

CHARMS

An educational collaborative with member district from
Canton, Holbrook, Avon, Milton, Sharon, and Stoughton

Overview

- CHARMS is governed by a six (6) member Board of Superintendents from the member communities.
- CHARMS also maintains an Operating Committee of SPED Directors from the CHARMS communities.
- Seven (7) low incidence programs housed in Sharon, Stoughton, and Canton
- Employs several teachers, support staff, a Program Director, part-time finance person, and a full-time Executive Director

Purpose of a Collaborative

- Tuition rates generally less in a partner collaborative
 - member/non-member rates
- Availability of programming
- Proximity of programming and less travel for students
- Potential for “collaborative” programming, purchasing, professional development, consultation

Programs and Services

• Program	Location	# of Students
• Elem. Communication PDD	Stoughton	8
• HS Life Skills-Vocational	Sharon	13
• MS Alternative Learning	Canton	3
• HS Alternative Learning	Canton	14
• Elem. Multi-Skills (5-10)	Sharon	4
• Elem. Multi-Skills (5-11)	Stoughton	4
• HS Multi-Skills (11-15 & 16-20 & 18-22)	Canton	21
	Total	67 (11)

Looking to the Future

- Initiated Strategic Planning Process, February, 2012
- Executive Director departure, March/April, 2012
- Hire Interim Executive Director, April, 2012
- Need viable, sustainable programming
- Enrollment critical (a loss or gain of just a few enrollments can make or break the budget)
- Budget concerns

What's Next?

- Talking about options, March/April/May
- May 10, 2012 meeting
 - Executive Director interview
 - Turnaround potential
 - Vote of Board
- Stay in business, no change
- Stay in business and reorganize
- Merge with another collaborative
- Dissolve

Legal Implications

- Majority of the Board and member school committees necessary to dissolve...six (6) month minimum notice prior to the end of a school year and 30 days notice to member School Committees before taking a vote
- Dissolving at any time prior to the end of a fiscal year requires a two-thirds majority vote of Board and SCs
- Fiscal audit to inform decision(s)
- Assets
- Districts must give six (6) months written notice before leaving a collaborative