

**Four District School Board/Committee and RPC Workshop
Hall-Dale Elementary School
October 17, 2007**

1. Superintendent Siviski opened the meeting with a welcome to Hall-Dale Elementary School and a brief explanation of the purpose of the meeting, collaboration between the full RPC and all RSU Board members.
2. Each Board chairperson introduced members of their Board in attendance. SAD 16 Chair Jon Lambert introduced Michaela Loisel, Linda Leet, Laura Harper and Tom Austin. Monmouth Chair Mike Rogers introduced Tracey Woodman, Rich Howard and Superintendent Leon Duff (also Principals Emery, Philbrook and Burnham and CO Patti Bodge). Dresden Chair Gary Getchell introduced Sherry Moody, Lorna MacKinnon and Superintendent Rick Cote. Richmond Chair Jill Adams introduced O'Neil LaPlante, Cindy Hurley and Superintendent Martha Witham.
3. Regional Planning Committee Chair O'Neil LaPlante introduced members of the RPC, also in attendance in addition to the Board members, Seth Goodall, John Armentrout, Cindy McPherson, Mary Gleason and Doug Ludewig. He then briefly outlined how the RSU first started and what we had in common from which to build upon. A spirit of trust and an ideology to improve education for kids were common attributes in the formation of this RSU. He further articulated that we have different strengths and needs and will have to address challenges in the future and believes that with the relationship already built the RPC can work through those differences.
4. RPC Vice-Chair Mike Rogers outlined how we were organized to do our work i.e. sub committees of Finance, Governance, Public Relations and recently organized Building/Grounds where the bulk of the work will be completed.
5. Superintendent Witham then shared an observation that each district solicits bids for various contracted services and suggested that it would make sense collaboratively to bid such requests together now instead of waiting until later. Specific examples were cited as well as other collaborations between staff for curriculum, calendar and professional development training. Some concerns were raised about local vendors not being able to compete with larger company bids while the other side of the argument suggested that all five towns would have to pay for the additional costs so local would now be a district concern.
6. Vice-Chair Mike Rogers then posed a recommendation from the RPC to the Boards and requested guidance on how to proceed. It was recommended and agreed upon by the Board members that the RPC would entertain any request from other towns wishing to be included in our RSU (since many of our neighbors still need to select a partner by December 1st). The RPC interview/recommendation to the Board would be based upon a common assessment/prompt, "How will your inclusion in our RSU make us better than

we are now?" Each and every Board would then have to vote to submit a new Letter of Intent to the DOE before a new community was added to the RSU.

7. Superintendent Siviski then focused the group on a primary mission of the RSU being an improved educational experience for all kids. Those kids are very technologically oriented and we need to stay current with them in order to be successful. There was a time when we marched kids through our curriculum which has now changed to marching the curriculum through each individual child in a very personal and digital way. The 8 minute film clip from the DOE web site "Paying Attention" was shown to the assembly to reinforce the need to improve the teaching and learning experience.

Available at: http://www.halldale.org/index.php/hd_et
and
<http://www.maine.gov/education/21stcentury/>.

8. The workshop adjourned at 8:20.

Respectfully Submitted,

Donald L. Siviski
RPC Secretary