

DUMMER/BERLIN WITHDRAWAL STUDY

**Minutes of Meeting**

Monday, December 4, 2006

Dummer Town Hall

PRESENT:

*Dummer School Board Representatives:* Nancy Bisson, Julie Glover

*Town of Dummer Representative:* Paula LaBrecque

*Berlin School Board Representative:* Mitch Couture, Nathan Morin

*Administration:* Superintendent Paul Bousquet, Business Administrator Pauline Plourde

*Other:* Kimberly Hockmeyer, Recorder

I. Call to Order

Bousquet called the meeting to order at 7:42 PM.

II. Acceptance of Minutes, dated: November 6, 2006

**Motion made by Glover to accept the Minutes of the 11/06/06 meetings as presented. Motion seconded by Couture. Vote 5-0. Motion approved.**

III. Sample Tuition Agreement

Bousquet presented a sample tuition agreement from Conway School District.

IV. AVER Population Report

Bousquet presented a copy of the AVER report to the members for information.

V. NESCEC Population Projections

Bousquet presented projections as a source of information.

After reviewing the tuition agreement sample, LaBrecque commented on the complication of the Conway tuition agreement. Bousquet presented a copy of Randolph's simpler agreement. Members discussed the required number for percentages the receiving districts would need for budgetary purposes. Discussion on tuition rate. Plourde explained that for the town of Randolph, they used Gorham's rate, and if a different school was chosen, then the parents paid the difference.

Glover asked the Berlin members how they felt with the tuition agreement. Couture stated that he would have to bring the information before the Berlin School Board.

VI. Review Step by Step Actions to be taken RSA 195-A:14.

Bousquet stated that the next step is to submit a report with a withdrawal plan or state that it is not feasible to withdraw to the state. Plourde stated that tuition agreements and contract language does not need to be finalized for the report to be submitted to the state. Plourde did explain the financial liability of the town of Dummer to Berlin. Bousquet commented on the educational consequences – the high schools in the areas are accredited high schools and a tuition agreement would provide parents and students with choices. Bousquet explained the financial consequences are the transportation costs and the state building aid Dummer would remain responsible.

Discussion on tuition rate. Bousquet suggested using Berlin's rate. Plourde will work with Berlin's Business Administrator to determine all of the financial consequences.

Couture discussed the concern for vocational openings. Currently, Dummer has an equal chance, since students are considered part of Berlin, and Gorham students only have access to 4 openings. Bisson suggested different requirements for vocational education, instead of instead of a lottery system. Couture stated that the lottery system is the fairest way.

LaBrecque asked about an increase in cost for special education students. Couture stated that if a paraprofessional is needed, then the sending school district is responsible for the costs.

**Motion made by Glover to accept the Amended Area Dummer/Berlin Withdrawal Study Report to be submitted to the NH State Board of Education. Motion seconded by Bisson. Discussion. Vote: 4-0-1 (Couture abstain). Motion approved.**

VII. Next Regular Meeting – January 29, 2007 at 7:30 PM.

VIII. Other

Discussion on withdrawal date. Committee agreed withdrawal date to be 2008.

IX. Adjournment

**Motion made by Glover to adjourn. Motion seconded by Bisson. Vote: 5-0. Motion approved.**

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly A. Hockmeyer  
Recorder