Ulcca called the board meeting to order. She noted that Chad Burns, Executive Director, was called out of town for a family emergency and is unable to attend the meeting today.

Approval of Agenda
Ulcca asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Sue made a motion to approve the agenda, and David seconded. The agenda was unanimously approved.

Approval of Minutes
Ulcca asked if there were any corrections needed to the minutes; there were none. Sue made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, and David seconded. The minutes were unanimously approved.

Executive Director Report
In Chad's absence, Ulcca read his report, which is included for the minutes.

We have a few guests from each of our sponsoring districts joining us during our meeting today. Each sponsoring district provides a professional resource to RMSEL titled the District Service Links. Each district service link is appointed by a district official to assist the RMSEL administration in the event additional professionals are required to assist in problem solving, budgeting, curriculum planning, technology, student discipline, school policy, human resources, etc. During the past three years, I have contacted our service links on numerous occasions to assist our team in making decisions. Each service link is always willing to assist and reaches out within their district in the event they need additional information to assist our team. I want to thank each district for this invaluable resource.

We are now approximately three quarters of the way through our first trimester. During the week of October 7th, we conducted Student Led Conferences on October 10th and 11th. Each student prepares various artifacts that represent their learning to this point in each course. Along with each artifact, students prepare a narrative to share with their family and crew leader goals for the school year pertaining to academics and character. This year, a few teachers elected to report various aspects of student achievement data as a part of the conference as well. This process included classroom assessments, DRA, TCAP, and Common Writing Assessments. By adding this element to the conference, students are able to see the tangible transference of understanding from each learning expedition to standardized assessments. I appreciate the willingness of our staff to pilot the addition of this to their conference structure.

In grades 6-12, we will begin reporting all student progress each trimester through the use of Infinite Campus (IC). This directly ties to our character achievement goals for students tied to our school vision. Students each now have access to IC and can access their grades throughout the trimester. We will continue to use a rubric based, standards based reporting system to assess and grade student work. This aligns to the creation of a student portfolio and revision process that takes place during a trimester to create a high quality final product. In IC, this can be weighted throughout each revision of the document, placing the highest value of weight on the final product. By placing the highest value on the final product, students will receive credit as they progress; however, the assessment is tied to the
accuracy and completion of the final product, which demonstrates understanding. We look forward to the use of IC to allow teachers to report progress on three-week intervals.

We have completed our fall Crew Trip season at this point in the school year. Once again, we had an amazing season, connecting the learning of the classroom to our design principles in a wilderness setting. During the course of the season, we experienced a few incidents that provided our team the opportunity to review our Adventure Guide and policies regarding crew trips. The continuous review of our policy and practice ensures that we provide a safe and rich program to our students each season. We look forward to the continued success of our program and trips, which will begin departing again in November as the 9th and 10th grade students participate in their grade level trip tied to their Humanities learning expedition.

As reported at the last BOCES meeting, we are in the development of a school-wide curriculum map that will guide our instruction in a K-12 school. At this point, we have mapped 6th grade content, as well as 7th/8th Science. During the process of mapping 7th/8th Science, we were able to test the functionality of the tool with a variety of sort features. We have reviewed our current progress with the Instructional Leadership Team (ILT) and look to have K-12 Science and Mathematics mapped prior to our return from Winter Break.

Each spring we are required to submit a request to the Colorado Department of Education to receive additional funding through HB12-1345. Each year we have received approximately $75,000 in additional funding. This funding is allocated directly to student achievement and our intervention program. We are required to report the progress of our program each year to CDE to assist in measuring the effectiveness of the funding tied to student achievement. The excerpt below is taken directly from the report to CDE.

**Literacy**

Twenty-one students participated in Literacy Intervention in grades 4-8: 12 students in grades 4-5, with the other 9 students in grades 6-8, and each student received 150 minutes of targeted intervention 3 days a week.

As measured by TCAP, 58% of students in grades 4-5 who participated made adequate growth. Each of these students demonstrated a gain in student achievement, with 100% of students making progress.

As measured by TCAP, 56% of students in grades 6-8 who participated made adequate growth. Sixty-seven percent of this group demonstrated a gain in student achievement.

Overall, 77% of students who participated in targeted literacy intervention measured a gain in student achievement.

**Mathematics**

Twenty-two students participated in Mathematics Intervention in grades 4-12: 6 students in grades 4-5, 12 students in grades 6-8, and 4 students in grade 11. No students in grades 6-8 demonstrated adequate growth; however 58% of the group demonstrated a gain in student achievement. Seventeen percent of students in grades 4-5, equivalent to one student, demonstrated adequate growth, however 66% of the group demonstrated a gain in student achievement.

Ulcca asked if there were questions that Julie or Marci could answer. Sue asked Julie to send the board a copy of the Adventure Guide and policies. Ulcca asked if they have recently been revised, and Julie noted that the new Adventure Coordinator has completely reviewed and updated the policies. Sue asked about the parent teacher conferences and if they were well attended. Julie said that K-5 was very well attended, and Marci added that 6-8 was as well, with high school participation being moderate. David asked about the content of conferences, and Julie responded from a parent’s perspective. She said that part of the conference pertained to the data and assessment information, and part of the time was spent with the child focusing on their academic and character goals. Sue asked if the teachers try to schedule a time with parents who cannot attend. Julie said RMSEL teachers are very accommodating to parents’ schedules, and Marci noted that there are still conferences going on even this week. Sue referenced the district service links and said that it may be helpful to have an opportunity for them to observe RMSEL in action, rather than just reading from the RMSEL
website or sitting in a meeting. Kevin noted that the Douglas County service link is in transition right now, and it is undetermined as to who the new service link will be at this time.

Open Forum
Steve Steadman, parent of a lower school student, spoke regarding the student led conferences. He attended his 2nd grader’s conference, and goals were set and discussed. The child chooses what work they want to show to the parent during the conferences, and is able to explain their learning regarding the work. He believes the conference provides a way to support the work of the teacher in the classroom.

Consent Agenda
Item #1 – Personnel Matters – Sue asked if the positions being referenced today are new positions. Julie said they are two Educational Aide (EA) positions being refilled because the EAs both got full-time teaching positions, and as such, are already built into the existing budget. JulieMarie moved to approve the consent agenda, and David seconded. The consent agenda was unanimously approved.

Report Items
2013-2014 Budget Update – Julie said the budget is on target for this year. Funding is coming in as expected, with kindergarten tuition being received regularly. Grant funding, BOCES funds, and READ Act funds were received. Fieldwork fees that are not used in any given year roll to the year for each student participates in their Landmark trip. Landmark trips request that students raise additional funds toward the cost of the trip; such as Costa Rica, Yellowstone, the 5th Grade Sailing Trip and Memphis. The annual Run & Ride event raised $1,200 more than expected. Julie said that the audit is ongoing at this time. The auditors have spent time on-site at RMSEL, and are now reviewing all of the materials gathered in order to present the audit in the November board meeting. Sue asked how many years the Run & Ride has been taking place. Julie said she believes it is about five years. Sue asked about the discount available to parents of multiple students. Julie replied that it is an available option to those parents, but only a small handful take advantage of the discount. Julie said at the November board meeting, there will be a recommendation from the District Accountability Committee (DAC) to make a small increase in the fieldwork fees. Sue asked if an update of student enrollment from each district from year to year can be provided to the service links. Cris said it has stayed fairly consistent and she will provide that data for the board for the meeting with service links. JulieMarie brought up the possibility of funding being received by Resolution 66 and asked if RMSEL has talked about the use of the funds. She asked also how those funds would be received by RMSEL. Julie said that it would be through the Per Pupil Revenue that is received. She added that RMSEL is reserving the discussion of the use of the funds until it is determined that they would be received. Ulcca noted that even if Resolution 66 passes, there is additional legislation in Senate Bill 213 that will still have to be addressed before funding allocation is fully determined. Kevin was having difficulty hearing some of the conversation on the phone asked for clarification of the discussion. Ulca reiterated that it was in regard to whether RMSEL has had discussion as to how any funds received from Resolution 66 would be used; there has not, and RMSEL is in a wait and see attitude at this time.

Action Items
There were no action items for this meeting.

Discussion Items
ELL Consent Decree – Revised Language – Ulcca said that this is in regard to clarification of the language addressing the services provided to English Language Learners at RMSEL, and she will send the final version out to the board when she receives it from Chad. Marci clarified that some of the limiting factor is regarding whether a student is identified as limited English proficient or non-English proficient, and RMSEL’s ability to service the needs of the student. Sue said she anticipates the language will be fairly straightforward, and should not require a lot of discussion amongst the board.

Amendment 66 Resolution – Ulcca noted that there was input from the board members regarding the resolution, and that an electronic vote was taken, with RMSEL’s Resolution being unanimously approved. She asked Julie to get the Resolution posted publicly at RMSEL. JulieMarie expressed her appreciation for the BOCES discussing the amendment and noted that if the amendment does pass, the board members should monitor the use of the funds. If the board
members feel that funding is used inappropriately, they need to address that with legislators. Kevin again asked for clarification of the conversation. Ulcca reiterated the discussion for Kevin. Ulcca asked if there has been discussion at RMSEL regarding the amendment, and Julie said it was brought up at the last DAC meeting.

**Items for Future Agenda**

Sue brought up the Electronic Participation policy from Littleton and asked that this be placed on the agenda for a future meeting. JulieMarie noted that their district’s attorney has emphasized that, in electronic communications, the “Reply All” feature cannot be used because that constitutes a meeting and requires advance notice to the public. Sue said she does not think the policy should be used as a norm, but in the exception when a quorum is needed and the only way it could be met is by the use of electronic participation.

The ELL Consent Decree will be presented as an action item.

There was discussion about the November meeting date, and it was determined that a quorum should be present. Elections are taking place in November and new board representatives should be determined prior to the meeting on November 26th. JulieMarie asked if she is still eligible to attend the meeting if a representative from Aurora Public Schools is unable to be present. Julie said that if she is still a sitting board member for APS, she would be able to attend the BOCES meeting as such. Kevin will be remaining on the RMSEL board for the coming year.

Ulcca said that per C.R.S. 24-6-402(4)(h) - Matters pertaining to individual students, the board needed to move into Executive Session. Sue made a motion that the board enter into Executive Session, and Kevin seconded. The board adjourned to another location for Executive Session.

**Adjournment**

After a brief period of time, the board returned and reconvened the regular meeting. Ulcca asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. David moved to adjourn, and Sue seconded. The meeting was unanimously adjourned.

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Ulcca Joshi Hansen, President

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Anne Rowe, Secretary/Treasurer