

**Executive Summary: Executive Board Meeting
Massachusetts School Library Association
October 19, 2011**

Attending: Leigh Barnes, Amy Bloom, Nancy Boutet, Valerie Diggs, Cindy Erle, Linda Friel, Susanna Hall, Sharon Hamer, Laura Hibbler, Kathy Lowe, Judi Paradis, Ann Perham, Eleanor Rogers, Christine Steinhauser, Maureen Tannetta, Liz Vezina, Lynn Weeks

Legislative Committee: Rep. Sean Garballey drafted legislation for a state-level commission to evaluate and make recommendations for school library programs. After reading the proposed legislation we recommended specific revisions that we will share with Rep. Garballey. Once this legislation is finalized, MSLA will set up a meeting with the Legislative Library Caucus.

Legislative Day: The annual joint MSLA-MLA Legislative Day is April 4 pending approval of the application.

Partners in Advocacy was cancelled due to low enrollment

Google calendar: is located under the MSLA home page—all the board dates and other dates are listed here.

Awards: Carrie Tucker posted a call for awards this week. We encouraged the awards chairs to send lots of emails to the listserv to publicize the awards.

Conference update: The conference committee met on September 20 at the Job Lane School in Bedford. They organized the School bookmark display and made other arrangements for the conference. Valerie reported that they will meet at Chelmsford High School on January 30 from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. for final planning.

An MSLA member from Western Massachusetts asked if there could be any sort of virtual conference option. We determined that this it is worth considering, but perhaps it is too close to this particular conference. The conference committee will discuss this in detail at its next meeting.

Kathy reported that 55 people registered so far, and the majority of members are coming for both days according to Kathy. She said this is encouraging, as last year most people signed up for just one day. Leigh asked if Kathy could let us know about the geographic distribution of those registering.

Hosting Legislative Breakfasts: Amy Bloom has been asked to host a legislative breakfast from the committee from the Metrowest Library region. Amy said that it did not require a huge amount of planning on her part and it was concluded by 9:30. If members cannot host one, they can certainly offer to co-host, and MSLA regions could offer some area director funds toward sponsorship. It might be worth asking our people to express interest in hosting one, and then see if we could go to various area committees and propose that we host some breakfasts at school libraries that have expressed interest.

Snapshot Day: Our next snapshot day will be April 12.

Standards were last updated in 2003. Valerie is hoping these can be updated. She is particularly interested in whether or not the quantitative sorts of standards we set forth are realistic. Valerie also thought the rubrics also needed updating. We will begin by calling for one committee to see where this leads.

MLS Workshops: Valerie and Kathy are meeting with leadership of MLS in November and will ask them about how we can best coordinate professional development to serve school librarians. One idea might be to offer the same workshops, planned in conjunction with MSLA, in different areas and at different times to enhance the ability of school librarians to attend and provide access to everyone.

Board members are asked to contact Valerie and Kathy if they have other concerns or questions to raise with MLS.

Creative Challenge Index: Dan Hunter of Hunter Higgs Consulting Firm met with Kathy and Valerie this past month. Hunter is an arts advocate. Governor has put together a 17 member commission to look at creativity in Massachusetts schools. Mitchell Chester is chairing the committee and the commission is charged with determining how to measure how creativity is being taught. Hunter said there will be public hearings on this issue, and Valerie said we should be prepared to attend and testify. Kathy also said he recommended that we host some of these meetings in our libraries.

The Forum: Ann asked for member news from the board.

Valerie adjourned meeting at 6:05