

SEEM Collaborative

Financial Statements

For the Year Ended
June 30, 2019

SEEM Collaborative
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For the Year Ended June 30, 2019

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FRITZ DEGUGLIELMO LLC
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS
& BUSINESS ADVISORS

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Board of Directors of
SEEM Collaborative
Stoneham, Massachusetts

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of SEEM Collaborative (a collaborative organized under the Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts), as of and for the year ended June 30, 2019, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise SEEM Collaborative's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

Opinions

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of SEEM Collaborative, as of June 30, 2019, and the respective changes in financial position for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Other Matters

Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the management's discussion and analysis, budgetary comparison information, OPEB Plan – Required Supplementary Information and pension schedules on pages 3-6 and 29-35 be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information, although not part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated December 17, 2019, on our consideration of SEEM Collaborative's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of SEEM Collaborative's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering SEEM Collaborative's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.



Certified Public Accountants

Newburyport, Massachusetts

December 17, 2019

SEEM Collaborative
Management's Discussion and Analysis
June 30, 2019

Our discussion and analysis of SEEM Collaborative's ("The Collaborative") financial performance provides an overview of the Collaborative's financial activities for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2019 with comparative information from the fiscal years ended June 30, 2018 and 2017. Please read it in conjunction with the financial statements that begin on page 7.

OVERVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL REPORTS

This discussion and analysis is intended to serve as an introduction to the Collaborative's financial statements. The Collaborative's financial statements comprise three components: 1) government-wide financial statements; 2) fund financial statements; and 3) notes to the financial statements. This report also contains other supplementary information in addition to the basic financial statements themselves.

Government-wide Statements:

The government-wide financial statements report information about the Collaborative as a whole using accounting methods similar to those used by private sector companies.

- The **Statement of Net Position** presents information on all of the Collaborative's assets and liabilities with the difference between the two reported as net position. It is one way of measuring the Collaborative's financial health or position.
- The **Statement of Activities** presents information showing how the Collaborative's net position changed during the most recent fiscal year. All of the current year's revenues and expenditures are accounted for in the Statement of Activities regardless of when cash is received or paid.

Over time, increases or decreases in the Collaborative's net position is an indicator of whether its financial position is improving or deteriorating. The reader will also need to consider other non-financial factors such as changes in economic conditions when evaluating the overall financial health of the Collaborative.

Fund Financial Statements:

Funds are accounting devices used to keep track of specific sources of funding and spending in particular categories: governmental funds, proprietary funds, and fiduciary funds. Presently, the Collaborative has only governmental and fiduciary funds.

- **Governmental funds** – The Collaborative's basic services are included in governmental funds, which generally focus on: 1) how cash and other financial assets that can readily be converted to cash flow in and out, and 2) the balances left at year-end that are available for spending. Consequently, the governmental funds statements provide a detailed short-term view that helps to determine whether there are more or fewer financial resources that can be spent in the near future to finance the Collaborative's programs. Because this information does not encompass the additional long-term focus of the government-wide statements, additional information (reconciliation schedules) is provided following the governmental funds statements that explains the relationship (or differences) between these two types of financial statement presentations.
- **Fiduciary funds** – Fiduciary funds are used to account for resources held for the benefit of parties outside the government. Fiduciary funds are not reflected in the government-wide financial statements because the resources of those funds are not available to support the Collaborative's own programs.

Notes to the Financial Statements:

The Notes to the Financial Statements provide additional information that is essential to a full understanding of the information provided in the Collaborative's financial statements.

Supplementary information:

In addition to the basic financial statements and accompanying notes, this report also presents certain required supplementary information which is required to be disclosed by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

SEEM Collaborative
Management's Discussion and Analysis
June 30, 2019

GOVERNMENT-WIDE FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Statement of Net Position

	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>
Total Current Assets	\$ 9,240,105	\$ 8,995,055	\$ 8,997,975
Total Non-current Assets	<u>155,325</u>	<u>49,995</u>	<u>82,318</u>
Total Assets	<u>\$ 9,395,430</u>	<u>\$ 9,045,050</u>	<u>\$ 9,080,293</u>
Deferred Outflows Related to OPEB	<u>\$ 1,448,899</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
Liabilities			
Total Current Liabilities	\$ 3,165,588	\$ 3,049,827	\$ 2,980,582
Total Non-current Liabilities	<u>18,705,896</u>	<u>20,006,785</u>	<u>17,932,971</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>\$ 21,871,484</u>	<u>\$ 23,056,612</u>	<u>\$ 20,913,553</u>
Deferred Inflows Related to OPEB	<u>\$ 4,223,056</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
Net Position			
Unrestricted	\$(15,574,949)	\$(14,195,582)	\$(12,018,521)
Restricted	169,413	134,025	102,943
Invested in capital assets, net of related debt	<u>155,325</u>	<u>49,995</u>	<u>82,318</u>
Total Net Position	<u>\$(15,250,211)</u>	<u>\$(14,011,562)</u>	<u>\$ (11,833,260)</u>

SEEM Collaborative's net position decreased by approximately \$1,239,000 and \$2,178,000 in fiscal 2019 and 2018. During fiscal 2019, SEEM Collaborative recorded decreases in net retirement health benefit obligations required by GASB Statement No. 75 of \$1,300,889 and transferred an additional \$46,025 to an OPEB trust. There were increases in both OPEB deferred outflows and inflows of \$1,448,899 and \$4,223,056, respectively. During fiscal 2018, SEEM Collaborative recorded increases in net retirement health benefit obligations required by GASB Statement No. 75 of \$2,073,814 and transferred an additional \$155,845 to an OPEB trust. Increases in net position before these increases in OPEB expenses were approximately \$281,000 and \$51,000 in fiscal 2019 and 2018, respectively. The surplus in fiscal 2019 was a result of revenues exceeding expenses during the year. The Collaborative recorded restricted net position in the amount of \$169,413 as of June 30, 2019. Other changes in assets and liabilities are due primarily to operations in fiscal 2019.

Statement of Activities

	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>
Program Revenues*	\$ 32,051,286	\$30,347,723	\$29,723,196
General Revenues	<u>105,386</u>	<u>72,154</u>	<u>71,593</u>
Total Revenues	<u>32,156,672</u>	<u>30,419,877</u>	<u>29,794,789</u>
Program Expenses*	30,078,087	28,498,910	27,568,529
Administrative Expenses*	<u>1,797,941</u>	<u>1,869,610</u>	<u>1,694,573</u>
Total Expenses*	<u>31,876,028</u>	<u>30,368,520</u>	<u>29,263,102</u>
Change in net position, before increase in net retirement health benefit obligation	280,644	51,357	531,687
Increase in net retirement health benefit obligation	(1,473,268)	(2,073,814)	(1,450,116)
OPEB trust funding	(46,025)	(155,845)	(580,296)
Total net position – beginning	(14,011,562)	(11,833,260)	204,602
Cumulative effect of a change in accounting principle	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(10,539,137)</u>
Total net position – ending	<u>\$(15,250,211)</u>	<u>\$(14,011,562)</u>	<u>\$ (11,833,260)</u>

* Excludes Massachusetts Teachers' and State Employees' Retirement Systems "on-behalf" payments.

SEEM Collaborative
Management's Discussion and Analysis
June 30, 2019

During the years ended June 30, 2019 and 2018, operating revenues, excluding Massachusetts Teachers' and State Employees' Retirement Systems "on-behalf" payments, increased by approximately \$1,737,000 and \$625,000, respectively. The increase in fiscal 2019 revenues was primarily from additional tuition and program services revenues of approximately \$1,048,000 and additional transportation services of approximately \$472,000. The increase in fiscal 2018 revenues was primarily from additional tuition and program services revenues of approximately \$653,000. During the years ended June 30, 2019 and 2018, operating expenses, excluding Massachusetts Teachers' and State Employees' Retirement Systems "on-behalf" payments, increased approximately \$1,508,000 and \$1,105,000 respectively. The increases in expenses for the year ended June 30, 2019 was primarily due to increases in personnel and transportation costs that correspond to increases in program and other service revenues. The increases in expenses for the year ended June 30, 2018 was primarily due to increases in personnel costs that correspond to increases in program and other service revenues.

GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

The Collaborative reported a total general fund balance of \$5,905,104, of which \$338,328 was nonspendable and \$5,566,776 was unassigned. The fund balance increased approximately \$94,000 during the year ended June 30, 2019. During fiscal 2019 there was a transfer of approximately \$46,000 to the OPEB Trust. The increase of approximately \$140,000 in the fund balance prior to the funding of the Trust was primarily due to increases in tuition revenues in excess of related expenditures. Cash and cash equivalents increased by approximately \$524,000 and accounts receivable decreased by approximately \$265,000. The balance in the restricted funds increased by approximately \$35,000 during the year ended June 30, 2019 due to unspent restricted contributions received.

GENERAL FUND BUDGETARY HIGHLIGHTS

The Collaborative's annual budget for fiscal 2019 was approved by its Board of Directors. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2019, the Collaborative received revenues, excluding Massachusetts Teachers' and State Employees' Retirement Systems "on-behalf" payments, of approximately \$32,106,000 compared to budgeted revenues of approximately \$31,539,000. The difference between actual revenues received and budgeted revenues is primarily due to significantly higher than expected fees for transportation received during the fiscal year.

For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2019, the Collaborative incurred actual expenditures, excluding Massachusetts Teachers' and State Employees' Retirement Systems "on-behalf" payments, of approximately \$31,966,000 compared to budgeted expenditures of approximately \$31,537,000. The difference between actual expenditures incurred and budgeted expenditures is primarily due to higher than expected transportation costs that correspond with the increase in transportation revenues.

CAPITAL ASSET AND OBLIGATIONS

The Collaborative purchased approximately \$144,000 of capital assets for programs during fiscal 2019.

KNOWN FACTS, DECISIONS, OR CONDITIONS

The Collaborative fully implemented two new standards from GASB Statements No. 74 and No. 75, in fiscal year 2017. These standards relate to the accounting and reporting by plans and employers for postemployment benefits other than pensions. The Collaborative provides financial support for postemployment health benefits.

The Collaborative historically recorded the cost of the postemployment health benefits on a "pay as you go" basis. Under Statement No. 75, the Collaborative is required to report the effects of OPEB-related transactions and events on its financial statements and to provide information about the Collaborative's OPEB obligations and the assets available to satisfy the obligations. This change significantly increased and accelerated the recording of these costs and significantly impacted the Collaborative's government-wide financials in fiscal year 2019 and 2018. The Collaborative recorded a charge for the estimated annual cost of the program for fiscal year 2019 of \$1,519,293.

SEEM Collaborative
Management's Discussion and Analysis
June 30, 2019

The Collaborative implemented GASB Statement No. 68 in fiscal year 2015. The standard relates to the accounting and financial reporting for pensions. The Collaborative's employees participate in the Massachusetts Teachers' (MTRS) or State Employees' Retirement System (MSERS), statewide cost-sharing multi-employer defined benefit plans public employee retirement systems (PERS) covering all employees of local school districts within the Commonwealth of Massachusetts ("the Commonwealth").

Educational collaboratives contribute amounts equal to the normal cost of employees' benefits participating in MSERS at a rate established by the Public Employees' Retirement Administration Commission (PERAC), currently 6.1% of covered payroll. The Commonwealth is a nonemployer contributor in MTRS and MSERS and is required by statute to make all actuarially determined employer contributions on behalf of the member employers participating in MTRS. Therefore, the Collaborative is considered to be in a 100% special funding situation as defined by GASB Statement No. 68. Since the employers do not contribute directly to each system beyond the MSERS annual normal cost, there is no net pension liability to recognize. However, the notes to the financial statements must disclose the portion of the nonemployer contributing entities' share of the collective net pension liability that is associated with the employer. In addition, the Collaborative must recognize its portion of the collective pension expense as both revenue and pension expense.

CONTACTING THE COLLABORATIVE

This financial report is designed to provide readers of the financial statement an overview of the Collaborative's financial activities. If you have any questions in regard to this report, please contact our finance department at (781) 279-1361.

SEEM Collaborative
Statement of Net Position
June 30, 2019

	<u>Governmental Activities</u>
<u>Assets</u>	
Current Assets	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 5,843,197
Accounts receivable, net	3,058,580
Prepaid expenses and other assets	338,328
Total Current Assets	9,240,105
Non-current Assets	
Furniture, equipment and leasehold improvements, net	155,325
Total Non-current Assets	155,325
Total Assets	9,395,430
<u>Deferred Outflows of Resources</u>	
Deferred Outflows of Resources Related to OPEB	1,448,899
Total Assets and Deferred Outflows of Resources	\$ 10,844,329
<u>Liabilities</u>	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 3,095,761
Deferred revenues	69,827
Total Current Liabilities	3,165,588
Non-current Liabilities:	
Net OPEB liability	18,705,896
Total Non-current Liabilities	18,705,896
Total Liabilities	21,871,484
<u>Deferred Inflows of Resources</u>	
Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to OPEB	4,223,056
<u>Net Position</u>	
Net Position	
Invested in capital assets, net of related debt	155,325
Unrestricted	(15,574,949)
Restricted - grants and contributions	169,413
Total Net Position	(15,250,211)
Total Liabilities, Deferred Inflows of Resources and Net Position	\$ 10,844,329

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

SEEM Collaborative
Statement of Activities
For the Year Ended June 30, 2019

Functions/ Programs	Program Revenues			Net (Expense) Revenue and Changes in Net Position
	Expenses	Charges for Services	Operating Grants and Contributions	
Governmental Activities:				
Administration	\$ 1,797,941	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (1,797,941)
Education and related	20,264,861	21,671,542	302,843	1,709,524
Transportation	9,775,004	10,076,901	-	301,897
Intergovernmental revenue and expense	4,601,636	-	4,601,636	-
Other postemployment benefits	1,519,293	-	-	(1,519,293)
Depreciation and amortization	38,222	-	-	(38,222)
Total Governmental Activities	\$ 37,996,957	\$ 31,748,443	\$ 4,904,479	(1,344,035)
General revenue:				
Assessments to member districts				55,000
Interest				50,386
Total General Revenue				105,386
Change in Net Position				(1,238,649)
Net Position, Beginning of Year				(14,011,562)
Net Position, End of Year				\$ (15,250,211)

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

SEEM Collaborative
Balance Sheet
Governmental Funds
June 30, 2019

	General Fund	Nonmajor Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 5,673,784	\$ 169,413	\$ 5,843,197
Accounts receivable, net	3,058,580	-	3,058,580
Prepaid expenses and other assets	338,328	-	338,328
Total Assets	\$ 9,070,692	\$ 169,413	\$ 9,240,105
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES			
Liabilities:			
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 3,095,761	\$ -	\$ 3,095,761
Deferred revenues	69,827	-	69,827
Total Liabilities	3,165,588	-	3,165,588
Fund Balances:			
Nonspendable	338,328	-	338,328
Restricted	-	169,413	169,413
Committed	-	-	-
Assigned	-	-	-
Unassigned	5,566,776	-	5,566,776
Total Fund Balances	5,905,104	169,413	6,074,517
Total Liabilities and Fund Balances	\$ 9,070,692	\$ 169,413	\$ 9,240,105

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

SEEM Collaborative

Reconciliation of the Governmental Funds Balance Sheet to the Statement of Net Position
June 30, 2019

Total fund balances, governmental funds	\$ 6,074,517
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the Statement of Net Position are different because:	
Capital assets, net of related debt, used in governmental activities are not current financial resources and therefore are not reported in this fund financial statement, but are reported in the governmental activities of the Statement of Net Position	155,325
Deferred outflows relating to the other postemployment benefit obligation are not a current financial resource and therefore are not reported in this fund financial statement, but are reported in the government activities of the Statement of Net Position.	1,448,899
Deferred inflows relating to the other postemployment benefit obligation is not a current obligation and therefore is not reported in this fund financial statement, but is reported in the government activities of the Statement of Net Position.	(4,223,056)
Other postemployment benefit (OPEB) liability is not a current obligation and therefore is not reported in this fund financial statement, but is reported in the governmental activities of the Statement of Net Position.	<u>(18,705,896)</u>
Net position of governmental activities	<u><u>\$ (15,250,211)</u></u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

SEEM Collaborative
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances
Governmental Funds
For the Year Ended June 30, 2019

	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Nonmajor Governmental Funds</u>	<u>Total Governmental Funds</u>
Revenues:			
Tuition and service revenues	\$ 21,671,542	\$ -	\$ 21,671,542
Transportation	10,076,901	-	10,076,901
Member assessments	55,000	-	55,000
Grants and contributions	252,438	50,405	302,843
Intergovernmental revenue	4,601,636	-	4,601,636
Interest	50,386	-	50,386
Total Revenues	<u>36,707,903</u>	<u>50,405</u>	<u>36,758,308</u>
Expenditures:			
Administration	1,797,941	-	1,797,941
Program payroll	15,106,050	-	15,106,050
Program fringe benefits and payroll taxes	2,380,410	-	2,380,410
Professional services	406,870	-	406,870
Rent and utilities	1,169,561	-	1,169,561
Maintenance	522,771	-	522,771
Supplies	435,680	-	435,680
Transportation	9,775,004	-	9,775,004
Travel, field trips, and conferences	108,649	15,017	123,666
Telephone and internet	35,022	-	35,022
Training	36,307	-	36,307
Miscellaneous	48,524	-	48,524
Intergovernmental expense	4,601,636	-	4,601,636
Capital outlay, net of debt incurred	143,552	-	143,552
Total Expenditures	<u>36,567,977</u>	<u>15,017</u>	<u>36,582,994</u>
Excess of Revenues over Expenditures	139,926	35,388	175,314
Other Financing Sources:			
OPEB obligation funding	(46,025)	-	(46,025)
Net Change in Fund Balances	<u>93,901</u>	<u>35,388</u>	<u>129,289</u>
Fund Balances, Beginning of Year	<u>5,811,203</u>	<u>134,025</u>	<u>5,945,228</u>
Fund Balances, End of Year	<u>\$ 5,905,104</u>	<u>\$ 169,413</u>	<u>\$ 6,074,517</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

SEEM Collaborative

Reconciliation of the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances of
Governmental Funds to the Statement of Activities
For the Year Ended June 30, 2019

Net change in fund balances of total governmental funds \$ 129,289

Amounts reported for governmental activities in the Statement of Activities are different because:

Governmental funds report outlays for capital assets as expenditures because such outlays use current financial resources. In contrast, the Statement of Activities reports only a portion of the outlay as expense. The outlay is allocated over the assets' estimated useful lives as depreciation expense for the period.

Capital outlay purchases, net of debt incurred	143,552
Depreciation	(38,222)

Other postemployment benefits reported in the Statement of Activities do not require the use of current financial resources and, therefore, are not reported as expenditures in the governmental funds.

Net change in other postemployment benefits (OPEB) accrual	<u>(1,473,268)</u>
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Change in net position of governmental activities	<u><u>\$ (1,238,649)</u></u>
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The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

SEEM Collaborative
Statement of Fiduciary Net Position
Retirees' Health Insurance Trust Fund
June 30, 2019

Assets	
Cash and cash equivalents	<u>\$ 879,072</u>
Total Assets	<u><u>\$ 879,072</u></u>
Net Position	
Net position restricted for OPEB	<u>\$ 879,072</u>
Total Net Position	<u><u>\$ 879,072</u></u>

See accompanying notes to financial statements and independent auditor's report.

SEEM Collaborative
Statement of Changes in Fiduciary Net Position
Retirees' Health Insurance Trust Fund
For the year ended June 30, 2019

Additions:

Contributions	\$ 46,025
Investment gain	<u>54,195</u>
Total Additions	<u>100,220</u>
Change in Net Position	100,220
Net Position - Beginning of Year	<u>778,852</u>
Net Position - End of Year	<u><u>\$ 879,072</u></u>

See accompanying notes to financial statements and independent auditor's report.

SEEM Collaborative
Notes to Financial Statements
June 30, 2019

NOTE A – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Reporting Entity

SEEM Collaborative (“the Collaborative”) was created by agreement pursuant to the provisions of Section 4E of Chapter 40, as Amended by Chapter 797 of the Acts of 1974 and by Chapter 43 of the Acts of 2012 by the following school committees: Lynnfield, Melrose, North Reading, Reading, Saugus, Stoneham, Wakefield, Wilmington, Woburn, and Winchester. The purpose of the agreement is to provide special programs and services for school children under the members’ jurisdiction. The Collaborative also provides services to non-member districts as services are requested.

Basis of Presentation

The Collaborative's financial statements are prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (“GAAP”). The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (“GASB”) is responsible for establishing GAAP for state and local governments through its pronouncements (Statements and Interpretations).

As required by GAAP and in accordance with the GASB, the accompanying financial statements present the Collaborative and its component units. Component units are included in the reporting entity if their operational and financial relationships with the Collaborative are significant. Pursuant to these criteria, the Collaborative did not identify any component units requiring inclusion in the accompanying financial statements.

The Collaborative's basic financial statements include both government-wide (reporting the Collaborative as a whole) and fund financial statements (reporting the Collaborative's major funds). Both the government-wide and fund financial statements categorize primary activities as either governmental or business type. Governmental activities are generally financed through intergovernmental assessments or other non-exchange transactions. The Collaborative does not have any activities classified as business type activities.

Government-wide Financial Statements

In the government-wide Statement of Net Position, governmental columns are presented on a consolidated basis and are reported on a full accrual, economic resource basis, which recognizes all long-term assets, receivables and deferred outflows of resources, as well as long-term liabilities, deferred inflows of resources and other liabilities reported on a full accrual basis. The Collaborative’s net position is reported in three parts—net investment in capital assets; restricted; and unrestricted. The Collaborative first utilizes restricted resources to finance qualifying activities.

The government-wide Statement of Activities demonstrates the degree to which the direct expenses of a given function or segment is offset by program revenues. Direct expenses are those that are clearly identifiable with a specific function or segment. The Collaborative does not allocate indirect expenses to functions in the statement of Activities. Program revenues included charges to customers or applicants who purchase, use or directly benefit from goods, services or privileges provided by a given function or segment and grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular function or segment. Assessments and other items not properly included among program revenues are reported instead as general revenues.

The government-wide focus is more on the sustainability of the Collaborative as an entity and the change in the Collaborative’s net position resulting from the current year’s activities.

Fund Financial Statements

Fund financial statements of the reporting entity are organized into funds each of which are considered to be separate accounting entities. Each fund is accounted for by providing a separate set of self-balancing accounts, which constitute its assets, liabilities, fund balance, revenues and expenditures.

SEEM Collaborative
Notes to Financial Statements
June 30, 2019

NOTE A – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

The emphasis in fund financial statements is on the major funds in the governmental activities categories. GASB pronouncements set forth minimum criteria (percentage of the assets and deferred outflows of resources, liabilities and deferred inflows of resources, revenues or expenditures/expenses of either fund category or the governmental and enterprise combined) for the determination of major funds. The Collaborative may electively add funds, as major funds, which have specific community focus. The nonmajor funds are combined in a column in the fund financial statements.

The following governmental fund types are used by the Collaborative - the Collaborative does not use proprietary funds:

Governmental Funds:

The focus of the governmental funds' measurement (in the fund statements) is upon determination of financial position and changes in financial position (sources, uses, and balances of financial resources) rather than upon net income. The following is a description of the governmental funds of the Collaborative:

General fund - is the general operating fund of the Collaborative. It is used to account for all financial resources not accounted for and reported in another fund.

Non-major governmental funds - consist of other special revenue and permanent funds that are aggregated and presented in the non-major governmental funds column on the government funds financial statements.

Fiduciary Funds:

Fiduciary Funds are used to report assets held in a trustee or agency capacity for others and therefore are not available to support Collaborative programs. The reporting focus is on net position and changes in net position presented in fiduciary fund financial statements. Since by definition these assets are being held for the benefit of a third party (retirees) and cannot be used to address activities or obligations of the government, these funds are not incorporated into the government-wide statements.

Basis of Accounting and Measurement Focus

The Collaborative's government-wide financial statements are presented using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting, as are fiduciary fund financial statements. Under the accrual basis of accounting, revenues are recognized when earned and expenses are recorded when the liability is incurred or economic asset used. Revenues, expenses, gain, losses, assets, and liabilities resulting from exchange and exchange-like transactions are recognized when the exchange takes place.

The Collaborative's governmental funds financial statements are reported using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Under the modified accrual basis of accounting, revenues are recorded when susceptible to accrual, i.e., both measurable and available. Available means collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to be used to pay liabilities of the current period. Expenditures are recorded when the related fund liability is incurred, except for unmatured interest on long-term debt, judgments, compensated absences and pension expenditures, which are recorded as a fund liability when expected to be paid with expendable available financial resources.

Fair Value Measurements and Investments

The Collaborative has contributed \$782,166 to a public employee retirement trust account with U.S Bank National Association as trustee, on behalf of its retirees' health insurance trust fund. The trustee invests the funds in Vanguard mutual funds. As of June 30, 2019, the balance in these investments consisted of the following:

SEEM Collaborative
Notes to Financial Statements
June 30, 2019

NOTE A – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Fair Value</u>	<u>Unrealized Gain</u>
Mutual Funds	\$782,166	\$879,072	\$96,906

All investments of the Collaborative are measured at fair value, generally based on quoted market prices in accordance with level 1 of the Fair Value Hierarchy established under GASB Statement No. 72, *Fair Value Measurement and Application*.

Net increase in the fair value on investments for the year ended June 30, 2019 was \$56,183. There were no realized gains or losses during the year ended June 30, 2019. Investment fees for the year ended June 30, 2019 were \$1,988.

The Collaborative manages its investments in accordance with state public finance laws that require that all moneys held in the name of the Collaborative, which are not required to be kept liquid for purposes of distribution, shall be invested in such a manner as to require the payment of interest on the money at the highest possible rate reasonably available, taking account of safety, liquidity and yield. The Collaborative has directed a local investment management service to manage the funds as conservatively as possible. However, the investments are still subject to market risk of loss. For an investment, custodial credit risk is the risk that, in the event of the failure of the counterparty, the Collaborative will not be able to recover the value of its investments or collateral securities that are in possession of an outside party. The Collaborative's investments are uninsured, not registered in the name of the Collaborative, and held by the counterparty's trust department or agent but not in the Collaborative's name.

Revenues

Expenditure-driven programs currently reimbursable are recognized as revenue when the qualifying expenditures have been incurred and the amounts are available. Charges for services provided to other education agencies and private parties are recognized as revenue when services are provided. Amounts owed to the Collaborative for services already performed, which are not available are recorded as receivables. Amounts received prior to the entitlement period are recorded as unearned revenue. Revenues susceptible to accrual include expenditure-driven programs and interest income.

Cash and Cash Equivalents

For financial statement purposes, the Collaborative considers all highly liquid investments with maturity of three months or less when purchased to be cash equivalents.

Accounts Receivable

Accounts receivable are carried at their net realized value. Management estimates the allowance for doubtful accounts by identifying troubled accounts and by using historical experience applied to an aging of accounts. Accounts receivable are written off when deemed uncollectible. Recoveries of accounts receivable previously written off are recorded as revenue when received. At June 30, 2019, management has not recorded an allowance for doubtful accounts because they have deemed all accounts collectible. At June 30, 2019, accounts receivable consisted of:

Services – SEEM programs and transportation	\$ 3,058,580
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Deferred Revenue

Revenue is recognized when earned, however funds received that are not earned as of year-end are recorded as deferred revenue in the financial statements.

SEEM Collaborative
Notes to Financial Statements
June 30, 2019

NOTE A – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Property and Equipment

Furniture and equipment are capitalized in the government-wide financial statements where the Collaborative maintains possession of the assets and expects future benefits to exceed one year. The assets are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation computed on the straight-line method. The useful lives are estimated to be five to ten years for equipment and five years for leasehold improvements. The Collaborative capitalizes assets purchased in excess of \$5,000.

In the fund financial statements, capital assets used in governmental fund operations are accounted for as capital outlay expenditures of the governmental fund upon acquisition. Capital assets are not capitalized and related depreciation is not reported in the fund financial statements.

Property and equipment reported on the Statement of Net Position is as follows:

	<u>June 30, 2019</u>
Office furniture and equipment	\$ 403,904
Vehicles	103,172
Leasehold improvements	<u>539,713</u>
	1,046,789
Accumulated depreciation	<u>(891,464)</u>
Property and equipment, net	<u>\$ 155,325</u>

Depreciation expense reported on the Statement of Activities for the year ended June 30, 2019 was \$38,222.

Equity Classifications

Government-wide Statements

Equity is classified as net position and displayed in three components:

Net position invested in capital assets – Consists of capital assets including restricted capital assets net of accumulated depreciation and reduced by the outstanding balances of any bonds, mortgages, notes or other borrowings that are attributed to the acquisition, construction or improvement of those assets. If there are significant unspent related debt proceeds at year-end the portion of the debt attributable to the unspent proceeds are not included in the calculation or invested in capital assets. The Collaborative has no bonded debt on Capital assets at June 30, 2019.

Restricted net position (as applicable) – Consists of net position with constraints placed on the use either by (1) external groups such as creditors, grantors, contributors or laws or regulations of other government or, (2) law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.

Unrestricted net position – general and other purposes – All other net position that do not meet the definition of “restricted” or “invested in capital assets, net of related debt.”

Fund Financial Statements

Governmental fund equity is classified as fund balance. Fund balance in the fund financial statements is classified as nonspendable, restricted, committed, assigned or unassigned as described below:

Nonspendable: consists of amounts that cannot be spent because they are either (a) not in spendable form or (b) legally or contractually required to be maintained intact.

Restricted: Amounts that can be used only for specific purposes because of (a) constitutional provisions or enabling legislation or (b) externally imposed constraints. (External constraints might be imposed by creditors, grantors, contributors, or even the laws or regulations of other governments.)

SEEM Collaborative
Notes to Financial Statements
June 30, 2019

NOTE A – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Committed: Amounts that can be used only for specific purposes because of a formal action by the government's highest level of decision-making authority (Board of Directors). This classification might also include contractual obligations if existing resources have been committed for use in satisfying those contractual requirements.

Assigned: Amounts intended to be used for specific purposes but that do not meet the criteria to be classified as restricted or committed. Intent can be stipulated by the governing body, another body (such as a finance committee), or by an official to whom authority has been given.

Unassigned: This is residual classification for the General Fund – that is, everything that is not in another classification or in another fund. The General Fund is the only governmental fund that can report a positive unassigned fund balance. Other governmental funds might have a negative unassigned fund balance as a result of overspending for specific purposes for which amounts have been restricted, committed, or assigned.

The Collaborative's spending policy is to spend restricted fund balance first, followed by committed, assigned and unassigned fund balance.

Use of Estimates

Management used estimates and assumptions in preparing financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. Those estimates and assumptions affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities, and the reported revenues and expenses. Actual results could vary from the estimates that were used.

Allocation of Costs

Directly identifiable costs are charged to student services or general and administrative functions as applicable. Costs related to more than one function are allocated bases on criteria intended to associate the cost with whichever function benefits.

Income Tax Status

The Collaborative was established under Chapter 40 Section 4(e) under the general laws of Massachusetts and is therefore generally exempt from income taxes under Section 115 of the Internal Revenue Code. Accordingly, no provision for income taxes is made in the financial statements.

Subsequent Events

Subsequent events have been evaluated through December 17, 2019, which is the date the financial statements were available to be issued. The Collaborative accepted North Andover Public Schools as a member, effective July 1, 2019.

NOTE B – LEASE OBLIGATIONS

Operating Leases

The Collaborative has leases for office space and classroom space in various locations. With the exception of the Collaborative's administrative office, all space is leased from certain member districts' cities and towns. The leases have varying expiration dates through fiscal 2029. Classroom and office lease expense was \$982,177 for the year ended June 30, 2019.

SEEM Collaborative
Notes to Financial Statements
June 30, 2019

NOTE B – LEASE OBLIGATIONS *(continued)*

The minimum future rental commitments under the above operating leases are as follows:

<u>Year Ending June 30</u>	
2020	\$ 871,611
2021	856,678
2022	519,087
2023	488,670
2024	435,023
2025-2029	<u>1,906,880</u>
	<u>\$5,077,949</u>

Leases with member districts include:

- Town of Wakefield, School Facility – Yeuell School, lease expired 6/30/19 and is now month to month.
- Town of Stoneham, School Facility – Central School, 7/1/19-6/30/29.
- Town of Melrose, School Facilities – Ripley School and Beebe School, 8/1/11-7/31/21.
- Town of North Reading, Classroom Space – North Reading Middle, 9/1/14-8/31/20, renewed for 1 additional year as of 7/1/19.

The Collaborative also leases equipment, which consists principally of the leasing of copiers under operating leases that expire next fiscal year. Equipment lease expense was \$46,547 for the year ended June 30, 2019.

The following is a schedule by year of future minimum rental payments required under operating leases for equipment that have initial or remaining non-cancelable lease terms in excess of one year as of June 30, 2019.

<u>Year Ending June 30</u>	
2020	\$ 26,616
2021	<u>13,308</u>
	<u>\$ 39,924</u>

NOTE C – CONCENTRATION OF CREDIT RISK

From time to time, the Collaborative maintained bank account balances in a bank in excess of the federally insured limits. However, the bank has additional insurance provided by the Share Insurance Fund in the event of a loss in excess of the FDIC insured limit of \$250,000.

NOTE D – MASSACHUSETTS TEACHERS’ AND STATE EMPLOYEES’ RETIREMENT SYSTEMS

Plan Descriptions:

The Collaborative’s employees participate in the Massachusetts Teachers’ (MTRS) or State Employees’ Retirement System (MSERS), statewide cost-sharing multi-employer defined benefit plans public employee retirement systems (PERS) covering all employees of local school districts within the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. The retirement systems issue publicly available annual reports that includes financial statements and required supplementary information, which may be obtained by writing to Public Employee Retirement Administration Commission (PERAC), 5 Middlesex Avenue, Suite 304, Somerville, Massachusetts, 02145.

SEEM Collaborative
Notes to Financial Statements
June 30, 2019

NOTE D – MASSACHUSETTS TEACHERS’ AND STATE EMPLOYEES’ RETIREE SYSTEMS
(continued)

Benefits Provided:

MSERS provides retirement, disability, survivor and death benefits to members and their beneficiaries. Massachusetts General Laws (MGL) establishes uniform benefit and contribution requirements for all contributory PERS. These requirements provide for superannuation retirement allowance benefits up to a maximum of 80% of a member’s highest three-year average annual rate of regular compensation. For employees hired after April 1, 2012, retirement allowances are calculated on the basis of the last five years or any five consecutive years, whichever is greater in terms of compensation. Benefit payments are based upon a member’s age, length of creditable service, and group creditable service, and group classification. The authority for amending these provisions rests with the Legislature.

Members become vested after ten years of creditable service. A superannuation retirement allowance may be received upon the completion of twenty years of creditable service or upon reaching the age of 55 with ten years of service. Normal retirement for most employees occurs at age 65; for certain hazardous duty and public safety positions, normal retirement is at age 55. Most employees who joined the system after April 1, 2012 cannot retire prior to age 60.

The MSERS’ funding policies have been established by Chapter 32 of the MGL. The Legislature has the authority to amend these policies. The annuity portion of the MSERS retirement allowance is funded by employees, who contribute a percentage of their regular compensation. Costs of administering the plan are funded out of plan assets.

MTRS provides retirement, disability, survivor and death benefits to members and their beneficiaries. Massachusetts General Laws (MGL) establishes uniform benefit and contribution requirements for all contributory PERS. These requirements provide for superannuation retirement allowance benefits up to a maximum of 80% of a member’s highest three-year average annual rate of regular compensation. For employees hired after April 1, 2012, retirement allowances are calculated on the basis of the last five years or any five consecutive years, whichever is greater in terms of compensation. Benefit payments are based upon a member’s age, length of creditable service, and group creditable service, and group classification. The authority for amending these provisions rests with the Legislature.

Members become vested after ten years of creditable service. A superannuation retirement allowance may be received upon the completion of twenty years of creditable service or upon reaching the age of 55 with ten years of service. Normal retirement for most employees occurs at age 65. Most employees who joined the system after April 1, 2012 cannot retire prior to age 60.

The MTRS’ funding policies have been established by Chapter 32 of the MGL. The Legislature has the authority to amend these policies. The annuity portion of the MTRS retirement allowance is funded by employees, who contribute a percentage of their regular compensation. Costs of administering the plan are funded out of plan assets.

Contributions:

Member contributions for MSERS vary depending on the most recent date of membership:

<u>Hire Date</u>	<u>% of Compensation</u>
Prior to 1975.....	5% of regular compensation
1975 - 1983.....	7% of regular compensation
1984 to 6/30/1996.....	8% of regular compensation
7/1/1996 to present.....	9% of regular compensation
1979 to present.....	An additional 2% of regular compensation in excess of \$30,000

SEEM Collaborative
Notes to Financial Statements
June 30, 2019

NOTE D – MASSACHUSETTS TEACHERS’ AND STATE EMPLOYEES’ RETIREE SYSTEMS
(continued)

Educational collaboratives contribute amounts equal to the normal cost of employees’ benefits participating in MSERS at a rate established by the Public Employees’ Retirement Administration Commission (PERAC), currently 6.1% of covered payroll. Legally, the collaboratives are only responsible for contributing the annual normal cost of their employees’ benefits (i.e., the present value of the benefits earned by those employees in any given year) and are not legally responsible for the past service cost attributable to those employees or previously retired employees of the collaboratives. During fiscal year 2019, the Collaborative’s contributions on behalf of employees totaled \$367,421.

Member contributions for MTRS vary depending on the most recent date of membership:

<u>Hire Date</u>	<u>% of Compensation</u>
Prior to 1975.....	5% of regular compensation
1975 - 1983.....	7% of regular compensation
1984 to 6/30/1996.....	8% of regular compensation
7/1/1996 to present.....	9% of regular compensation
7/1/2001 to present.....	11% of regular compensation (for teachers hired after 7/1/01 and those accepting provisions of Chapter 114 of the Acts of 2000)
1979 to present.....	An additional 2% of regular compensation in excess of \$30,000

The Commonwealth is a nonemployer contributor in MTRS and is required by statute to make all actuarially determined employer contributions on behalf of the member employers participating in MTRS. Therefore, the Collaborative is considered to be in a 100% special funding situation as defined by GASB Statement No. 68, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions* and the Commonwealth is a nonemployer contributing entity under both MSERS and MTRS. Since the employers do not contribute directly to each system beyond the MSERS annual normal cost, there is no net pension liability to recognize. However, the notes to the financial statements must disclose the portion of the nonemployer contributing entities’ share of the collective net pension liability that is associated with the employer. In addition, the Collaborative must recognize its portion of the collective pension expense as both a revenue and pension expense.

The nonemployer contributing entities’ share of the collective net pension liability that is associated with the Collaborative was measured as of June 30, 2018 and was \$14,151,835 and \$27,011,576 under MSERS and MTRS, respectively. In fiscal 2019, the Collaborative recognized revenue and related expense of \$1,864,404 for its portion of the collective pension expense under MSERS. In fiscal 2019, the Collaborative recognized revenue and related expense of \$2,737,232 for its portion of the collective pension expense under MTRS.

NOTE E – RETIREMENT HEALTH BENEFITS

The Collaborative follows the provisions of GASB Statement No. 75, “Accounting and Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefits other than Pensions.” The Collaborative has also established a trust that follows the provisions of GASB Statement No. 74 that is intended to set funds aside for future retiree health insurance. The trust does not issue a separate financial report and its financial activities are reported in the fiduciary financial statements

Description

The Collaborative offers comprehensive medical insurance via Tufts Health Plan to eligible employees. An employee shall become eligible to retire under this plan upon meeting either of the following conditions:

SEEM Collaborative
Notes to Financial Statements
June 30, 2019

NOTE E – RETIREMENT HEALTH BENEFITS (continued)

- i. For employees hired before April 2, 2012, attainment of age 55 as an active member and completion of 10 years of service or completion of 20 years of service regardless of age.
- ii. For employees hired on and after April 2, 2012, attainment of age 60 as an active member and completion of 10 years of service.

The single-employer plan is administered by the Collaborative, which is the only employer involved in the plan, and the retirees share in 30% of premiums for Medical insurance.

Funding Policy

The contribution requirements of plan members and the Collaborative are established and may be amended through Collaborative ordinances. For the 2019 fiscal year, total Collaborative premiums plus implicit costs for the retiree medical program were \$155,122. The Collaborative also made a contribution to an OPEB Trust of \$46,025 for a total contribution during the measurement period of \$201,147 to be reported on the financial statements for fiscal year 2019.

Investment Policy

The Collaborative’s Board of Directors, Executive Director, Finance Director and Treasurer must select an investment vehicle designed to ensure adequate funding for OPEB obligations to SEEM retirees. Safety, Liquidity, and Yield are important considerations for these long-term investments. SEEM’s investments for OPEB must be consistent with the goal of attaining a reasonable level of income and long-term growth of capital income. These funds may, however, be subject to market fluctuations. Trusts designed for this purpose which partner with investment houses are appropriate for vehicles for these funds. Compliance with GASB is required.

As of June 30, 2019, all of the Collaborative has established a Trust with Public Agency Retirement Services (PARS). The plan investments were in Vanguard mutual funds through Public Agency Retirement Services, the trust administrator. The annual money-weighted rate of return as of the of the June 30, 2019 measurement date was 6.89%.

Actuarially Determined Contribution (ADC)

The Collaborative’s Actuarially Determined Contribution (ADC) is an amount actuarially determined in accordance with the parameters of GASB Statement No. 74/75 which represents a level of funding that, if paid on an ongoing basis, is projected to cover the service cost each year and amortize any unfunded actuarial liabilities (or funding excess). The following table shows the components of the Collaborative’s annual ADC for the fiscal year and the amount actually contributed to the plan:

Actuarially Determined Contribution - Deficiency / (Excess)		<u>June 30, 2019</u>
I.	Service Cost	\$1,548,729
II.	30 year amortization of NOL at 3.00%	954,439
III.	Actuarial Determined Contribution [I. + II.]	2,503,168
IV.	Contributions in relation to the actuarially determined contribution	(201,147)
V.	Contribution deficiency / (excess) [III. + IV.]	<u>\$2,302,021</u>
	Covered employee payroll	\$15,560,829
	Contribution as a % of covered employee payroll	1.29%

SEEM Collaborative
Notes to Financial Statements
June 30, 2019

NOTE E – RETIREMENT HEALTH BENEFITS (continued)

Funded Status and Funding Progress

As of June 30, 2019, the plan was 4.50% funded. The Total OPEB Liability (TOL) for benefits was \$19,584,968, and the Fiduciary Net Position was \$879,072, resulting in a Net OPEB Liability (NOL) of \$18,705,896. The covered payroll (annual payroll of active employees covered by the plan) was \$15,560,829 and the ratio of the NOL to the covered payroll was 120.2%.

OPEB Liability, OPEB Expense and ADC

	Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2019	
	Collaborative Employees and Retirees	Total
I. Total OPEB Liability	\$19,584,968	\$19,584,968
II. Fiduciary Net Position as of June 30, 2018	879,072	879,072
III. Net OPEB Liability (Asset) [I-II.]	18,705,896	18,705,896
IV. Service Cost	1,548,729	1,548,729
V. Interest on Net OPEB Liability (Asset) and Service Cost	637,592	637,592
VI. Deferred (Inflows)/Outflows from Plan Design Changes	-	-
VII. Deferred (Inflows)/Outflows from Plan Experience	(704,974)	(704,974)
VIII. Deferred (Inflows)/Outflows from Changes in Assumptions	241,483	241,483
IX. Projected Earnings on OPEB Plan Investments	(46,970)	(46,970)
X. Deferred (Inflows)/Outflows from Earnings on Investments	(1,445)	(1,445)
XI. Employer Share of Costs	(155,122)	(155,122)
XII. Employer Payments (Withdrawals) to/from OPEB Trust	(46,025)	(46,025)
XIII. Total Employer Contribution [XI.+XII.]	(201,147)	(201,147)
XIV. Net OPEB Expense [IV.+V.+VI.+VII.+VIII.+IX.+X.+XIII.]	\$ 1,473,268	\$ 1,473,268

Effect of 1% Change in Healthcare Trend

In the event that healthcare trend rates were 1% higher than forecast and employee contributions were to increase at the forecast rates, the Total OPEB Liability as of the June 30, 2019 Measurement Date would increase to \$25,693,430 and Net OPEB Liability would increase to \$24,814,358. The corresponding Service Cost would increase to \$2,184,612. If such healthcare trend rates were 1% less than forecast and employee contributions were to increase at the forecast rate, the Total OPEB Liability would decrease to \$15,219,025 and the Net OPEB Liability would decrease to \$14,339,953. The corresponding Service Cost would decrease to \$1,118,384.

Effect of 1% Change in Discount Rates

As of the June 30, 2019 Measurement Date, if the discount rate were 1% higher than what was used in this valuation, the Total OPEB Liability would decrease to \$15,648,855 and the Net OPEB Liability would decrease to \$14,769,783. The corresponding Service Cost would decrease to \$1,140,499. If the discount rate were 1% lower than was used in this valuation, the Total OPEB Liability would increase to \$24,713,160 and the Net OPEB Liability would increase to \$23,834,088. The corresponding Service Cost would increase to \$2,119,230.

Actuarial Methods and Assumptions

Projections of benefits for financial reporting purposes are based on the substantive plan (the plan as understood by the employer and plan members) and include the types of benefits provided at the time of each valuation and the historical pattern of sharing of benefits costs between the employer and plan members to that point. The actuarial methods and assumptions used include techniques that are designed to reduce the effects of short-term volatility in actuarial accrued liabilities and the actuarial value of assets, consistent with the long-term perspective of the calculations.

Actuarial Cost Method:	Individual Entry Age Normal
Discount Rate:	3.25% per annum (previously 3.00%)
General Inflation Assumption:	2.75% per annum

SEEM Collaborative
Notes to Financial Statements
June 30, 2019

NOTE E – RETIREMENT HEALTH BENEFITS (continued)

Annual Compensation Increases: 3.00% per annum

Actuarial Value of Assets: Market Value

Recognition of OPEB Trust Assets

The state of Massachusetts has passed legislation allowing municipal entities to establish a Trust for Other Postemployment Benefits (“OPEB”) under M.G.L. Chapter 32B, Section 20 for purposes of accumulating assets to pre-fund the liabilities under GASB 75. This legislation was amended effective November 9, 2016 to clarify who may adopt such a Trust and provide guidance on the ongoing operation of such a Trust. To the best of our knowledge, SEEM Collaborative has established an irrevocable trust for the purposes of prefunding liabilities under GASB 74/75.

Impact of Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (“PPACA”) Excise Tax

Under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (“PPACA”), an excise tax will be imposed for tax years beginning after December 31, 2022. The law specified a 40% excise tax to be paid by the provider of such coverage of the excess value beyond a basic dollar amount plus an additional “kicker” for qualified retirees or those engaged in a high risk profession. The threshold amounts for 2018 (original legislation) were \$12,511 for single coverage and \$32,676 for family coverage and a “kicker” amount of \$1,650 for single coverage and \$3,450 for family coverage is expected to be added to the above threshold.

Deferred Inflows/Outflows

Deferred (Inflows)/Outflows in OPEB Expense arising from the recognition of the effects of differences between expected & actual experience										
Fiscal	Differences between actual & expected experience	Recognition Period (years)	2019 Amortization	6/30/2019 Remaining Balance	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025 and Thereafter
2017	35,147	14.01	2,509	27,620	2,509	2,509	2,509	2,509	2,509	15,075
2018	-	14.01	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2019	(4,952,379)	7.00	(707,483)	(4,244,896)	(707,483)	(707,483)	(707,483)	(707,483)	(707,483)	(707,481)
Total Remaining Balance				(4,217,276)						
Net increase (decrease) in OPEB Expense			(704,974)		(704,974)	(704,974)	(704,974)	(704,974)	(704,974)	(692,406)

Deferred (Inflows)/Outflows in OPEB Expense arising from the recognition of the effects of changes in assumption										
Fiscal	Differences between actual & expected experience	Recognition Period (years)	2019 Amortization	6/30/2019 Remaining Balance	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025 and Thereafter
2019	1,690,382	7.00	241,483	1,448,899	241,483	241,483	241,483	241,483	241,483	241,484
Total Remaining Balance				1,448,899						
Net increase (decrease) in OPEB Expense			241,483		241,483	241,483	241,483	241,483	241,483	241,484

Deferred (Inflows)/Outflows in OPEB Expense arising from the recognition of differences between projected & actual earnings on OPEB plan investments										
Fiscal	Differences between actual & expected experience	Recognition Period (years)	2019 Amortization	6/30/2019 Remaining Balance	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025 and Thereafter
2019	(7,225)	5.00	(1,445)	(5,780)	(1,445)	(1,445)	(1,445)	(1,445)	-	-
Total Remaining Balance				(5,780)						
Net increase (decrease) in OPEB Expense			(1,445)		(1,445)	(1,445)	(1,445)	(1,445)	-	-

SEEM Collaborative
Notes to Financial Statements
June 30, 2019

NOTE E – RETIREMENT HEALTH BENEFITS (continued)

Impact of Section 9A1/2 of M.G.L. Section 32B

For employees who retire on or after January 1, 2011, whenever a retired employee or beneficiary receives a healthcare premium contribution from a government unit in a case where a portion of the retiree’s creditable service is attributable to service in 1 or more other governmental units, the first governmental unit shall be reimbursed in full, in accordance with this paragraph, by the other governmental units for the portion of the premium contributions that corresponds to the percentage of the retiree’s creditable service that is attributable to each governmental unit. The other governmental units shall be charged based on their own contribution rate or the contribution rate of the first employer, whichever is lower.

For purposes of the valuation the Collaborative has not attempted to value the impact of prior governmental service at other entities in the State of Massachusetts for current employees of the SEEM Collaborative nor has the Collaborative attempted to value the impact of prior SEEM Collaborative employees currently working at other governmental entities in the State of Massachusetts.

NOTE F – TAX POSITION

The primary tax positions made by the Collaborative are the existence of Unrelated Business Income Tax and the Collaborative’s status as an exempt organization under the Internal Revenue Code. The Collaborative currently evaluates all tax positions, and makes determinations regarding the likelihood of those positions being upheld under review. For the years presented, and as a result of adoption, the Collaborative has not recognized any tax benefits or loss contingencies for uncertain tax positions based on its evaluations. The Collaborative is not currently under examination by any taxing jurisdiction. As a Chapter 40 governmental entity, the Collaborative is exempt from filing certain non-profit filings and, accordingly, there are no returns currently open for examination.

NOTE G – DISCLOSURES REQUIRED UNDER MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL LAW c.40 § 4E

Names, duties and total compensation for the five most highly compensated employees

The five highest paid employees of the Collaborative during fiscal 2019 were as follows:

Name	Title	Fiscal 2019 Salary
Catherine Lawson	Executive Director	\$166,279
Gregory Zammuto	Director of Finance and Operations	\$139,771
Ryan Snyder	Supervisor of Behavioral Services	\$114,197
Maureen Crowley	Principal	\$113,778
Stephanie Arzigian	Principal	\$111,278
David Farwell	Principal	\$111,278
Jennifer Thornton	Principal	\$111,278

The first, second, and fourth employees listed above were employed by the Collaborative under 12 month contracts and the third and fifth employees listed above was employed by the Collaborative under 11 month contracts.

The duties of the individuals listed above include:

Executive Director - The executive director is the professional leader of the Collaborative and as such shall be responsible for all matters of decision and administration which come within the scope as executive officer.

SEEM Collaborative
Notes to Financial Statements
June 30, 2019

NOTE G – DISCLOSURES REQUIRED UNDER MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL LAW c.40 § 4E
(continued)

Director of Finance and Operations - Ensures the Collaborative's overall financial integrity, stability and best practices in all financial management operations.

Supervisor of Behavioral Services - Provides leadership, supervision and oversight of the consultative Board Certified Behavioral Analyst ("BCBA") department and the Program based BCBA staff

Program Principal/Director - Assumes full administrative responsibilities for the operation, maintenance, and climate of their school or program.

Amounts expended on services for individuals aged 22 years and older

The Collaborative does not provide services to individuals aged 22 years or older.

Amounts expended on administration and overhead

Total administrative costs incurred by the Collaborative totaled \$1,797,941 for the year ended June 30, 2019. Administrative expenses include all costs that cannot be directly or reasonably applied to a program of the Collaborative. Administrative expenses include salaries, related benefits and payroll taxes associated with the Collaborative's administrative office (i.e., Executive Director, finance staff, human resources, etc.), as well as other costs associated with maintaining that office (i.e. occupancy, supplies, etc.). The Collaborative directly applies salaries, where appropriate, to its programs and allocates related employee benefits and taxes to those programs. Occupancy, supplies, maintenance and any other cost that can be directly applied, or reasonably allocated, are reported under program expense.

Accounts held by the collaborative that may be spent at the discretion of another person or entity

As of June 30, 2019, the Collaborative did not hold any accounts that may be spent at the discretion of another person or entity.

Transactions between the collaborative and any related for-profit or non-profit organization

Leases of space from member districts are described in Note B to the financial statements and are the only transactions between the collaborative and any related for-profit or non-profit organization.

Transactions or contracts related to purchase, sale, rental or lease of real property

Transactions or contracts related to the purchase, sale, rental, or lease of real property are described in Notes A and B to the financial statements.

SEEM Collaborative
Notes to Financial Statements
June 30, 2019

NOTE G – DISCLOSURES REQUIRED UNDER MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL LAW c.40 § 4E
(continued)

Annual determination and disclosure of cumulative surplus

Cumulative Surplus Calculation - FY19				Page(s) in financial statements
(A)	Voted Cumulative Surplus as of 6/30/18		\$ 5,811,203	(A) p. 11
	Amount of (A) used to support the FY19			
(B)	1 Budget	(B)1	\$ -	
	Amount of (A) returned to member			
	2 districts	(B)2	\$ -	
	(B)1 + (B)2 = (B)		\$ -	(B)
(C)	Unexpended FY19 General Funds		\$ 93,901	(C) p. 11
(D)	Cumulative Surplus as of 6/30/19	(A) - (B) + (C) = (D)	\$ 5,905,104	(D)
(E)	FY18 Total General Fund Expenditures*		\$ 32,012,366	(E) p. 11
(F)	Cumulative Surplus Percentage	(D) ÷ (E)	18%	(F)
	Estimated Amount of Excess Cumulative Surplus as of 6/30/19		-	

* Excludes Intergovernmental expense, includes transfer to postemployment benefits trust

SEEM Collaborative
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance
of the General Fund - Budget to Actual
For the Year Ended June 30, 2019

	Original & Final Budget	Actual	Variance with Final Budget Favorable (Unfavorable)
Revenues:			
Tuition and service revenues	\$ 21,953,632	\$ 21,671,542	\$ (282,090)
Transportation	9,500,000	10,076,901	576,901
Member assessments	55,000	55,000	-
Grants and contributions	-	252,438	252,438
Intergovernmental revenue*	-	4,601,636	4,601,636
Interest	30,000	50,386	20,386
Other	-	-	-
Total Revenues	<u>31,538,632</u>	<u>36,707,903</u>	<u>5,169,271</u>
Expenditures:			
Administration	2,152,534	1,797,941	354,593
Program payroll	15,265,579	15,106,050	159,529
Program fringe benefits and payroll taxes	2,549,382	2,380,410	168,972
Professional services	120,565	406,870	(286,305)
Rent and utilities	1,122,198	1,169,561	(47,363)
Maintenance	345,500	522,771	(177,271)
Supplies	450,521	435,680	14,841
Transportation	9,215,000	9,775,004	(560,004)
Travel, field trips, and conferences	119,058	108,649	10,409
Telephone and internet	35,222	35,022	200
Training	113,967	36,307	77,660
Miscellaneous	47,733	48,524	(791)
Intergovernmental expense*	-	4,601,636	(4,601,636)
Capital outlay, net of debt incurred	-	143,552	(143,552)
Total Expenditures	<u>31,537,259</u>	<u>36,567,977</u>	<u>(5,030,718)</u>
Net Change in Fund Balances	<u>\$ 1,373</u>	<u>\$ 139,926</u>	<u>\$ 138,553</u>
Other Budget Items:			
OPEB obligation funding	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 46,025</u>	<u>\$ (46,025)</u>

*Intergovernmental revenue and expense is not budgeted by the Collaborative because it is actuarially determined annually and does not require actual expenditure by the Collaborative.

Note: The schedule above is presented on the same basis used by the Collaborative to present its internal budget to actual comparison and account groupings are not necessarily consistent with the Statement of Revenue, Expenditures and Changes in Fund balances presented on page 11.

SEEM Collaborative
 OPEB Plan - Required Supplementary Information
 June 30, 2019

Year	Actuarial Determined Contribution	Contributions in relation to the actuarially determined contribution	Contribution deficiency (excess)	Covered employee payroll	Contributions as a percentage of covered employee payroll
June 30, 2017	\$ 2,419,005	\$ (580,296)	\$ 1,838,709	\$ 13,178,823	1.40%
June 30, 2018	\$ 2,419,005	\$ (155,845)	\$ 2,263,160	\$ 13,574,188	1.15%
June 30, 2019	\$ 2,503,168	\$ (201,147)	\$ 2,302,021	\$ 15,560,829	1.29%

Schedule Presentation

This schedule is intended to present information for 10 years. Until a 10-year trend is compiled, information is presented for those years for which information is available.

SEEM Collaborative
OPEB Plan - Required Supplementary Information
As of the June 30, 2019 Measurement Date

Schedule of Changes in the Collaborative's Net OPEB Liability and Related Ratios			
Valuation Date	July 1, 2018	July 1, 2017	July 1, 2016
For the Reporting Period & Fiscal Year ending on:	June 30, 2019	June 30, 2018	June 30, 2017
Total OPEB Liability			
I. Service Cost	1,548,729	1,798,596	1,629,234
II. Interest on Total OPEB Liability, Service Cost, and Benefit Payments	637,592	607,386	541,296
III. Changes in Benefit terms		-	-
IV. Difference between Expected & Actual Plan Experience	(4,922,250)	-	-
V. Changes of Assumption	1,690,382	-	-
VI. Benefit Payments Excluding Implicit Cost	(146,334)	-	-
VII. Implicit Cost Amount	(8,788)	(134,887)	(138,843)
VIII. Total Benefit payments including Implicit Cost [VI.+VII.]	(155,122)	(134,887)	(138,843)
IX. Net Change in OPEB liability [I.+II.+III.+IV.+V.+VIII.]	(1,200,669)	2,271,095	2,031,687
X. Total OPEB liability - beginning of period	20,785,637	18,514,542	16,482,855
XI. Prior Period Adjustment for Retirees not Previously Reflected	-	-	-
XII. Total OPEB Liability - end of period [IX.+X.+XI.]	19,584,968	20,785,637	18,514,542
Plan Fiduciary Net Position			
XIII. Earning from Plan Investments	54,195	41,436	1,275
XIV. Employer Contribution to trust	201,147	290,732	719,139
XV. Benefit payments from trust, including refunds of member contributions	(155,122)	(134,887)	(138,843)
XVI. Administrative expense	-	-	-
XVII. Other	-	-	-
XVIII. Net change in plan fiduciary net position [XIII.+XIV.+XV.+XVI.+XVII.]	100,220	197,281	581,571
XIX. Plan fiduciary net position - beginning of period	778,852	581,571	-
XX. Plan fiduciary net position - end of period [XVIII.+XIX.]	879,072	778,852	581,571
XXI. Net OPEB Liability [XII.-XX.]	18,705,896	20,006,785	17,932,971
XXII. Plan fiduciary net position as a % of total OPEB liability [XX./XII.]	4.49%	3.75%	3.14%
XXIII. Covered employee payroll	15,560,829	13,981,413	13,574,188
XXIV. Plan NOL as % of covered employee payroll [XXI./XXIII]	120.21%	143.10%	132.11%
Single Discount Rate to calculate Plan Liabilities	3.25%	3.00%	3.00%

Schedule Presentation

This schedule is intended to present information for 10 years. Until a 10-year trend is compiled, information is presented for those years for which information is available.

See independent auditor's report

SEEM Collaborative
OPEB Plan - Required Supplementary Information
As of the June 30, 2019 Measurement Date

Notes to Required Supplementary Information:

Valuation Date: Actuarially Determined Contribution was calculated as of July 1, 2018.

Actuarial Cost Method: Individual Entry Age Normal

Asset-Valuation Method: Market Value of Assets as of the Measurement Date, June 30, 2019.

Actuarial Assumptions:

Investment Rate of Return: 5.86 percent, net of OPEB plan investment expense, including inflation.

Single Equivalent Discount Rate: 3.25 percent, net of OPEB plan investment expense, including inflation.

Inflation: 2.75 percent as of June 30, 2019 and for future periods

Salary Increases: 3.00 percent annually as of June 30, 2019 and for future periods

Cost of Living Adjustment: Not Applicable

Pre-Retirement Mortality: General: RP-2000 Employees Mortality Table projected generationally with scale BB and a base year 2009 for males and females.
Teacher: RP-2000 Employees Mortality Table projected generationally with scale BB and a base year 2009 for males and females.

Post-Retirement Mortality: General: RP-2000 Healthy Annuitant Mortality Table projected generationally with scale BB and a base year 2009 for males and females.
Teacher: RP-2000 Healthy Annuitant Mortality Table projected generationally with scale BB and a base year 2009 for males and females.

SEEM Collaborative
Schedule of the Collaborative's Proportionate Share of Net Pension Liability
For the Year Ended June 30, 2019

		<u>MTRS</u>	<u>MSERS</u>
Collaborative's proportion of net pension liability	FY2014	0.10507%	0.09481%
	FY2015	0.10453%	0.09903%
	FY2016	0.11035%	0.09431%
	FY2017	0.11664%	0.10736%
	FY2018	0.11392%	0.10697%
Collaborative's proportionate share of net pension liability	FY2014	\$ 16,702,908	\$ 7,939,523
	FY2015	\$ 21,418,635	\$ 11,272,144
	FY2016	\$ 24,671,118	\$ 13,004,413
	FY2017	\$ 26,692,845	\$ 13,769,155
	FY2018	\$ 27,011,576	\$ 14,151,835
Collaborative's covered-employee payroll	FY2014	\$ 6,680,161	\$ 5,406,850
	FY2015	\$ 6,710,478	\$ 5,533,186
	FY2016	\$ 7,392,830	\$ 5,374,488
	FY2017	\$ 7,600,056	\$ 5,900,774
	FY2018	\$ 8,127,873	\$ 6,149,145
Collaborative's proportionate share of the net pension liability as a percentage of its covered-employee payroll	FY2014	250.04%	146.84%
	FY2015	319.18%	203.72%
	FY2016	333.72%	241.97%
	FY2017	351.22%	233.34%
	FY2018	332.33%	230.14%
Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of total pension liability	FY2014	61.64%	76.32%
	FY2015	55.38%	67.87%
	FY2016	52.73%	63.48%
	FY2017	54.25%	67.21%
	FY2018	54.84%	67.91%

Notes to Required Supplementary Information

MTRS is the Massachusetts Teachers' Retirement System

MSERS is the Massachusetts State Employees' Retirement System

Also, see Note D to financial statements

Measurement Date

The amounts presented in this schedule were determined as of June 30, 2018.

Schedule Presentation

This schedule is intended to present information for 10 years. Until a 10-year trend is compiled, information is presented for those years for which information is available.

See independent auditor's report.

SEEM Collaborative
Schedule of Pension Contributions
For the Year Ended June 30, 2019

	FY2014	FY2015	FY2016	FY2017	FY2018
<u>MTRS</u>					
Contractually required contribution	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Contributions in relation to the contractually required contribution	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Contribution deficiency (excess)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Collaborative's covered-employee payroll	\$ 6,680,161	\$ 6,710,161	\$ 7,392,830	\$ 7,600,056	\$ 8,127,873
Contributions as a percentage of covered-employee payroll	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%

MSERS

Contractually required contribution	\$ 281,263	\$ 303,508	\$ 294,171	\$ 325,726	\$ 364,782
Contributions in relation to the contractually required contribution	\$ 281,263	\$ 303,508	\$ 294,171	\$ 325,726	\$ 364,782
Contribution deficiency (excess)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Collaborative's covered-employee payroll	\$ 5,406,850	\$ 5,533,186	\$ 5,374,488	\$ 5,900,774	\$ 6,149,145
Contributions as a percentage of covered-employee payroll	5.20%	5.49%	5.47%	5.52%	5.93%

Notes to Required Supplementary Information

MTRS is the Massachusetts Teachers' Retirement System
MSERS is the Massachusetts State Employees' Retirement System
Also, see Note D to financial statements

Measurement Date

The amounts presented in this schedule were determined as of June 30, 2018.

Schedule Presentation

This schedule is intended to present information for 10 years. Until a 10-year trend is compiled, information is presented for those years for which information is available.

Contributions

The Collaborative is required to pay an annual appropriation as established by the Public Employees' Retirement Administration Commission (PERAC) for MSERS. No contribution is required for MTRS. The Commonwealth of Massachusetts as a nonemployer is legally responsible for the entire past service cost related to the Collaborative and therefore has a 100% special funding situation.



FRITZ DEGUGLIELMO LLC
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS
& BUSINESS ADVISORS

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL
REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON
AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED
IN ACCORDANCE WITH *GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS***

To the Board of Directors of
SEEM Collaborative
Stoneham, Massachusetts

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of SEEM Collaborative (a collaborative organized under the Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts), as of and for the year ended June 30, 2019, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise SEEM Collaborative's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated December 17, 2019.

Internal Control over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered SEEM Collaborative's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) to determine the audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of SEEM Collaborative's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of SEEM Collaborative's internal control.

A *deficiency in internal control* exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses may exist that have not been identified.

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether SEEM Collaborative's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

Purpose of this Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the entity's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.



Certified Public Accountants

Newburyport, Massachusetts

December 17, 2019

ACCEPTANCE OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

We, the Board of Directors of the SEEM Collaborative, have voted to accept the representations of management and the expression of the opinions made by Fritz DeGuglielmo LLC as embodied in the financial statements, supplemental schedules and independent auditor's reports for the year ended June 30, 2019.

We also certify that the representations made by management and the disclosures in the financial statements are accurate and have been correctly and completely disclosed as required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America and under Commonwealth of Massachusetts laws for the year ended June 30, 2019.



Board Chair

_____ 12/26/19

Date