

## **MSLA Executive Board Meeting Executive Summary**

March 14, 2012

Chelmsford High School

**Attending:** Amy Bloom, Nancy Boutet, Michael Deschenes, Valerie Diggs, Julie Farrell, Gerri Fegan, Linda Friel, Sharon Hamer, Cecily Houston, Sandy Kelly, Judi Paradis, Ann Perham, Kathleen Porter, Amy Short, Christine Steinhauser, Maureen Tannetta, Carrie Tucker, Lynn Weeks

The consent agenda was approved unanimously

**Conference wrap up:** Overall feedback from our annual conference was positive. Positive comments were received about the speakers, venue, exhibitors' hall, and authors. We had a very good attendance, and drew in new members. It was recommended that we continue to bring in big names at our conferences, and that our board members who attend national conferences continue to look for appropriate speakers. We expressed thanks to Linda Coviello for a great job organizing the bookmark contest and judging event, and to Sandy Kelly for setting up the Author Fest.

**ALA Elections and Promoting School Library Candidates:** Ann Perham expressed an interest in advocating MSLA members support school librarian Barbara Stripling in her candidacy for ALA president, and that we encourage our members to vote in the upcoming AASL ballot asking for a rules change. She will be explaining these issues on the MSLA listserv.

**MSLA Election:** The MSLA election needs to take place by April 1 and the ballot will be released soon. Judi Paradis is the candidate for president-elect. A question regarding members' willingness to participate in legislative lobbying efforts is expected to be added to the ballot.

**NESLA Leadership Summit:** Gerri Fegan said that the [conference on March 2 in Manchester NH](#) should be terrific, and is a good opportunity for area directors to see an emerging model for offering professional development. However, right now we do not have high numbers of registrants and Gerri is concerned. Gerri encouraged people to consider attending.

**Legislation Day:** Our Legislation Day is now April 11 and plans are complicated this year. We have not been able to book our usual space, and we cannot offer lunch this year. The day is fractured, with MLA and MSLA holding events in separate spaces at separate times. It is going to be very different from past events. We need to set up schedule for bookmark contest and award to Rep. Garballey. Tour of State House is set up at 11:15. MLA is meeting in separate location and will hold an award ceremony for Rep. Kate Hogan from 12:00-12:30. There was much discussion about need to coordinate this much better coordination with MLA to ensure

good date, good space and a coordinated schedule. Valerie said she will request a meeting with with MLS after Legislation Day to talk about how to have a better experience next year.

**National Association School Boards:** This group is holding its annual conference on Sunday, April 22 we need some people who can staff a booth for AASL.

**Committee to look at updating rubrics and standards:** Amy Short, Kathleen Porter, and Susanna Hall volunteered to start investigating how to proceed with this project.

**Resource Lists:** Cathy Rosenstock from Marlborough put out a request for help in identifying resources for grade 7 science. This led to a discussion of whether it would make sense to create resource lists that would support specific areas of the Common Core curriculum. We determined it would make sense to look at the curriculum K-12 and start with one discipline and follow the standards. Valerie thinks that this would need some leadership from the board, and lots of participation from members. We identified a group to begin working on this project.

**Legislative Bill:** Judi said list of co-sponsors has been sent out via the listserv. Members have contacted her to say the bill seems to be well-received by legislators.

**MLS Strategic Planning Process:** There was a focus group held at the MSLA conference for school librarians. Information was collected regarding how school librarians use MLS, what they appreciate, what they value, what type of professional develop would be appreciated. There is another focus group coming in Whatley. There are now additional focus groups being run for other types of librarians.

There is also a school recertification process underway. We will ask MLS to post to our listserv again for this.

**Contest Idea:** We raised the idea of adding a multimedia contest to our annual bookmark contest to promote school libraries. It was an idea that was well-received by the board. We will continue to discuss this at later meetings.

**Summer Professional Development:** Our event from last summer was so successful that it would be nice to replicate this.

**Adjourn** –Ann moved to adjourn at 6:10