

**CHARMS Collaborative**  
**Open Session Meeting Minutes, April 9, 2015**

**Members Present:** Mr. Farmer (Sharon), Dr. Rizzi (Stoughton), Mr. Zinni (Avon), Mr. Granatino (Canton).

**Members Absent:** Mrs. Gormley (Milton), Dr. Lally (Holbrook).

**Also Present:** Rosalie O'Connell (Executive Director), Ellen Whittemore (Business Manager), Christina Farrington (Business Office Assistant)

**Staffing / Student Update**

Mrs. O'Connell shared information regarding attendance of students in the expanded vocational program at the YMCA. There will be up to 10 students using the space at different times. Different staff members will be utilized in their specific area of expertise. Mr. Zinni questioned if Charms can offer the students job placements. Mrs. O'Connell answered that the job placements start on a volunteer basis in order to build the student's resume and then lead to a paid position.

Mrs. O'Connell explained the importance of the transition binders. The student's build references, all of the high school students have one. Mr. Zinni suggested a formal transition assessment as an informal assessment in order to build an assessment package and plan.

Mrs. O'Connell shared that Charms is in need of a classroom for the Avon Multi Skills program and the Galvin Middle School program. Each program has 3 students. Mr. Farmer shared that he might have a room in the high school however he needed to inquire with the principal. If it is available, Mr. Farmer will send Mrs. O'Connell pictures of the space. Additionally, sending a letter of invitations to other towns (Randolph, Dedham, Norwood, Easton) to join Charms was discussed.

Mrs. O'Connell shared that SCRO virtual learning academy went live.

Mrs. O'Connell discussed the collaborative school fair in the fall. Charms and BICO will be chairing this event.

**Budget Update**

Ms. Whittemore provided an update to the FY15 budget with the addition of a new student.

The FY16 budget will be based on 38 students and a 35.5 FTE.

Ms. Whittemore discussed changing the school days to 183 (from 185) to provide salary savings. Staff feedback was discussed specifically what the average loss

would be, grandfathering staff that have tenure and the number of staff that are currently at the top of their step. Mr. Zinni suggested phasing out days each year.

Ms. Whittemore provided the Board with the proposed tuition increases for FY16. The Canton Vocational program will not have an increase, the multi skills program proposed increase is 3% for members and 6% for non-members, alternative middle school proposed increase is 3% for members and non-members and the alternative high school program proposed increase is 2% for members and 1% for non-members. Ms. Whittemore also discussed a proposed nursing fee. After further discussions regarding the nursing fee, the Board did not agree with the additional fee.

Mr. Granatino made a motion to adjourn open session; Mr. Farmer seconded. Motion to adjourn passed unanimously by a vote of 4 to 0.