

Regional Planning Committee for RSU 18
Monson Elementary School
April 24, 2008
6:30 p.m.

Present: Sue Mackey Andrews, Ralph Johnson, Rick Johnston, Mary Downs, George Hardy, Jack Bair, Dick Gould, Richard Goodwin, David Thorp, Dawna Blackstone, Jane Hewes, Julie Anderson, Pete Johnson, Walt Emmons, Tinna Peck

Guests and Resource People: Dr. Richard Swett, Ray Freve

NOTES

- Introductions, Review of Minutes (4-10-08)
 - Correction to bullet number five under notes to read “Ralph Johnson felt that Union 60 wouldn’t vote for anything other than a union-like structure.”

- Update on LD2323 - An Act to Remove Barriers to the Reorganization of School Administrative Units
 - Pete Johnson offered comments on LD2323 which was recently passed by the Legislature– what was trying to be accomplished was going back to the original LD1932 with an “alternative-structure” piece, it does away with the 2 mill problem, allows cost-sharing agreements; the legislation is useful, but there are still problems existing in the document, i.e. contract-negotiations...this may not be as big a deal for our RSU arrangement as with others. Also, the RSU referendum vote is pushed ahead to January 2009.

 - Ray Freve commented that under the "alternative structure" piece the minimum number of students has been reduced from 1200 to 1000; also under the budget validation, the referendum vote must take place 14 days after budget adoption meeting.

- Review of Section 1452 - Core Functions of a Regional School Unit
 - Hiring of Superintendent – RSU level
 - Performance of Business Functions – RSU level
 - Special Ed Administration – RSU level
 - Transportation – RSU level
 - Core Curriculum – RSU level
 - Budget – RSU level
 - Reporting – RSU level
 - Employment – RSU level “bugs to work out”
 - School Calendar – RSU level
 - Adoption of Policies – RSU level

- Discussion about proceeding as an “alternative structure” to attract other SADs to partner with this RSU; will continue with plan to submit to commissioner what has been completed thus far to receive feedback.
 - In the Reorganization Plan under Item 3. Method of Voting of the Governing Body to add the statement (see attached bylaws)
- The group concurred that partnerships across school units were essential to promote quality educational opportunities for our students. These can be cultivated irrespective of the structural organization of the RSUs.
- Next meeting 5/8/08
 - Prior to the next meeting, committee groups should send files of completed work to Sue to be dropped into template