

**MassCUE Board Meeting  
Worcester, Holiday Inn  
September 8, 2000**

Members present: Jim Modena, Steve Olivo, Bev Reber, Sharon Eempio, Ron Koehler, Pat Trotman, Art Jackman, Lelia Richardson, Algot Runeman, Greg, Kim, Laurene Belisle, Chris Maloof, Kathy Peloquin.

(VES presentation already in progress as Algot arrived to begin the Minutes.)

First CLASP professionally printed brochure

Steve asked "on recycled paper?"

"Maybe"

Presentation by KIM and Greg from VES

Key components are: Localization, Customization, personalization. Browser based, system recognizes user.

See PowerPoint presentation.

There are two versions.

1.0 for faculty

2.0 2.0 for students

MassCUE is being asked to be on the VES board and the working group.

Eventually everybody who joins (districts) will become members and help to make the governing decisions of VES.

CLASP launched VES, Inc. which is becoming the main organization after the startup process. VES is "user owned."

Evaluation team came out of the working group.

Access, privacy, intellectual property issues need to be addressed and VES wants to have public forums to give feedback and suggestions which will lead to acceptable use policies. Proactive.

Laurene: Will teachers feel we will be available 24 hours a day?

Jim: Is MTA involved?

Kim: Yes. Board level meeting and they intend to be part of the working group.

Kim: Ask our exec director/president to sit on the board and to participate in the working group. Earle suggested and interest.

Board membership of MassCUE is the president.

The working group involves other organization participants.

Greg: Systems overview (see p3 2<sup>nd</sup> illustration)

District data smartforms and SIMS. VES sits on this. Can start to provide information.

Educator workspace will connect with the Directory services.

Blackboard5-level3 courseware portal in negotiation to cover statewide for all districts and educators.

Project Achieve - CLASP online now negotiating with Houghton-Mifflin for cost savings. Half price if partnered with a pro developer.

Linda Colvin arrives 5:34

Virtual drive: Swap drive 50Mb per user disk space available from home and between districts.

Curriculum Management space for sharing with others.

Start something? Product starts out private. Can then share to a small group. Then can publish it. Maybe through a moderator and review at the district. Or there can be several levels all determined by the district.

Connie Louie arrived 5:37

Frameworks can be incorporated and seen quickly.

Smart desktops for teachers by Bill Gates groups used the VES research as guideline.

Some segments still in development.

Instructional Design is an on-line teacher planbook which will link plan with goals of framework.

Online assessment (Washington state). They have an MCAS equivalent.

Want to create a pre, mid and post test on line for students in grades 3,6 and 9, the years just before MCAS tests in Wash.

5:42 Marcy arrives.

VES is being seen as nationwide project. Conference where VES was presented showed ours is most comprehensive plan, have most funding. Asking other states to join.

Washington VES team now involved. Looking for their funding for next year. Other states have all been looking at the process and once many states join, VES will become the national system.

Kim: powered by public educators. Costs of initial development need not be redone.

After the initial state buy-in, basically VES is given away. If states give \$2 million each.

Vendors want to jump in with many states involved. Dave Driscoll will speak to congressional committee.

Standards in the classroom. Technology just in time. Online courses. Virtual academy.

Other courses can be plugged in from other states, etc.

System is content agnostic. Simply a system to organize and share content. System is open. District can individually agree to license.

Jim: Research tools like SIRS?

Kim: Yes looking at tools like that.

Tools for both kids and teachers.

Timeline see page 5 of PowerPoint notes.

Directory Admin now

Blackboard Tools (launch at MassCUE Conference) Same username as MassEd account name.

MasEdNet to get e-rate money? Still up in the air. May be in trouble. 18 months waiting for an answer from the SLD.

\$160 per user is market rate for MassEdNet connection.

Firstinitiallastname and same password then change password.

MassCUE members welcome to validate before the release of Clasp online.

Interoperability of educational software in May.

Publisher gateway by May.

Project Achieve \$20/ student /year. 11/fee

Trying to get enough users  
VES2 student tools launch by next Sept. as VES1 is Nov for teachers.  
Implementation: see pg. 6 of PowerPoint presentation notes.  
Self-assessment to help a teacher identify themselves to link a teacher to a course with the appropriate skill levels.  
Strategic planning – coaching and mentoring, modeling.  
Bound books for professional development coming out to districts in hard copy.  
Import district curriculum materials – either in Word or even hard copy. Have hired typists.  
Districts making progress toward goals will be ready for VES.  
44 districts – VES grants.  
Many presentations planned in state including MassCUE and nationally as well.  
This was a “Big Nutshell” presentation.  
Thank you.

Statewide administrative system wasn't possible 4 years ago.  
Web based access for record keeping. Greg thinks VES2 can incorporate a student management and gradebooks, etc. for a district.  
Curriculum design and instructional management.  
Standards based approach came first.  
Security? Especially considering student grades, etc.  
GetAccess system currently used by banks.  
Oracle database.  
Student information would follow student from district to district.  
Vendors have embraced VES concept.  
How much will districts want to host servers on local LAN? Will schools benefit from locating data and programs on the Internet ASP?  
What is the percentage of schools that have no access?  
82 percent of classrooms are connected as of June/July.  
October update.  
3 years ago it was 24% of classrooms.  
Laurene: where do we (MassCUE go next)  
Kim: see sheet District/Organization responsibility sheet.  
Field testers. 5-10 per district.  
Many from MassCUE welcome.  
No obligation to get access to premium services. Expect \$6000 per VES district per year for all Houghton-Mifflin content. Custom textbooks printed as part of the service. All of the free stuff will still be worthwhile, even for districts not choosing to buy premium services.  
October 16 Curriculum component.  
Make VES visible in our organization. VES isn't spending its own money on marketing.  
AUP modification.  
Where in our program?  
How to let everyone know the VES1 workspace is available.  
Logistics: Small conference subcommittee to meet with Greg and Kim.  
Katie Bilotta of DOE can help work last minute miracles.

Greg: wants to work with SIGs.  
Free access use by teachers will still need training.

Connie Louie. MEET project. Smooth transition for dissemination.  
Next year want MEET day at conference. Steve Olivo will be responsible for dissemination. Need coordination at SIG style meeting. All SIG Calendar entry MEET check by Laurene.  
Presentations must be “approved” by Laurene. Steve will do the nuts and bolts editing prior to dissemination.  
DOE timeline tight to deliver notices to MassCUE calendar.  
Think of 10<sup>th</sup> of month prior (printing on 15<sup>th</sup>). Lelia will send a reminder to Connie.  
VES should be pronounced as letters, not as a word: V.E.S. not “Vess”.  
\$35/student information RFP late fall with 2-3 month proposal. Looking for a multi-year grant. Funding will occur July 1, 2001. Scaleable programs for student achievement linked to Frameworks/standards based curriculum. Professional development not hardware. Grants for prof. Dev. To use equipment the district has funded.  
Lighthouse expenses.  
Benefits to kids.  
Tech not grant funded. Basic district cost. Major financial commitment. Need to plan for it. Grant must address needs and produce a sharable product.  
Matching grant minimum 1:1 to 3:1.  
Project MEET RFP and \$35/student RFP coming soon.  
Technical assistance workshops will be available.  
MassNetworks planning workshops on how to use \$35 for VES implementation.

6:40 Priscilla Kotyk arrives  
6:45 Pauline Lamarche arrives.

Business meeting called to order 6:53

Announcements: Bob Hanna resigns. Northampton building project taking too much time.  
Moved to accept with regret (? , Ron)  
Passed (Unanimous)  
Laurene: Recommends Steve Olivo to replace Bob  
Move to appoint Steve Olivo to the MassCUE board. (Ron Sue)  
Passed (Unanimous)

Laurene has asked Earle to function as vice president to allow another appointment later.  
Move to appoint (Algot, Jim)  
Need to check if we can then do an extra appointment to have a full board. Research bylaws and past practice. Look back to see if Laurene was appointed when  
Go ahead with vote on duties for Earle.  
Jim: State requires that corporation office must be elected. Our bylaws do allow for VP to move up, but cannot just make a real vice president with appointment.  
Ron Priscilla Confer on Earle the title of Acting Vice President.

Pass. Unanimous includes Steve.

\$4 million from MarcoPolo for training facility. Connect University much better. As a volunteer organization. Earle recommended U Lowell contact.

Pat: First vendors in will survive.

MCET board Designee okay with letter from Laurene.

Pat volunteers to be the designee for MassCUE.

TechCorps

Jim: may be a sinking ship. Money for us \$5000. Sad that they have done much work.

We would take over the web site.

Tech volunteers can't seem to find volunteer to run it. Somebody was paid to develop it.

We could use \$5000 to hire back their consultant.

The recommendation to the board is to politely return the check because we don't feel we can take on the job.

Ron: Money was very publicly given to us at Kids and Technology day.

Not just for promotion.

We would need to find a web service to host the site.

(Ron, Marcy) Move we regretfully return the \$5000 because we regret we cannot do the work.

Pat: They have had very little luck with this project (getting tech volunteers into schools).

Most volunteers can only work after 6:00 while teachers want in-class help.

Priscilla: Let's move on.

Pass unanimously

Jim will write letter and send to Lelia for Laurene. Art will send check.

U-Lowell grant

41 page grant. Abstract distributed.

Kathy Peloquin: Seed and feed MLI

\$7,000 for key person for monthly meeting

Three year commitment.

Money for training for Units of Practice

We expect new MLI contract from Apple.

MLI functional.

MassCUE must give in return "in kind" a value of \$17,750. A \$10,000 value for MLI.

\$2500 for editing jobs.

\$2000 for oversight position.

Team for ALI gathering where other states are using ALI as Massachusetts uses VES.

Who should get paid?

Kathy should get paid for part of the work.

Sit down with Lowell person to determine what our actual role is. Negotiate to get details exact. Since we did not formally evaluate earlier.

We need to find Lowell area district personnel.

Susan Burel is tech coordinator in Lowell. There may be a person from that district might want to attend. Jeannie Bergeron from Lowell.

Hillary Marchand Elizabeth Bogardus. Look for MassCUE person first.

Lowell students will write the UOPs following template on MLI.  
What happens when 3 years pass?  
Grant is over then. Will we pay for the work to continue?  
Once we get back from reacting to these unearthed surprises, we can look ahead to a financial plan at the first of the year.  
Sharon: MassCUE needs to be proactive to find a way to promote UOPs.  
Ron: Kathy should sit and actually determine the kind of work we must do.  
Put off the vote.  
Kathy to meet with interested parties.  
Chelmsford and Methuen SIGs linked up with this issue.  
Send Kathy some questions to ask. Read the abstract.  
What hornets nest do we have with Methuen and Chelmsford "SIGs"  
Kathy willing to find others to complete the project though willing to work in the background on MLI.  
Have we received money?  
What is billing process?  
Where are SIGs?  
Bev was asked to be involved by Nancy.  
Spreadsheet breakdown for us. Who, how much. Take list to Lowell meeting with what we are to do and what we get. Memorandum of understanding.

Chris Maloof giving us a takehome "assignment"  
Jessica Williams of Alphasmart Consortium buy-in. See this as a MassCUE membership benefit.  
Use MassCUE web page to link to Alphasmart site.  
If user registers, he/she will get the preferred pricing. Normally \$249 single unit. Good price. Consortium price instead if MassCUE agrees.  
Look at our Web site to see where you could put it.  
Conference vendor list.  
Claris/K12 Microcomputing agreement was similar in the past.  
Does it benefit teachers and kids?  
Does this agreement break precedent?  
MassCUE should foster good partnerships.  
Need to offer equal opportunities to all vendors. Dreamwriter company has not been given equal opportunity with a similar proposal.  
Table or Act in time for conference?  
Move to have us read and send position to Laurene to approve Alphasmart. (no second) (Ron, Bev). Move to table this discussion to next meeting.  
Passed (Unanimous)  
SIGs next meeting  
Conference: Please take booklets  
Board members must return registration form to Lelia even though fee is zero.  
Pathfinder event must be paid for.

Priscilla: Kids and Technology day too much for this year. Cannot chair. Looking for replacement chairperson. Reiterate that is becoming difficult to get in and set up on the day before. Statehouse staff has requested that we set up on the day of the event. Should we do it at all this year?

MEET dissemination. Meeting Wednesday had new focus and themes. Know the deadlines.

Next meeting Sept. 21 where editing may occur. MEET will be in separate color and separate document from our conference booklet/*onCUE* Not on green paper, please. Need to determine deadlines.

Thanks for all of you for attending this meeting.  
Hope to be out of Nancy's shadow by conference time.

Linda Colvin at MTA conference. Well filled sessions on technology at the conference. Postcard was good.

Treasurer's report

Fleet checking gone to Sovereign.

Don't expect cash flow problem.

Money a year later after first conference in Sturbridge has borne fruit.

Accepted MEET money.

Summary page of fiscal year

Added account numbers during the year compared to the budget we planned.

Springfield auditor will be auditing us related to the MEET grant.

Move to accept treasurer's report (Marcy, Ron)

Passed (Unanimous)

Move to accept the minutes of the July 31, 2000 board meeting. (Ron, Marcy)

Passed (Unanimous)

Adjourn 8:25pm