

## 8/22/19 GPR Meeting Minutes

**Members Present:** Ruth Crowell, Hilarie Kennedy, Suzanne Jones and Anne Bureau. Guest MASP member - Robert Williams, Kathy Gillis (3-4pm)

Review and accept minutes from previous meeting

- Unanimously adopted through vote

### Old Business:

1. Consider lobbyist recommendation:

- Do we need a lobbyist?
  - o Been discussed for a while as an organization, many have expressed it could be helpful
  - o Some concerns about cost, discussion of a potential trial period followed by evaluation of effectiveness
  - o DOE meeting showed us how quickly legislation moves, lobbyist would keep us in the know and able to address items as they arise
  - o Allows us to know if our professional name comes up on legislation and allow us to respond and be aware as needed
  - o Committee agrees there is a need for this service
- Review of Lobbyists being considered
  - o Bob Howe (works with similar organizations in Maine)
  - o Betsy Sweet (background, knowledge, resources)
  - o Newell Auger (adaptable, easy to work with, previous work with us)
  - o More people interested in helping/broader involvement
- What we need to do to secure this service:
  - o Define what we want and see if that fits into their fee structure, and what does this look like for billing (e.g., monthly?)
- Other considerations
  - o Designated contact person between MASP and lobbyist
  - o Immediate communication to GPR on items that are of immediate interest or concern, review of legislative report at each meeting
  - o Can we afford this? What does the budget look like in general?
    - Previously more of an informal, fluid process, working to develop more formalized systems
    - Projected budgeting \$6,000-\$10,000. Discussed the possibility of starting with this at the lower end and review the service as it goes by the month
- Develop a proposal to submit to Executive Committee
  - o What we are asking for from lobbyist: what kinds of bills and other information do we want to track
  - o Formalize billing structure
  - o Examples and background as to why
- Motion: As a committee we present to the EB our choice of interviewing and hiring Robert Howe to serve us as our lobbyist
  - o Suzanne Jones willing to set up a meeting with him in September to finalize costs and services based on our thoughts

2. CDS Transition – Discuss any further steps to be taken at this time

- MASP liaison to DOE on CDS
- Upcoming meeting, what do we want to know (see below)

3. Meeting with Ann Belanger, DOE:

- RTI/MTSS including Behavioral/Mental Health:
  - o state hasn't posted anything new on website suggesting lack of investment in RTI/MTSS
  - o Can we connect with the regular Ed DOE committee on this and offer our services?
  - o What can we do to help support the ongoing development of these programs within the State?
  - o After the recent grant, where do we see things going from here?

- CDS Transition: are there districts we can look at as a model for what the upcoming expectations of this would look like (Anne B will follow up with questions for this meeting) what kinds of assessments are we thinking about using
  - Is there any discussion about out of state placements? Surrogates?
- MaineCare Reimbursement: while there is a rate specific to licensed psych examiners, is it possible to consider including 093s at the same rate?
- Concerns: Certification Process for out of state/country people
- Any other people we may want to have as contacts as things come along for us and would you be willing to help introduce us/forge that connection?
- School Advocacy Week update (next meeting/Aaron)

### **New Business**

1. Role of School Psychologists
2. School Psychologist Shortage
3. Compensation (Professional Standards committee is looking into a format for evaluations and may be better suited to handle this item)
4. Other new business:
  - General discussion of Committee structure and procedures with questions and suggestions to be passed on to the Executive Board:
    - Some people are feeling as though they are not being invited to be involved. We need to “more inclusive”
    - Should there be a limit to committee membership size? Who decides this?
    - What about goals of committees? Who decides those?
    - Allow for organic growth (set minimum numbers) and include more when projects come up
    - Who decides who is on the committees?
    - Ruth and Hilarie will connect with other GPR members to hear their thoughts
    - Should committees be specific to a task and then disband when complete?
    - NCSP renewal certificate for participating in committees?
    - Lack of a membership committee and expanding our efforts to include members from the entire state as a way to service the needs of the whole state
    - How can we help people who are at a distance access MASP services
    - Certification Process
    - Discuss possibility of MASP liaison to Advisory Committee/Maine Principals Association/MePA
    - Next EB meeting discuss this with the Professional Standards Committee to see if they are able to/planning on/interested in taking this goal

### **Next meeting Agenda:**

- Review and accept minutes from 8/22 meeting
- Progress on hiring lobbyist
- Report on meeting with Ann Belanger at DOE – plan next actions
  - Discussed with Ann the Comprehensive Behavioral Health Model as presented by Andria Amador at our Fall Conference meeting. Spoke of the need for education/training for all educators around emotional-behavioral supports
- Update on CDS transition
- Update on advocacy day at Capitol Building
  - Date set for Tuesday January 14<sup>th</sup> at Hall of Flags
  - Next steps: finding others to join, getting materials, putting in for grant
- Update from EB
- Date and time for next meeting:
  - Thurs Sep 26<sup>th</sup> from 2-4pm at Suzanne Jones’ Home: 9 Muirfield Rd, Cumberland, ME 04021