

Regional Planning Committee Minutes September 13, 2007

Members Present:

Gerald Clockedile, Facilitator
David Galli, School Board Saco
Michael Lafortune, Supt. Saco
Ron Morton, City Council Saco
Alan Cartwright, Resident Saco

Sheila Dube, Resident, Dayton
Lisa Morse, School Board Dayton
Peter Flaherty, Resident OOB
Rick Mathews, Supt. OOB
Roxanne Frenette, Town Council OOB

Sharri MacDonald School Board OOB
David Lane, Selectman Arundel
Lynn Cote, School Board Arundel
Alan Richard, School Board Arundel
Jack Reetz, Arundel Resident

A meeting of the Regional Planning Committee was held Thursday, September 13, 2007 at Saco City Hall.

Dave Galli opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

The minutes from the September 5, 2007 meeting were approved with one change.

Dave Galli reviewed the items on the agenda and thanked the Superintendents for all their assistance in gathering the requested information for the committees. Dave also stated that the only agreement that has been decided, is to meet regularly.

Dave Galli brought up the concern of smaller schools being closed. He suggested a proposal that would become a part of the final plan stating: No school could be closed for 5 years unless the community in which the school is located decides to close it. The 5 yrs would start when the RSU begins.

Jake confirmed that it is possible to write the proposal into the plan.

Saco, Old Orchard Beach and Dayton reported that their Letter of Intent for this RSU had been approved by the Commissioner. Arundel's Superintendent wasn't there to report if they had been approved.

Jake informed the committee of a provision in the law stating that RSU's can create local School Committees for Site Based Management, but the Budget would be off limits.

Lisa passed out an updated Financial Template - which at this time shows Saco at a disadvantage.

She also passed out a draft worksheet that the committee could use to build on. The spreadsheet was a comparison of the four districts Administrative costs and possible ways to cut 50%.

Jake stated that the guideline being used as a basis for the Administrative costs is based on \$204 per student, based on the EPS. You can spend above the EPS, but the town/RSU will have to make up the difference.

When writing the plan for this RSU, the committee needs to include what will happen if one town drops out. All items and issues need to be specific in the plan.

The committee split up into the four groups to look at the gathered information.

- Collective Bargaining Agreements
- Establishment of the RSU Board
- Descriptive Introductory Data
- Financial Analysis

At 8:45 the committee reconvened and each group reported on their progress.

Finance - Ron Morton reported each member had been given an assignment. This committee will be meeting on Sept. 19th to work on the Financial plan.

Descriptive Data - Lynn Cote reported the information gathered from each community will be put together on one map for better comparison.

Collective Bargaining - Rick Mathews reported the group had broken up into sub-committees. Sub Committee reports included a comparison of Health Ins which was very close ranging from 89% to 100% for single coverage, Professional Development reimbursement averaged about 12 credits, Workdays 180-182, Sick leave 15 yearly with total accumulation ranging from 145-180, Personal 3-4 days, Bereavement & ILF 5 days. Contracts are being compiled in order to be compared.

RSU Board - Dave Galli reported the committee would like to hire a Demographer to help achieve equality in the wards. They are also requesting Vision Statements from each town to form a 20/20 Vision Statement.

Meetings Scheduled:

Wednesday - September 26, 2007

Thursday - October 11, 2007

Wednesday - October 24, 2007

Minutes prepared by:

Lynn Ouellette, Transcriber

Respectfully submitted by:

Michael Lafortune, Superintendent