

CORRECTED COPY OF MINUTES PER THE 11/28/07 RPC MEETING

REMINDER: THE NEXT RPC MEETING WILL BE ON WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 2007 AT THE SEARSPORT DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL CAFETORIUM.

RPC Meeting
Minutes
Wednesday, November 14, 2007
Belfast Area High School
6:30 – 9:13 pm

Present: Ruth Holmes, Morris Leathers, Alexa Schweikert, Veronica Magnan, Richard Marsden, Sara Bradford, Sonja Salvatore, Barbara Klausmeyer, Ray Hart, Denis Howard, Roger Rowlands, Aaron Fethke, Nedra Bellows, Jean Dube, Mary Szwec, Bruce Mailloux, Ray Freve, Craig Poulin, Marge Knuuti, Twyler Webster, Evelyn Adams, Catherine Leathers, Brian MacFarland

Absent: Marsha Anderson, Eric Walker, Kathy Hoey, Jan Austin, Larry Theye, Debra Riley, Joyce Davidson, Denise Dakin, Richard Crossman, Harold Grove, Duffy Woods, Alan Hammond, Eric Sanders, Ed Moran

AGENDA

1. Housekeeping Items.
2. New Member to Tasks
3. Discussion and vote on items 7 & 9.
4. Plan review for 12/1.
5. Small groups.
6. Adjournment.

Ray Freve called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm. He reminded everyone that **there will not be a meeting on Wednesday, November 21.**

He introduced Walt Harris from the Center for Research and Evaluation. Mr. Harris spoke about research being done on RPCs. He asked for input on what is working, what is not, barriers, etc. He distributed a survey and asked people to complete it and mail it in the self-addressed envelopes. He will also be conducting a random interview, which will also be voluntary.

Ray then shared the Draft Reorganization Plan Submittal Sheet that the committee needs to review. Any changes made tonight will be added to the draft, and then sent out to the Boards for their approval for submission to the state.

Members spent time reviewing the draft plan. Questions and discussion followed. Several changes were made. (See the actual document.)

Sub-Committee #7 - The assignment of school personnel contracts, school collective bargaining agreements and other school contractual obligations.

The group presented a package listing contracts, etc. as shown below.

Reorganization plan of MSAD 56 & 34

#7A	School Personnel contracts	Dates
SAU		
MSAD 56	Central Office staff	7/1/07 - 6/30/08
	Administrators' Agreements	7/1/07-6/30/09
	Superintendent/curriculum coordinator	07/01/07-6/30/09
	Directors: food service, technology, special ed, adult ed, special services	07/01/07-06/30/08
MSAD 34	Superintendent	6/30/09
	Business Manager	open ended
	Maintenance & Transportation Director	1 Yr contract
	Food Service Director	6/30/08
	Central Office Staff	6/30/08
	Adult Education Director	6/30/08
#7b	Collective Bargaining Agreements	
SAU		
MSAD 56	Teachers & Nurses	8/31/10
	Support Staff	8/31/08
MSAD 34	Teachers	8/31/10
	Support staff	8/31/10
	Food service	6/30/08
	Administrators	6/30/10
	bus drivers and custodians	6/30/08
#7C.	Other School Contractual Obligations	
MSAD 56	Copier Lease SPC copiers Norway Savings Bk	6/30/12
	Medicaid Admin Services	8/31/08
	IEP Case Management Services	12/31/08
MSAD 34	Copier Lease SPC copiers Norway Savings Bk	6/30/12
	Medicaid Admin Services	8/31/08
	IEP Case Management Services	12/31/08
	Seaman's Temp controls	9/30/08

A motion was made by Richard Marsden and seconded by Craig Poulin to accept the package as presented. **VOTE: 18-0-1 (Knuuti)**

Sub-Committee #9 - A transition plan that addresses the development of a budget for the first school year of the reorganized unit and interim personnel and other policies.

Committee members asked the group to consider the following: 13C needs to be included in #9 – the election of the RSU Board.

They continued with the discussion on #9. Section 9a could be incorporated in Section 13C or the words of Section 13C could be put into Section 9a. Then the current 9a would become 9b. The third paragraph beginning “If a region is formed...” makes sense because 13c has already occurred. Substitute fro RSU with “combine SAUs and RSU”. If this comes, the RSU and the local school committees can sit down to discuss the transition.

More discussion followed. It was re-emphasized that we need 13C to happen first. 13c becomes 9a, 9a becomes 9b and so forth.

A motion was made by Richard Marsden and seconded by Jean Dube to approve 13c by itself separately prior to dealing with section 9. **VOTE 19-0-0**

The group returned to section 9a. The group made the following changes:

- Change SAUs in five places to “combine SAUs and RSU elect.”
- Change 2008 to “2008 or 2009”.
- Expenses not to exceed \$50,000
- Several other small changes.

A motion was made by Richard Marsden and seconded by Craig Poulin to approve 9a as discussed and read with revisions. **VOTE: 16-3-0 (Bradford, Howard, Magnan)**

The group then looked at 9b. Several changes were agreed to by the group:

- Add “other” to the title so it reads “Transition Plan for Personnel and Other Policies”
- Replace the word “after” with “Prior to”
- Add the word “elect” after the words “school board”

These changes will be incorporated into the draft Reorganization Plan. A motion was made by Richard Marsden and seconded by Roger Rowlands to approve 9b as revised.

VOTE: 19-0-0

Sub-committee #10 - Documentation of the public meeting or public meetings held to prepare or review the reorganization plan.

Ray pointed out that the RPC may need to slow down as there may be changes, and changes in the allocation funding formula.

When do we wish to consider public hearings? These need to be documented.

Date of Public Meeting	Time	Location

Think about this for the future. We will discuss this.

We are planning to meet on November 28th. The Boards need to move to submit the plan on November 27th.

Veronica Magnan then presented her work on cuts. Discussion followed and included:

- We don't know the impact of those cuts on programs.
- We need more information before we make decisions on cuts.
- We need to hear from subject specialist people.

There was more discussion. Ray stated it was a starting point.

What if we submit the plan and don't feel we save \$500,000 here but are spending more there?

Ray said we need to honor contracts, but you can state an estimate three years down the road.

What can we speculate? Other thoughts included:

- We need a technical team and superintendent and how they pulled out the employees from the budget.
- We heard there is too much administration and this is the only one we can pull out of this budget (administrator).
- Others felt it was wrong to make predictions at this moment in time.
- Deal with Central Office and a list of when certain contracts expire only at this time. The new RSU will deal with other savings.

Ray said that the group had heard enough tonight. Are there savings? There was much discussion.

Sub-committees 6 & 12 will be reporting on November 28 in Searsport.

Ray will have subjects for others to meet and discuss.

Sub-committees 6 & 12 then met for a work session with others joining them.

The meeting adjourned at 9:13 pm.

AGENDA
NOVEMBER 28, 2007
Searsport District High School Cafetorium

- Opening Remarks
- Feedback from the MSAD 34 and MSAD 56 Board of Directors meetings on November 27, 2007.
- Sub-committees #6 and #12
- Other subjects/topics to cover