

SAU Withdrawal Study and Planning Committee Meeting Minutes

August 5, 2014

Approved August 26, 2014

PRESENT:

Evelyn Campbell, Resident
Ken Garry, School Board
Kathy Landry, Finance Cmte
Jill Mullen, Resident
Kim Bedard-Fortin, Resident
Steve Welford, Superintendent

ABSENT:

Todd La Pierre, School Board
Roxanne Tufts-Keegan, Resident

Mr. Garry called the meeting to order at 6:15 PM.

Introductions were considered but all are acquainted.

Mr. Welford distributed three ring binders for each committee member.

The committee meeting minutes for July 17, 2014 were reviewed. Mrs. Mullen made a motion to approve, Mrs. Fortin seconded. There was no discussion, unanimously approved by those present.

The committee discussed various aspects of creating a single district SAU, staying with SAU 61, joining SAU 64, or pursuing a Superintendent Services contract with SAU 49.

Mr. Welford offered to obtain the Madison SAU Withdrawal Plan so members could get a sense of scope. Mr. Welford will also obtain a list of Superintendents and the districts they serve to identify districts that may use part time or shared Superintendents.

Mrs. Fortin noted concern about the logistics of a single district SAU. She also noted that costs will need to be considered and what the history is of other SAU's.

Mr. Garry commented he looks at the community and past concerns. Ms. Landry asked if there was an SAU policy and volunteered to obtain SAU 64, 61, and 49 policies. Mr. Garry indicated SAU 49 will be incorporated into the Governor Wentworth School District policy manual since they are a single district SAU. This will require parsing out relevant policies.

Mr. Garry noted policy is limited to a personnel handbook at SAU 61.

There was discussion about current voting levels in SAU 61. Mr. Garry noted Middleton has one vote and Farmington has three votes on the SAU Board. Difference being Middleton does not operate a school and Farmington does. When the elementary school is in operation each district will have three votes each. He also noted a local school board can vote to require weighted voting. This provides each school district one vote for every sixteen students in the local school district within the SAU. Mr. Garry noted this would allow a school district with a large population of students, but with no school, a stronger vote on the SAU Board.

Mrs. Fortin recommended the committee work to get the community informed and develop a summary document. Mr. Garry noted that with the upcoming student withdrawals from Farmington the SAU will function more like a multi-district SAU and move away from the perception the SAU and Farmington are one entity.

Tasks were discussed as follows:

- 1.) Informational on SAU 61 both current and in 2016-2017 school year.
- 2.) Send letter to SAU 49 making inquiry for Superintendent Services by contract.
- 3.) Contact SAU 64 which is a multi-district SAU.
- 4.) Financials:
 - a.) Staying in SAU 61.
 - b.) Joining SAU 64.
 - c.) Contracting with SAU 49.

The Committee will meet next at 6:00PM Tuesday, August 19, 2014 at Town Hall and August 26, 2016 at the Town Hall.

Mrs. Campbell made a motion to adjourn, Mrs. Mullen seconded. The committee unanimously voted to adjourn at 8:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Ken Garry, Chairman