

4. DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Quentin Rueckert reported that there are no significant program or staff changes to report. Shared Services staff has been stable since the last Committee for Shared Services (CSS) meeting.

We are currently doing what we do in supporting districts in managing some challenging and complicated special education cases.

Quentin followed up on a previous CSS meeting discussion regarding the possibility of offering some early retirements, which turned out to be a non-starter because after some discussions with staff, there were no viable candidates. We will revisit this as needed in the coming years.

Quentin reported that his focus recently has been on completing the Shared Services budget and getting organized for extended school year. (ESY)

5. SUPERINTENDENTS' COUNCIL REPORT:

Superintendent Steve LePage reported that the superintendents have been working on budgets and finalizing this process in our districts.

The superintendents are tracking legislative issues that are currently in process in this legislative session. Steve reported that the Regional #7 budget and town assessments have been shared with the towns.

The insurance consortium with our current broker presented data in order to make a decision about sticking with Anthem or looking at other options. Given all the information available, the superintendents and Quentin all agree we should stay with Anthem.

6. CORRESPONDENCE:

None

7. OLD BUSINESS:

None

8. NEW BUSINESS:

a. Presentation of the check register to the CSS treasurer. The Treasurer reported she received the check register.

b. Quentin shared with the CSS members an overview of our Connections gifted and talented program that is run by Kathy Krassner. Quentin explained how participants in the program qualify to be invited. Quentin shared some of the activities that were provided this year and how it has been very well received. It is nice to share about this program offering as it is a really nice service that is available to our exceptional students!

c. The CSS will appoint King & King to conduct the current year's audit.

MOTION by Alison Jassen, seconded by Jaclyn Dombrowski, to appoint King & King as the auditors to conduct this year's audit.

In favor: Theresa Kenneson, Alison Jassen, Amy Levan, Jaclyn Dombrowski, and Jeremy Withnell

Opposed: None

Abstained: None

d. Quentin reviewed the Audited Financial Statements for the year ending June 30, 2025, and explained the current calculation of the Shared Services net position relative to the auditors GASB 101 regulation which includes compensated absences as a liability.

e. Quentin presented his proposed Shared Services budget for 2026-2027 which includes an annual increase of 2.87%. Quentin explained the factors that influence the challenge of keeping budget increases at a reasonable rate from year to year; the main factors being increases to salary and benefits.

The CSS discussed the recent projection that insurance rates for our consortium would be at an increase of 9.4% instead of the projected 11.5% which was included in this budget. Quentin explained that the budget is very tight and would prefer to leave the budget as is to act as a very small contingency buffer in case of an unforeseen rise in insurance cost. Quentin also explained the cuts he has made in some areas including reducing speech and language staff due to declining need. Quentin provided a budget overview document to the CSS members. After discussion, the Committee moved to approve the budget as presented.

MOTION by Jeremy Withnell, seconded by Jaclyn Dombrowski, to approve the budget as presented.

In favor: Theresa Kenneson, Alison Jassen, Amy Levan, Jaclyn Dombrowski, and Jeremy Withnell

Opposed: None

Abstained: None

9. OTHER:

None

10. PUBLIC QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS:

None

MOTION at 5:45 p.m. by Alison Jassen, seconded Amy Levan to adjourn the meeting.

In favor: Theresa Kenneson, Alison Jassen, Amy Levan, Jaclyn Dombrowski, and Jeremy Withnell

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Respectfully submitted,

Quentin H. Rueckert

Approved: 6-8-2026