

**Regionalization Planning Committee**  
Meeting Minutes

Location: Katahdin High School, Stacyville

Time: 6:30pm

Date: Monday, October 15, 2007

Representatives from: MSAD #14, MSAD #25, MSAD #29, MSAD #70, CSD #9, Moro Plantation, Orient, Bancroft, and Hersey.

1. John Doe, Superintendent of MSAD #25, welcomed all the RPC participants.
  - a. Mary Jane McCalmon asked if there were any new members to the RPC. There were no new members.
2. A copy of the minutes was distributed from the 10/4/07 meeting. A motion was made and then seconded to approve the minutes. The motion duly passed. The minutes for the whole RPC meeting as well as 2 of the subcommittee meeting minutes were sent out electronically and the other 2 subcommittee meeting minutes were distributed in hard copy at this meeting. Working on getting all minutes out electronically. Some people didn't receive the minutes, so Mary Jane asked that everyone review the master list of RPC members to ensure accurate e-mail and phone information. Mary Jane also asked that any new members add their information to the member list. One new member was welcomed.
3. Mary Jane asked if there was any public comment related to the RPC's work. There were no public comments.
4. Mary Jane asked if there were any generic questions from the RPC members that they might have for whole committee. There were no questions.
5. The RPC broke into their subcommittee groups.
6. The RPC came back from their subcommittee work time and Mary Jane asked that each subcommittee Chair provide updates:
  - Myron Baldwin – Their meeting was eventful. They reached agreement on 80% of their items discussed. There are three items outstanding. One of which was school choice. Bancroft currently sends some of their students outside of what would be the RSU. Which means they might have additional costs. This topic will need further discussion. The second item is to look at real property assets and exclude property that is going to be turned over to the RSU. Currently SAD 29 has approximately 100 acres consisting of the Bird Farm that they are thinking about transferring 80% to the town. CSD 9 hasn't decided yet, they have 156 acres, SAD 70 has 80 acres and SAD 25 has 25 acres. These SADs/CSDs hopefully at the next meeting will decide whether they want this excluded or turned over to the RSU. All other items have consensus. The final item is the \$5,000,000 bond that SAD 29 has for the Fine Arts Center and need to decide or not if that will be assumed by the RSU.
  - Greg Ryan – At the last meeting it was mentioned that they thought there would be 12 school board members but that number is now up to 15. They are looking at dividing Houlton out into one subcommittee and Monticello, Littleton, and Hammond would be one subcommittee. Other than that, everyone else would stay as the old school districts. There was a consensus in this decision and now need to send this to Augusta to have the numbers

worked out. The other thing left to do is the election of the initial board of directors and that was left for homework for the next meeting.

- Mark Bossie – They went over contracts and salaries for teachers and support staff and came to the conclusion that it is very complicated due to different unions, salary scales, and health benefits. Also came to conclusion that they are not going to change that but it will be left up to the board as to how to bring everything together. The next meeting they are going to look at service contracts for student services which would include speech therapists and occupational therapists, and see how many would be used and how many could be moved around to be used in other districts. Also talked about hiring instead of contracting services out.
- Greg Sherman – Steve and Bob presented their subcommittee with a draft allocation of the funding spreadsheet to give them a feel of the impact is going to be for each school unit and town. There are going to be some winners and some losers. There may be some law changes in January to help mediate those winner and loser situations. Once numbers are verified and law changes take place, there will be a timing issue. This cannot be rushed into. Houlton was a loser by \$227,000 so that needs to be looked at. Steve and Bob distributed EDU 281's and explained how the EPS formula works. Also handed out were the salaries at the district level for the administrative services that are performed at each level. These will be reviewed in more depth at the next meeting. They also discussed aligning the town budgets with the SAU and CSD's. It is going to be a time consuming process. There will be further discussions regarding this with Jim Ryer and the Superintendent's.

Mary Jane expected that at the meeting after next, the Assets and Liability subcommittee would come before the whole RPC for discussion and consensus.

At closing, Mary Jane reminded everyone to review the master member list if they hadn't already. She also suggested that members check their junk mail should they not be receiving the e-mails for the meeting minutes. The next meeting is October 29, 2007 at the Southern Aroostook Community School.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kelly Farnham