

K. A. Brett School Library
July 6, 2011. 2 pm

MINUTES

Attending: Waldron, Timchak, DeLong, Wald, Troon, (McIntire)

Absent: LaBrie, Perry, Dall

Mr. Troon is serving as chair and Mrs. Wald as log keeper for this meeting.

The focus of this meeting is cooperative school districts.

Mr. Waldron reported on the structures of SAUs in the state. Of 87 SAUs, 67% are single district units, 11% have 2 districts, and 10% are 3 district SAUs. He also reported on the options of apportionment, including that SAUs can develop their own apportionment plans as long as they are approved by the state board of education. The trend is toward single-district SAUs.

Mr. McIntire handed out copies of abridged RSAs pertaining to cooperative school districts.

A sample of the discussion/comments follow:

Waldron – What we need to report back to the district meeting is re-organization or withdrawal. If we wanted to form a cooperative district, we would need to elect a committee to explore a cooperative district. We may be more ready to look at trends in SAUs. If single-district SAUs are more common, we can look at the economic impact of that. Dan Rowe proposed uniting Madison Elementary and the Brett School. This could be done with one town tuitioning all of its students to the other town or as a cooperative SAU. We have to be ruled by the warrant article.

Troon – My interpretation is that we are not to make a recommendation, just to provide a report.

Waldron – If one option seems to be by far the best option in the opinion of the majority, that could be reported, with minority reports if one or more person disagrees.

DeLong – It used to be that budgets and purchase orders were all done at the school level. At some point SAU 9's administrative office took over all of that work. When SAU 13 broke off, we kept the model of work being done at the SAU level.

Troon – I use my own spreadsheet to keep track of the budget, which is duplicate work because it gets done again at the SAU level and then we have to coordinate. There are 3 items on the agenda for today that we need to focus on:

1. Discuss what we learned about cooperative school districts.

Waldron reported on the laws and provided some data. We each generated information about the districts we studied.

2. What is the role of this committee?

Troon – We should generate a report on what the options are and offer opinions on the advisability of each option.

3. Determine next steps.

REPORTS

Wald - Interlakes Cooperative is made up of Meredith, Center Harbor, and Sandwich. Ashland is also served by the SAU. Ashland sends its high school students to Plymouth – outside the SAU.

DeLong – Lincoln/Woodstock (a.k.a. Linwood). Serves 350 students in 2 schools. Apportionment is based on both students and valuation. The SAU expenses are included right in with the annual budget. It is not a separate warrant article. There was a warrant article this year to seek other towns to join the cooperative, but it failed by a large margin. Their budget is similar to ours in size.

Timchak – Winesquam is made up of Northfield and Tilton, with total student population of 1556 and 126 teachers and 215 total employees. Student:teacher ration = 11.3:1. It has a large SAU staff.

Troon – Canterbury/Belmont. There are 2 board members from Canterbury and 3 from Belmont overseeing 2 elementary schools with total of 430 students, a middle school, and a high school. There are about 1250 students K-12. Schools share some staff (librarian, computer teacher, art teacher). Middle school (5-8). High school serves both towns. Voting takes place in 1 room, but some votes are tallied by town.

Wald – My feeling is that most of the cooperatives are much bigger than we are. For comparables, we should be looking at Linwood.

Waldron – It appears that coops were created to share physical resources. (RTroon –also personnel). Perhaps there are products or services for which economies of scale don't work.

Next meeting: Research single district SAUs. Single-town or single-school SAUs.

Jack will send everyone a list of towns. They should be small and ideally should be recently-established.

Troon – Let's determine what information we collect.

The groups settled on functions, including number of administrative personnel; number of students; and budget (including administrative budget, if possible).

Next meeting July 25, 4pm at Brett Library.

Respectfully submitted,

Jay McIntire

ACTION LOG

July 6, 2011

1. Jack Waldron to send out a list of small single-town districts by June 8. -- Completed
2. Individuals select districts to study. As of July 8, those selected include:

- Dall -
- DeLong - Monroe
- LaBrie - Gilmanton
- McIntire - Alton
- Perry – Lyme
- Timchak - Grantham
- Troon -
- Wald - Barnstead
- Waldron –

The questions to be answered are included in the minutes.

3. The next meeting will be July 25 at 4 pm in the KA Brett Library

Jay McIntire
Superintendent
SAU #13

No virus found in this message. Checked by AVG - www.avg.com Version: 10.0.1388 / Virus Database:
1516/3751 - Release Date: 07/08/11