

Massachusetts School Library Association
Board Meeting Executive Summary
May 21, 2014

Attending: Amy Bloom, Kendall Boninti, Anita Cellucci, Valerie Diggs, Linda Friel, Laura Gardner, Sharon Hamer, Kathy Lowe, Judi Paradis, Kathleen Porter, Jennifer Reed, Amy Short, Carrie Tucker

Legislation: Judi Paradis reported that our school library bill is likely to pass. A committee within MSLA needs to be formed before fall and be ready to act after the Joint Committee on Education meets over the summer.

Teacher evaluation: Committee completed support document outlining proficient exemplars for school librarians and their evaluators. Carrie Tucker drafted an explanatory cover sheet, and Kathleen Porter agreed to proofread. Judi Paradis hopes to submit it to the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education by end of the school year.

Twitter chat: Amy Short reported that a recent MSLA Twitter chat on teacher evaluations was quite active. Some discussion followed about obtaining permission to use TRAILS as a measurement tool.

Membership: Board voted to extend free MSLA membership to students in school library licensure programs. A second vote is planned for June meeting. Jennifer Reed is conducting a survey of MSLA members to gather information about why they are members in order to inform the Board membership decisions moving forward and also to promote the value of membership within the profession.

Executive director evaluation: The board approved Judi Paradis' positive evaluation of Kathy Lowe. MSLA is fortunate to have an executive director who can also serve as a public face for MSLA.

Budget: Kathy Lowe said MSLA's budget reserve is appropriate. In order to maintain our financial condition in light of predicted decline in conference attendance and membership, we need to explore ways to reduce spending.