABBB Management
- State and Federal Contracts
 - Surrogate Parent Program
 - EDCO Youth Alternative
 - Mass Migrant Education
 - BPS/Archdiocesan Program (NCLB Titles I & II)
 - Wrentham Habilitative Services

Decision Making Process

- Thorough and transparent process
- Oversight agencies involved
- Requires action by both Boards and by Member Districts

Cost/Benefit Analysis

- Maintaining Separate Agencies
- Terminating Contracts
- Consolidating Agencies

Next Steps

- Member School Committees must vote on motion to dissolve the private agency
- Boards will vote on any further required actions on May 10, 2012

Draft Motion

"I move that the Belmont School Committee vote to dissolve ECGB, Inc. by June 30, 2012 or as soon as legally possible thereafter, and further that our representatives for EDCO and ECGB, Inc. be authorized to take all necessary steps to transfer all programs, contracts and available assets, including the Seefurth Fund, from ECGB, Inc. to EDCO by the close of the fiscal year on June 30, 2012, or as soon as legally possible thereafter."

EDCO Collaborative

Education Collaborative for Greater Boston, Inc.

EDCO and ECGB, Inc. at a glance:

Education Collaborative for Greater Boston, Inc.
Founded 1969

Board: *2 Voting Members from each District, both a Superintendent and a School Committee Member*

Budget: *\$3.4 million*

Staff:

<i>Salaried</i>	<i>52</i>
<i>FTE's</i>	<i>41.5</i>
<i>Benefits Eligible</i>	<i>40</i>

<i>Hourly</i>	<i><u>33</u></i>
Total	85

Programs:

- *Seefurth Fund*
- *State and Federal Contract Programs:*
 - *BPS/Archdiocesan Program*
 - *Wrentham Habilitative Services*

Members:

Acton, Acton-Boxborough, Arlington, Bedford, Belmont, Boxborough, Brookline, Carlisle, Concord, Concord-Carlisle, Lexington, Lincoln, Lincoln-Sudbury, Newton, Sudbury, Waltham, Watertown, Wellesley, Weston, Winchester, Archdiocese of Boston

EDCO Collaborative
Founded 1988

Board: *1 Voting Member from each District, either a Superintendent or School Committee Member*

Budget: *\$10.8 million*

Staff:

<i>Salaried</i>	<i>66</i>
<i>FTE's</i>	<i>63.3</i>
<i>Benefits Eligible</i>	<i>65</i>

<i>Hourly</i>	<i><u>82</u></i>
Total	148

Programs:

- *Special Education Tuition Programs*
- *Special Member Programs*
- *Special Education Transportation*
- *EDCO Seefurth Education Center*
(providing professional development)
- *LABBB Management*
- *State and Federal Contract Programs:*
 - *Special Education Surrogate Parent Program (with FCSN)*
 - *EDCO Youth Alternative*
 - *MA Migrant Education Program*

Members:

Acton, Acton-Boxborough, Arlington, Bedford, Belmont, Boxborough, Brookline, Carlisle, Concord, Concord-Carlisle, Lexington, Lincoln, Lincoln-Sudbury, Newton, Sudbury, Waltham, Watertown, Wellesley, Weston, Winchester