

**Regional Planning Committee  
Minutes June 4, 2008  
7:00 P.M.**

**Members Present:**

David Galli, School Board Saco	Michael Lafortune, Supt. Saco/Dayton	Jake Clockedile, Facilitator
Gary Curtis, Resident OOB, Alt.	Millie Tuttle, School Board Dayton	Rick Matthews, Superintendent OOB
Ron Morton, Saco Council	Lisa Morse, Dayton (Alternate)	Carol Marcotte, Union #7
Paul Kelly, Thornton Academy	Roxanne Frenette, OOB, Town Council	Kay Dutton, OOB School Board
Peter Flaherty, Resident OOB		

*A meeting of the Regional Planning Committee was held on Wednesday June 4, 2008 at Saco City Hall.*

**Welcome& Introductions**

**Approval of Minutes dated April 10, 2008**

A motion was made by Lisa Morse and seconded by Kay Dutton to approve the minutes dated May 12, 2008. Voted unanimously. Motion passed. Minutes were approved.

**Public Forum:**

Dave Galli informed the Board that a Public Forum had taken place previous to the current meeting with the following outcome.

The Public Forum was chaired by Carol Marcotte and Pat Hayden, Curriculum Directors for Saco and Old Orchard Beach. Participants formed smaller groups consisting of the Elementary School, Middle School and High School. Each group compiled an "Idea List" of how the consolidation can improve and benefit education and the many areas that can be expanded. All ideas were revealed to the committee.

Also within this Public Forum it was discussed how to present the consolidation to the public. Some ideas are as follows:

- Need to express good things that occur
- Concerns were presented to the Board that need to be addressed when informing the public.
- The outcome and concerns presented by the previous Public Forms

**Alerting the Public**

Superintendent Lafortune suggested all ideas presented be part of a PowerPoint presentation that will be presented to the Public. Gary Curtis brought up using regionalization terminology versus consolidation. He also suggested we need to begin with the teachers, schools, PTO, and Administrators to inform them with passing on the positive aspects of the consolidation/regionalization.

Dave Galli informed the committee that the State is forming Focus Groups to assist the RSU's with ideas on informing the public. Ron Morton stated that the committee also needs to include the senior residents in an informational forum.

Chair, Jake Clockedile encouraged Public meetings and stated that a "Did you know" video used in other public meetings has been very effective with informing the public. He also suggested a presentation on Cable TV, a tri-fold flyer worded well, along with Press releases to the public.

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## **Questions**

The following questions were presented:

- What do you want to convey?
- Who do you want to reach?
- How will you get it out to the Public
- What is the timeline for getting the information out?

## **Additional Research Information**

A suggestion was made to the committee that additional information is available on the Statewide Development website. This information will include:

- Penalties
- Anticipated Questions and Answers
- Cost Sharing Examples
- Transition Task and Potential Cost and Savings
- Insurance for the Board
- Student information Licensing
- Technology Licensing
- Server and Maintenance Cost (Web Hosted)

## **Public Informing Beginning Process**

The committee decided that they will begin to inform the public by the following steps:

- Have a group develop a mailing brochure to mail out
- Mail the informational brochure out during the summer
- Within the September/October timeframe step up the informing process to the Public

Dave Galli raised concern on the timeline requirement if the vote is done in November in order to get the transition done by July 2009.

Lisa Morse suggested making an RSU 56 website so technology personnel from Thornton Academy, Old Orchard Beach and Saco will be contacted to create a website. Carol Marcotte and Superintendent Lafortune will gather information to put into a PowerPoint presentation with the assistance of Pat Hayden. It was suggested that TA TV be utilized with informing the public along with a formal presentation to be prepared by each school district to inform their staff.

Dave Galli will write a letter to send to the schools with information that would be helpful with questions that have come up during this process. The committee will review the letter prior to sending out. Gary Curtis suggested the letter and brochure include that if anyone has questions, concerns, or input please contact the RSU. Ron Morton suggested putting an article in the paper that is from the Committee with positive information. Gary Curtis offered to go to the various papers and invite them to be a part of distributing this information.

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**Content Possibilities for Mailing Brochure**

- Cost Sharing
- History
- Potential Opportunities
- Dates

Lisa Morse will research brochure done by SAD #16.

**Next Meetings:**

Wednesday, June 18, 2008 @ 5:30 p.m.: Public Relation and Cost Sharing

**Adjournment**

Adjourned 8:45PM

Minutes prepared by:

Respectfully submitted by:

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Lynn Ouellette, Transcriber

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Michael Lafortune, Superintendent