

**Regional Planning Committee
Dresden Richmond Monmouth Hallowell Farmingdale
November 13, 2007 5:30 p.m.
Hall-Dale Elementary School Computer Room**

Present: Tom Austin, Nancy Jodoin, Gary Getchell, Doug Averill, O'Neil LaPlante, Seth Goodall, Doug Ludwig, Dan Shagoury (Alt.), Mary Gleason and Cindy McPherson

Also Present: Rick Cote, Martha Witham

Absent: John Ottum, Nadine Barnard, Michaela Loisel, John Armentrout, Mike Rogers and Jim Grandahl

1. Call to order by Chairman O'Neil LaPlante at 5:32PM.

2. Action on minutes of 10/29/07

Tom Austin made a motion to accept the minutes as written. This motion was seconded by Doug Ludwig. The vote was unanimous.

3. Adjustments to the agenda

None

4. Public Comment

None

5. Old Business

5.1 SAU action to approve RPC to submit incomplete plan and continue until completed and approved by each SAU.

Richmond, Monmouth and SAD #16 have voted in the affirmative on this issue. Dresden will vote on 11/26. Each SAU is asked to bring a copy of the minutes of the School Board/Committee meeting during which this motion was approved.

5.2 Participation position from each SAU on transportation services bid (vendor contract, mechanical services, vehicle lease, driver management, etc. Who wants to participate in what?)

O'Neil LaPlante reported on this as an informational item. He encouraged the new RSU Committee to consider joint gasoline/diesel purchasing, continue to investigate one overall transportation system, either district owned, district contract or what specific pieces may be contracted out i.e. maintenance. More information needs to be collected and analyzed before a recommendation can be made.

6. New Business

6.1 Governance Committee Proposal

Apportionment, Representation per town, vote value per director and per town

The Governance Subcommittee recommended "Option D"- the total weighted vote of each community is the same as the latest population census. These votes are apportioned as: 2 for Dresden, 2 for Hallowell, 2 for Farmingdale, 3 for Monmouth, 3 for Richmond (refer to handout) The total board would consist of 12 members. One vote more than 1/2 the votes present

would be necessary to pass a motion. A quorum of the board would be a majority of members A AND a majority of votes.

Staggered terms (refer to handout)

Though each member will officially serve an initial one, two or three year term, each will actually serve a 1½, 2½, 3½ year term. The ½ year term will be as an 'interim member' and be an official member beginning July 1, 2009.

Local Advisory Boards - does not recommend local advisory committees, but reserve this power for the new RSU Board, could be on an ad hoc basis, or permanently as the RSU sees as appropriate. Also since each community has at least two members on the RSU board, it was thought that citizens of each community would have access to their representatives.

Name for new RSU - Kennebec Intra District Schools (KIDS)

Timeline - (see handout)

Location for Central office

For the time being, keep at Hall-Dale site since the rent is \$1 a year. If a move becomes necessary, keep as a priority savings and 'connectivity'.

Recommend that RSU meetings rotate among each of the communities.

Recommend using a variety of ways/media to communicate to the public.

Motion: To approve the nine points(use 'method D', Number of members, number of votes, staggered terms, no local advisory boards, name for RSU, location for central office, rotate RSU meetings, Use all media to communicate RSU info/meetings) included in the recommendations of the Governance Subcommittee. Motion made by Dan Shagoury, seconded by Tom Austin, vote was unanimous.

- 6.2 Information update on RSU discussions regarding shared Special Ed. Directors for FY 09
Martha Witham provided information on a scheduled meeting with the four superintendents and four special education directors to investigate the possibility of two directors for the FY 09 school year.

7. Committee Updates

7.1 Finance committee

Tom Austin shared information from the past Finance Subcommittee meeting. This committee discussed whether Chelsea would be a viable partner. Chelsea has since withdrawn their request. This committee will continue to examine financial information from DOE and look at the debt of each community. Next meeting: November 20, 2007

7.2 Public Education/Relations Committee

November 14th night at 7:00pm in the Monmouth Academy cafeteria, the Public Relations Subcommittee will present its first public hearing on the plan for the new RSU. Other public hearings will be scheduled in the other communities. Dresden has set out a Q&A flyer. Rick Cote will share a copy of this brochure at the next meeting.

7.3 Building and Grounds Subcommittee

The Committee has toured Richmond, on November 14th they will tour the Monmouth facilities. This committee will make a recommendation to the RPC on properties to request.

8. Chair and Vice-Chair Report

Chair O'Neil LaPlante spoke to how well the RPC committee dealt with conflict at the last meeting, successfully and collegially.

9. Items for future agenda

RPC complies response to 'incomplete' plan checklist for submittal to DOE - present a draft of the checklist to consider at the next meeting

Next meeting November 27

10. Adjourn 7:05 pm

Next Meeting:

Copies of minutes from each School Board approving RPC to continue its work

Superintendents to decide on an official secretary to the RPC

Rick Cote to bring copy of flyer

Formation of Transportation Committee