

MINUTES
Cooperative School District Planning Board Meeting
Monday January 13, 2014 at 5PM
Camp Calumet

Called to order at 5:05pm

Present: Freedom: Karl Ogren, Mike Douglas, Jane Davidson; Madison: Ray O'Brien, Cheryl Littlefield, Tamworth: Lori Palmer, Shannon Ames, Jack Waldron

Absent: Kiersten Grieb

Approval of Agenda: On a MOTION by Ray, seconded by Jane, the agenda was APPROVED without amendment unanimously.

Approval of Minutes from November 25, 2013: On a MOTION by Jane seconded by Cheryl the minutes were APPROVED unanimously without amendment.

Public Input: None

Discuss seeking financial support from the towns: A MOTION was made by Jane and seconded by Karl to seek \$500 from each town to put toward a fund to be used by the committee for legal and other expenses. The MOTION PASSED and Jack will amend the relevant parts of the document he developed for the town reports.

Questions for other Coop districts:

We listed some questions for other existing Cooperative Districts and at the heading of the questions there should be a place to indicate whether the person responding is a Board member, staff, parent, etc.:

- How do you deal with the end of the Cooperative? Is there an exit clause, and automatic renewal or an automatic end?
- Why did you form a Cooperative?
- Do you see advantages/disadvantages now that weren't evident in the beginning?
- Were services enhanced or consolidated, such as Special Education?
- Are the smaller towns heard?
- How is representation on the board distributed among the towns?
- How is the ownership of the buildings handled?
- Is the allocation of contributions satisfactory?

Seeking input from the towns in SAU 13 and their School Boards:

We created some questions for our own towns and school boards. Lori and Karl agreed to fine tune and use an electronic survey tool to develop these questions in a coherent survey. We required that the tabulation of results be as easy as possible and that should be a factor in how we develop questions. There should be a place to indicate what role the respondent fills such

as community member, parent, teacher, board member, other. Answers could be limited to strongly agree, agree, disagree, strongly disagree, NA.

- I am comfortable with the Co-op owning all of the buildings we use.
- I have had a previous positive experience with a co-op.
- I expect a Co-op to save money.
- I expect a Co-op to improve student performance.
- I expect a Co-op to allow sufficient autonomy.
- I expect a Co-op to allow sufficient representation.
- I expect a Co-op to fairly distribute costs.

We also mentioned that we could create a list on the survey to check off perceived advantages to a coop and also another list for disadvantages.

Chairman's report to the Towns:

We made some suggested edits, but everyone appreciated the effort and thoroughness of the Chairman who created a report that could be used in all of the town reports.

- Adjust language regarding the \$500 from each town,
- Use the term "Planning Board" consistently throughout the text,
- Call the year 14-15,
- Reiterate how we are cooperating already.

Jack will make edits and send it around to us. So that we can proceed with this before the next meeting Karl made a MOTION, seconded by Cheryl, to accept the report with the amendments indicated. The MOTION PASSED unanimously.

Other:

Jack will ask Barrett Christina specifically if the Coop has to OWN the schools it uses.

Scheduling of next meetings: 2/24/2014, Monday, 5pm, Camp Calumet

Adjourn: Cheryl made a MOTION, and Jane seconded, to adjourn at 6:20pm. The MOTION PASSED unanimously.

Submitted by Ray O'Brien, Clerk