



Julian E. MacDonnell, Jr., Executive Director

1st Quarter Report

July 1, 2013 – September 30, 2013

It is my pleasure to present to the Regional Board of Superintendents the 1st Quarter Report of the Southern Worcester County Educational Collaborative as mandated by the new Collaborative Legislation adopted July 1, 2012. Quarterly Reports are now a required element of the Collaborative Regulations, 603 CMR 50.00: Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. This Quarterly Report for July 1, 2013 through September 30, 2013 fulfills this mandated requirement.

The Southern Worcester County Educational Collaborative was established in 1978 as an Educational Collaborative servicing regular and special education students and families. Southern Worcester County Educational Collaborative services students ages 3-22 in a small, structured therapeutic and academic learning environment, paced to meet the needs of its students on an individualized basis. The Southern Worcester County Educational Collaborative program offers a strong academic component designed to accommodate the learning needs of our students and to encourage their motivation to achieve. The Southern Worcester County Educational Collaborative's mission is to provide programs and services to meet the unique educational needs of its member district through programs and services designed and best served by a collaborative effort.

Current FY 2014 Educational Programs

The Grow School

The Grow School is designed to service children in grades K-12 with social, emotional and behavioral disabilities. The Elementary Program is located in Southbridge and the Middle and High School Program is located in Dudley. The Grow School administration has evolved again this year with Mr. Ken Gillon becoming the new Director replacing Mr. Steve Duff. Ken has been with the SWCEC for 18 years as an Adjustment Counselor and brings his experience and dedication to this leadership position.

The Grow School this year has undergone a program enhancement with the expansion of the Career Development Program to 4 classrooms to meet the transitional needs of our students in

vocational work related opportunities. The Career Specialists are working diligently to find and support individualized work experiences for each student as they become more work ready by meeting behavioral indicators. This is a challenging undertaking yet the rewards are expected to reap lifelong benefits for our students.

The Grow School is also utilizing a virtual learning program, **Edgenuity**, for support in the differentiation and individualization of student learning at the high school level. This program is supporting Spanish instruction and differentiated advance Mathematics classes for our students. A special Virtual Learning Academy designed for students who have been expelled from their local Middle School or High School and continue to require educational access under Chapter 222 has begun and is meeting success. The program also provides opportunities to recoup lost academic credits in a standardized virtual environment.

FY 2014 Budgeted Enrollment: 114 students

1st Quarter Enrollment: 115 students

SWCEC Developmental Program

The SWCEC Developmental program services students ages 3-22 years old, in self-contained classrooms located within our member public schools. These students have a variety of developmental disabilities ranging from moderate to severe, including mild behavioral needs, moderate to severe developmental, cognitive and physical disabilities and students identified within the Autism Spectrum disabilities. Classrooms were consolidated this academic year and one classroom moved to East Brookfield Elementary School from Wire Village Elementary School in Spencer. We are pleased to have had the support of the Spencer/East Brookfield School Administration to make this move possible.

FY 2013 Budgeted Enrollment: 19 students

1st Quarter Enrollment: 20 students

SWCEC Life Skills and Work Experience Programs

The SWCEC Life Skills and Work Experience Programs service students ages 14-22 in need of transitional educational and vocational services to support their transition from academic services to adult services. The transition services and the planning for those services are required under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). The program has moved to the former Southbridge High School building due to the Grow School expansion. We are pleased to have had the support of the Southbridge School Administration to make this move possible. The SWCEC in collaboration with Nichols College has expanded our program offerings to their campus in Dudley through a new Step Program. The Programs will now be located in our Southbridge location and at Nichols College.

FY 2014 Budgeted Enrollment: 14 students

1st Quarter Enrollment: 14 students

SWCEC Therapeutic and Contract Services

The SWCEC provides therapeutic and contracted services to our member districts to support them in the provision of related services to their students as required under their Individualized Education Plan (IEP). These services for the 1st Quarter include Adaptive Physical Education, Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, Speech and Language Therapy, Vision Services, Orientation and Mobility Services, Deaf Services, Job Coach/Vocational Programming Services, and Consultation Services in addition to Psycho-Educational services. The number of students serviced by the SWCEC within our member schools is approximately 300 students, but this number changes as the individual student IEPs change. The SWCEC also adds services as requested by its member districts when approved by the Regional Board of Superintendents.

SWCEC Transportation

The Southern Worcester County Education Collaborative transportation department provided services to 60 students attending summer programs through July and August. For a two week period, two buses transported Dudley/Charlton students to a day camp in Douglas. Southern Worcester County Regional Vocational school contracted with SWCEC to provide transportation to students living in Milford, Northbridge, Uxbridge and Whitinsville through the DYS Grant for a five week program. Summer field trips provided to SWCEC summer programs included outings such as Dean Pond at Brimfield State Forest, and Purgatory Chasm in Sutton, Overlook Farm in Rutland and Misquamicut State Beach.

The start of the 2013-2014 school year started with SWCEC's 20 drivers transporting more than 75 students to schools throughout the Commonwealth. Three vehicles were added to the fleet in September due to the relocation of the WEP programs move to Southbridge.

SWCEC purchased GPS devices that have been mounted into its school buses to further improve safety and accountability as well as efficiency. This will allow administrative user to pinpoint the exact location of all buses in case of emergencies. The system has the ability to provide data regarding maintenance needs, wait times at residences and/or schools, weekly odometer reports as well as many other features.

SWCEC provides transportation services to the following school districts: Auburn, Dudley/Charlton, Grafton, Northbridge and Webster. Our buses can be seen in Dudley, Charlton, Webster, Watertown, Natick, Springfield, Southborough, West Boylston, and Worcester as well as many other areas.

SWCEC Professional Development Program

The SWCEC is striving to assist and support our member districts in the provision of high quality, collaboratively designed professional development for their teachers, and para-professional support staff. Dr. Melissa Manzi has work closely with the member Special Education Directors and Curriculum Directors to schedule PD workshops for this Quarter and the planning for the SWCEC all district professional development day on October 11, 2013. The 1st Quarter offerings are listed below:

SWCEC Professional Development

1st Quarter Training Schedule:

Professional Development Offerings for the SWCEC July 1, 2013 – September 30, 2013

| Training Schedule: | Date: | Audience: | Training Hours: |
|--|--------------|--|------------------------|
| Teach Point iPad Training | 8/4/2013 | Admin | 1 Hour |
| Teach Point Teacher Training | 8/6/2013 | Admin | 1 Hour |
| Teach Point Forms and Reports Training | 8/8/2013 | Admin | 1 Hour |
| Educator Evaluations | 8/27/2013 | Professional Staff (Teachers, Job Coaches, Therapist) | 1 Hour |
| Health Related Issues and Disabilities | 8/27/2013 | Paraprofessionals (Drivers, Monitors, Tutors) | 1 Hour |
| Teach Point Teacher Training (Webinar) | 9/9/2013 | Professional Staff (Teachers, Job Coaches, Therapist) | 1 Hour |

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| Unpacking the Rubric | 9/16/2013 | Professional Staff (Teachers, Job Coaches, Therapist) | 1 Hour |
| Self-Assessment | 9/23/2013 | Professional Staff (Teachers, Job Coaches, Therapist) | 1 Hour |
| S. M. A. R. T Goals | 9/30/2013 | Professional Staff (Teachers, Job Coaches, Therapist) | 1 Hour |

Title III Consortia Subgrant

The SWCEC on behalf of the Regional Board of Superintendents has submitted a letter of intent to apply for a Title III subgrant as a consortium of member districts. The SWCEC would be the fiscal agent for the DESE grant. DESE approved the proposal and awarded a subgrant to the SWCEC consortia in the amount of \$49,305. Grant planning and submission will begin in October 2013.

1st Quarter Financial Update, provided by Ms. Sherry Holmes, Business Administrator

July 1, 2013 – September 30, 2013

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| FY2014 Adopted Operational Budget by the Board | \$7,931,095.47 |
| First Quarter Anticipated Revenue | \$1,982,773.86 |
| First Quarter Actual Revenue Invoiced | \$2,123,029.80* |
| First Quarter Anticipated Expenditures | \$1,982,773.86 |
| First Quarter Actual Expenditures | \$1,622,137.97 |
| FY2013 First Quarter Balance Sheet Income | \$ 500,891.83 |
| *Actual Revenue Received \$987,381.06 | |