

## Regional Planning Committee

**Location: Houlton Southside School**

**Time: 6:30PM**

**Representatives from: MSAD #14, MSAD #25, MSAD #29, MSAD #70, and CSD #9**

**Steve Fitzpatrick, Superintendent of MSAD #29, welcomed all the RPC participants and introduced Mary Jane McCalmon as the facilitator for this RPC.**

**Mary Jane introduced the purpose of the committee and provided two handouts. The first handout was titled Purpose of Committee, and the second was the timeline from the state website. Mary Jane broke the committee into several smaller groups and asked them to have a conversation about the expectations and said they would report out after the conversation.**

**A question was asked about this conversation being premature since they were not sure what the best configuration of schools would be and they were not sure if this group would constitute the final assembly of schools. Mary Jane responded by saying this is the beginning of the work and that they are following due diligence. She continued to say this does not necessarily mean that this group will constitute the final players. Another question was asked about the number of students (1200-2500). Mary Jane responded that the expectation is 2500 students and she was not sure how many configurations in the 1200 student range would be acceptable since they are looking at approximately 80 total units.**

**Concerns from the conversation of expectations:**

- ☆ **Governance and the number of Board members represented**
- ☆ **Debt service**
- ☆ **Employee contracts**
- ☆ **Wards based on population**
- ☆ **Prepays and carryovers**
- ☆ **Cost savings**
- ☆ **Clarification of parameters**
- ☆ **What is the true expectation of the state**
- ☆ **Question of what we are doing (frustration)**

**Mary Jane recognized Senator Sherman for a comment. He recommended that everyone check the state website and read the 66 page bill and have it interpreted as needed.**

**Mary Jane handed out the required elements of the plan and governance guidelines. She spoke about the 13 elements and divided them into four committees of governance (1, 2, 3, and 4), asset liability (5, 6, and 8), contractual/collective bargaining (7), and finance (9, 12)**

**The next meeting will be the nuts and bolts of getting the committees together. Setting up meeting dates created a major issue because of the large number of members. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 17, 2007 at Hodgdon Elementary School.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Michael P. Howard**