

SAD 15 & Union 29 Administration & Governance
Minutes
October 29, 2007

Meeting held at GNGMS, 6:30 PM

Members Present: Sandy MacDonald, *Gray*; Sherri Robinson, *Gray*; Colleen Quint, *Minot*; Dave Griffiths, *Mechanic Falls*

Information was distributed from the superintendents:

- Financial breakdown per pupil expenditures
- EPS Calculation templates
- Comparison of administrative structure for districts of approx. 3500 students
- Other assorted info

The meeting was a fairly informal discussion of the information provided. We spent most time on the per pupil expenditures for our current school units that Terry Towle provided. The sheet was broken down by town and compared with the state average. We reviewed and found that we needed further clarification of info and came up with about seven questions that needed to be answered. Sandi sent the questions to Dennis & Vicki for answers.

Questions:

1. Why is the cost of regular instruction so different between the towns, especially for Mechanic Falls?
2. What makes up "other instruction"?
3. Is the high debt in Poland only due to the high school or is there something else?
4. What is included under student/staff support?
5. When will the debt for GNG from the high school renovation be showing up?
6. Can we get a breakdown of the costs for Union 29 as one unit, not as individual towns?
7. As we consider the consolidation of administration, are we looking at all administrative categories or just what is contained in category 2320 on the accounting reports?

Once we get an answer to these questions we will be able to compare the information a little better. Want to make sure that we are looking at the correct info and compare “apples to apples”.

Discussed where exactly savings are supposed to come from...just Central Office and, if so, how will that work. Didn't seem reasonable that only cost savings would be expected from that one source. Talked a bit about the effects of cutting central office and possible job loss but did not want to discuss that yet, way too early. Once we can compare things accurately will need to see how jobs can be consolidated.

Felt that we were pretty much done with the governance part and could make our recommendation for a board with 3 members from each town and a weighted vote. As far as the administrative decisions, could not go forward without the answers to questions and without some clarification from the main group on what is needed. We need to know what information is required for the 12/1 deadline and make sure that we have that. Will bring the information to the regional meeting and see what else we need to do...many things we are discussing now are also being discussed by finance so will wait to see what more we need.

Next meeting will be set up after consolidation board meets on 10/30 if needed

Adjourned