

Advisory Board Meeting Minutes FY17

MassCAN Advisory Board Meeting – Monday July 25, 2016

In attendance: Carole Mahoney, Bryan Jamele, Danielle Curcio, Eric Conti, Rick Adrion, Shereen Tyrrell, Tripp Jones, Jim Stanton

On the phone: Bethann Steiner

Absent: Hans Batra, Tom Hopcroft

Meeting chair: Steve Vinter

Agenda

Welcome, agenda review, minutes approval, scheduling Advisory Board meetings 09/16 - 06/17

Follow-up from last meeting

- State surveys
- Equipment grant Program
- Match opportunities -- MTLC, ECEP, JFF

Updates on Strategic framework

- Policy
- Coalition
- National Leadership

Finance update

Handouts

Subject Matter Knowledge Requirements for Teachers
What is MassCore?
Financial Report
Proposed Work Group Membership
MCAS Student Questionnaire and State Technology Survey

WELCOME AND AGENDA REVIEW, MEETING MINUTES, SCHEDULING AB MEETING 9/16 – 6/17

Meeting minutes – Discussion

- Steve asks if there are any questions or comments.

VOTE

Eric moves to accept the minutes of the June 15, 2016 meeting

Carole seconds

Yeas = unanimous

Scheduling meetings for next year – Discussion

- Jim asks if Wednesdays still work for everyone or whether we should consider holding meetings on another day.
- Wednesdays usually work for everyone and MITRE is a great location for all meetings using Google Cambridge for emergencies. There will be no August 2016 meeting therefore the first meeting of the year will be September 2016.

FOLLOW-UP FROM LAST MEETING

Eric's recommendation to follow up on his discussions with DESE re adding questions to State's Annual District Technology Survey and adding a question to the MCAS Student Questionnaire

Discussion

- Eric suggests that there are 2 types of questions on the state surveys: test taking logistics and content. Jim (Rick and Fred Martin and a couple teachers) will check with the state to see if we can get a couple questions inserted into the test
- Eric – By 2019 all districts are going to have to administer the standardized tests by computer and he wonders how prepared districts are to meet this requirement.

**JD Chesloff suggested we track proposed funds in 2016 Economic Development Bill for Mass Life Science Center equipment grants program and notify school districts/teachers interested in CS. Jim agreed to share the MLSC website information for distribution through the Computer Science Teacher Assn eastern and western MA listservs.

Summary of discussion with Jacobson Family Foundation re interest in Project Lead the Way and potential match letter

Discussion

- Jacobson Family Foundation – they are interested in funding computer science projects that are scalable models. They have been talking with Project Lead the Way. PLTW has just developed the middle school level curriculum and they have an elementary school curriculum. There is some potential that JFF funding of PLTW could count as partner match funding.

Several offers were made to solicit match fund letters: MTLC Education Foundation-- Verizon, Symantec and GoDaddy, ECEP Google CS\$HS

Discussion

- Match opportunities – MTLC, ECEP, Match letters – Shereen has been working with us to get letters from these organizations that will help MassCAN collect match funds. MassCAN has already received a partner match letter from Google for the ECEP CS4HS program.

UPDATE ON STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK FOR 2016 – 2017 – Steve led a discuss of the slide deck presentation

District Engagement: Enable a small (4-8) selection of traditional districts, turnaround districts, and charter networks to demonstrate the ability to scale computing education access broadly across their students

Discussion

- Districts actively discussion deep CS engagement
- ECEP (Rick Adrion is co-PI) and partners received \$300K NSF grant to kick-off planning for CS programming with school teams in Springfield and Holyoke. Rick's team is interested in working to get Holyoke and Springfield to work together, which logistically makes sense as well as the similarities of the demographics of the students. Rick will be working with researchers to 1) focus on school structures, 2) focus on girls in STEM, and 3) to focus on minority pathways in STEM. The outcome of ECEP & partners work on this project will result in a plan that can be shopped for a multi-year implementation grant for the two districts.
- Boston Public Schools (BPS)/GE have convened work groups over the summer to discuss the GE \$25M grant over 5 years to the BPS. The GE/BPS grant will be split with a third of the funds going to each of three areas: CS for All, STEM Professional Development and College and Career programs. The forthcoming plan will be shared with Superintendent Tommy Chang and the leadership of BPS. GE funds will be dedicated to focus on high schools so that the impact of the money is maximized. The GE/BPS CS for All program looks to, 1) build support throughout BPS administration, 2) develop capacity both within the BPC and with partners and then to roll plans out over 5 years, 3) focus on major PD push for training teachers in ESC, CSP and other CS PD programs.
- Somerville – based on the Superintendent's leadership in submitting an XQ proposal, MassCAN should explore their interest in a district CS planning grant.
- Currently the STEM Advisory Council is exploring potential funding discussed for school districts to develop plans to implement CS and Engineering programs.

Discussion

- Eric Conti suggested that high need schools be paired with high performing schools to share best practices as part of the model for district CS Planning grants.

Policy: Complete the standards and frameworks policy activities, and put in place the long-term policy changes to make these changes sustainable, including teacher licensure, state college admissions, pre-service program development, and inclusions of CS in Mass Core

Discussion

- **Governor Baker has directed all state departments to review and streamline regulations. Thus, DESE is reviewing all licensure regulations and this is a good time for the new CS licenses to be included in this process. Once the licenses (grades K-5 & 6-12) have been approved, the Licensure Work Group will then (1) work with Pearson to develop a MTEL (Mass Teacher Education Licensure) exam for each of the two licenses, and (2) work with**

university teacher preparation programs to develop course to prepare teachers to pass the MTEL exams. We will need members from AB and Leads to join and expanded Work Group to accomplish the tasks successfully.

- DESE is planning regional public awareness sessions for DLCS Standards. Jim will work with Ken Klau and Anne DeMallie of MA DESE and Shelley Chamberlain of MassCUE to recruit additional members to join this Work Group and develop a robust strategy for creating broad public awareness of the new standards.
- Shereen Tyrrell of MTCL Education Foundation is leading the collaboration with the BPS for engaging the business community in December's Hour of Code activities
- MassCAN is collaborating with Secretary of Education Peyser to support his efforts to explore including a CS course as part of MassCore

**Eric – suggests that we come up with boilerplate language that is vetted by MassCAN

National Leadership: MassCAN has a firm commitment from Google to support a national conference focusing on “Building State Capacity for Leadership in K-12 Computer Science Education” in the January/February 2017 timeframe.

Jim is exploring:

- The engagement of additional partners as co-sponsors of the conference, and
- Organizing a one-day planning meeting for 10-12 lead conference attendees in early October.

Coalition + Collective Impact – Steve and Tripp reviewed the history and purpose of MassCAN's exploration of consulting support to assist our engaging in a Collective Impact process to better utilize the many contributions of Advisory Board and Leads members and possibly additional partners and to better focus and measure our work going forward. Tripp reviewed the key elements of the Collective Impact approach as set forth in John Kania's Collective Impact article (previously sent to the Advisory Board):

- Common Agenda
- Shared Management Systems
- Mutually reinforcing Activities
- Continuous Communications
- Backbone Support Organization

Discussion

There was broad agreement that this topic needs both a crisp presentation to clarify major benefits and more discussion by the Advisory Board

- Carole – we need to identify what our inputs and outcomes are that we want to see in order to convey them to FSG/consultants.
- An extended review of the Collective Impact process and role of consultants should be the first topic for next meeting

- We should be thinking of our long-term as well as our short-term goals.

ACTION: Candace will send Kania article again and Steve, Jim and Tripp will report on meetings with consultants and lead a discussion of the potential value of the CI process.

- Finance update. The MassCAN Financial Dashboard was presented highlighting activities in the following categories: fundraising, spending, state funding available, proposals to be submitted, match approvals and funding requests

VOTE:

Carole motions to adjourn, Eric seconds, Yeas = unanimous