



Julian E. MacDonnell, Jr., Executive Director

3rd Quarter Report

January, 2013 – March, 2013

It is my pleasure to present to the Regional Board of Superintendents the 3rd Quarter Report of the Southern Worcester County Educational Collaborative as mandated by the new Collaborative Legislation adopted July 1, 2012. This new fiscal year in Massachusetts has brought about changes in how the State's Educational Collaboratives must provide information back to their respective member School Committees. Quarterly Reports are now part of the Collaborative Regulations, 603 CMR 50.00: Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. This Quarterly Report for January 1, 2013 through March 31, 2013 fulfills this mandated requirement.

The Southern Worcester County Educational Collaborative experienced normal enrollment fluctuation during the 3rd Quarter. Some of our students have aged out of eligibility for programs or met individual education plan goals and returned back to their districts. We have also experienced continued growth in the Grow School student population from both member and non-member communities, necessitating the opening of a new high school classroom.

Current FY 2013 Educational Programs

The Grow School

Program Overview

The Grow School, established in 1978, is a Therapeutic Public Day Treatment Program that services children, adolescents, and families within the Southern Worcester County Community. Grow services students in grades kindergarten through twelve (K-12) in a small, structured therapeutic and academic learning environment, paced to meet the needs of its students on an individualized basis. The Grow program offers a strong academic component designed to accommodate the learning needs of our students and to encourage their motivation to achieve.

Program Features

Grow has three model programs specifically addressing individual needs. The main components of our programs address challenges including, but not limited to, Emotional, Social, Behavioral, Psychiatric and Learning disabilities. Students learn self-control, social skills, and become more confident to challenge themselves to achieve academically. Grow students learn how to navigate their own learning, and identify a path to achieve positively. Additionally, Grow offers three summer programs (outward bound, social skills, vocational) to prevent substantial regression over the course of the summertime and credit recovery for high school students.

Parent Involvement

The Grow School is in daily contact with each student's parents through the use of a daily communication sheet. Parents and family members are also invited to attend the monthly Excellent Effort award assembly recognizing student accomplishments and improvements. Additionally, The Grow School encourages parents to become involved in therapy sessions, parent advisory council and classroom visits.

Special Education Director Involvement

The Special Education Directors are directly involved in the referral process for all students on IEPs. Administration is in frequent contact with Sped Directors when issues arise with their students. Additionally, administrators receive input from Sped Directors regarding program development and trends in both populations and practices.

Accomplishments

The Grow School over the 2012/2013 school year has seen a dramatic increase in referrals at all grade levels. Grow is finding that it needs to be increasingly flexible to service the needs of our districts with the wide range of referrals that are occurring. The Grow School has added a part time school psychologist to consult to districts with regards to testing, FBAs, risk assessment, and behavioral consultations. Additionally, The Grow School has implemented PBIS tier one (school wide) at the elementary building. Grow has initiated a leadership team for PBIS and will implement tier one for the middle and high school in the fall of 2013. Technology has been added to classrooms to improve the delivery of instruction. These technologies include interactive white boards and iPads. Grow will continue to utilize the technology plan in order to accommodate the vast learning needs of the students it services. The Grow School is in the process of converting to a Power School database which will enable precise student tracking, mandated state reporting and parent interactions through the parental portal of Power School. The Grow School has restructured the Grow Work Experience Program to meet each individual's self-determination and transitional needs. This restructuring includes a name change to the Grow Career Development Program which embodies a comprehensive transition program that provides students with a strategic career pathway from job readiness to exploration to emergence. The program is predicated on the philosophy that each student is the motivating force behind the decisions and goals relative to their education/training, employment and independent living. Along with State academic requirements, curriculum areas include

financial literacy, time management, transportation, effective communication, critical thinking, job readiness, interpersonal skills and desired independent living.

FY`2013 Budgeted Enrollment: 111 students

1st Quarter Enrollment: 130 students

2nd Quarter Enrollment: 138 students

3rd Quarter Enrollment: 133 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. The department has added multiple I-Pads due to the growth of the department.

FY`2013 Budgeted Enrollment: 23 students

1st Quarter Enrollment: 23 students

2nd Quarter Enrollment: 20 students

3rd Quarter Enrollments: 22 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 is located within our Dudley location. This quarter we have reached out to the Southbridge school to help with their work experience program, a program Evaluation was done on the Dudley-Charlton school and we also had Alternatives Family Care come and speak with our families. "Hire Today Home Tomorrow Cat Shelter" in North Brookfield has become a new job site for students on Thursday. The students that attend this site go and help out the shelter with jobs that need to be done and help care for the cats.

FY`2013 Budgeted Enrollment: 13 students

1st Quarter Enrollment: 18 students

2nd Quarter Enrollment: 14 students

3rd Quarter Enrollment: 14 students

SWCEC Developmental and Work Experience Enrollments – 3rd Quarter

	Leicester	Quaboag	Northbridge	Spencer	Sturbridge	Southbridge	Webster	Grafton	Dudley-Charlton	Brooklyn	Oxford	Palmer	Warren	Wales
Bartlett School (Mrs. Blanchard)	1			1	1	2				1				
Bartlett School (Mrs. Monfredo)						1	1	1	2					
Wire Village (Mrs. Pryor)	1			2	1									
Wire Village (Mrs. Sampson)		1	2	2		2								
Work Experience		1				1	5	1	2		1	1	1	1

SWCEC Therapeutic and Contract Services

The SWCEC provided 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 3rd 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, Consultation Services, Psycho-Educational services and Tiny Eye Therapy services. In the 3rd Quarter, we have added a few new services. These include a certified teacher for a student at home, Occupational Therapy and Speech Therapy for Southbridge, Vision and Orientation and Mobility for both Oxford and Uxbridge schools. The number of students serviced by the SWCEC within our member schools is still approximately 300 students, but this changes as the individual student IEP's change. The SWCEC also adds services as requested by its member districts.

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 worked closely with the member Special Education Directors to schedule PD workshops. The process of training the Collaborative staff has started with training for Teach Point, PowerSchool, Educator Evaluation and Edgenuity. The 3rd Quarter offerings are listed below:

3 rd Quarter Training Schedule:	Date:	Audience:	Training Hours:
Universal Design for Learning	1/28/2013	Teachers	3
Writing Goals and Objectives	1/28/2013	Job Coaches	3
Dealing with Difficult Parents, Attorneys, and Advocates	2/25/2013	Teachers, Team Chair	3
Post-Secondary Transition Planning and Fair	3/15/2013	Teachers , Team Chairs and Families	Due to lack of interested the PD was canceled.

SWCEC Transportation

The SWCEC Transportation Department consists of 26 vehicles. Transportation services are provided to districts for summer programming and regular school year programming. The SWCEC also provides transportation for special school field trips where applicable.

The 3rd Quarter regular school year transportation increased with SWCEC transporting 89 students with 33 identified morning and afternoon runs. The SWCEC is currently contracted to provide special education transportation for Auburn, Dudley/Charlton, Grafton, Northbridge and Webster.

In February of 2013, the SWCEC Transportation Department started providing afterschool transport to the Bridging the Opportunity Grant Program held at Bay Path Regional Vocational Technical High School twice a week.

3rd Quarter Financial Update, provided by Ms. Sherry Holmes, Business Administrator

January - March, 2013

FY2013 Adopted Operational Budget by the Board	\$7,303,073.70
Third Quarter Anticipated Revenue	\$5,477,305.32
Third Quarter Actual Revenue Received	\$7,351,523.98
Third Quarter Anticipated Expenditures	\$5,477,305.32
Third Quarter Actual Expenditures	\$5,754,866.70
FY2013 Third Quarter Balance Sheet Income	\$1,596,657.28