

**Milford School  
Reorganization Committee  
August 29, 2007**

Attending: Orono, Old Town, Milford, Bradley, Alton, Greenbush, Holden, Eddington, Clifton, Lagrange, Glenburn

- I. Mary Jane McCalmon reviewed the agenda
  - A. Notice of Intent Update
  - B. Priorities in partnering
  - C. Opportunities
  - D. Threats/Concerns
  - E. General Questioning/Inquiries
  - F. Close
  
- II. Letter of Intent Update
  - A. Opened by Bob Swindlehurst, Orono School Board Chair
    - 1 Glenburn, Orono, Veazie
    - 2 2nd included all present
  - B. SU #90
    - 1 Meeting on 8/30 for final determination
      - a. Looking at least one letter of intent
  - C. Glenburn
    - 1 Include Glenburn, CSD #8, Union #90
    - 2 2nd included all present
  - D. Veazie
    - 1 K-8 Consortium
    - 2 2 others, **I missed the explanations**
  - E. Old Town
    - 1 OT, Veazie, Union #90, Orono
    - 2 May include Lagrange for a 2nd option if State allows the break-up of SAD's
  
- III. Break up in groups and discuss each of the agenda items
  - A. Names in group: Fran Neubauer (Orono), Andrea Gifford (Bradley), Dave Wollstadt (OT), Todd Saucier (Milford), Ron Tewhey (C  
Ann Deschesne (OT), Jan Placella (Glenburn), Anita Peavey Haskell (Milford), Mike Bond (Milford)
  - B. Priorities in Partnering:
    - 1 Sound Education System
      - a. Philosophical synergies
    - 2 Geographic Proximity
      - a. Referring to Commissioner Gendron's map
    - 3 Maintain K-8 school, conceptual difference from K-5
      - a. Fran explained the difference between a K-8 elementary vs. K-8 with a middle school
    - 4 Educational Leadership
      - a. Instructional leadership for principals
    - 5 Equitable Representation of RSU
      - a. Based on population, may NOT be a municipal issue
      - b. Need to avoid the feifdom mentality
    - 6 School Choice
    - 7 Financial disparity
    - 8 Local control
  - C. Opportunities
    - 1 Sound Core Curriculum
      - a. Common Philosophy will breed this
    - 2 Possibility of combined Orono/Old Town High School
      - a. Combined with resources of UMaine
      - b. Teaching research site
      - c. Disadvantages
        - School/Community pride issues
        - Very large list for new construction
    - 3 Sharing the best programming
    - 4 Potential for cost savings
    - 5 Professional Development
    - 6 Escalated use of technologies
    - 7 Sharing resources with community
    - 8 2 High Schools

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- a. Math/Science concentration
- b. Liberal Arts concentration

D. Concerns:

- 1 Fiscal Responsibility
  - a. Physical plant issues
- 2 School closures
  - a. How do you determine the costs or "savings" of closing a school
    - The municipality must pay the "savings" if they do not want the school closed.
- 3 Bussing & Transportation
- 4 Professional contracts
  - a. Teachers and Administrators
- 5 Business Mgmt. of an RSU
- 6 Loss of community pride/identity
- 7 Equitable Representation of RSU
- 8 Rushed timelines: Commitment of the RPC members
- 9 Community that is NOT accepted by an RSU
- 10 Consolidation could result in Tax increase to small communities

E. Questions regarding consolidation?

- 1 What happens to a K-8 town that does not have a high school and town turn downs RSU agreement?
  - a. 50% reduction in minimum subsidy and administration funds, Less favorable consideration
  - b. RSU: Regional School Unit: Required merge for municipalities that have too low a population.
  - c. MSU: Municipal School Unit: Do not need to merge because they have enough students
- 2 Where are the savings?
- 3 Staffing cuts for savings or educationally responsible
- 4 When do we start as an RSU planning board
- 5 Transportation questions re: distance and extracurricular activities
- 6 Size of the RSU: Large communities vs. Small communities
- 7 Administrators understanding of the dynamics
- 8 How will this benefit the students?
- 9 State's commitment to the RSU development
- 10 What happens to a town NOT accepted into an RSU?

IV. Formation of Regionalization Planning Committees

- A. Supers need the names of the municipality's RPC chairs
  - 1 Board Chairs may need to coordinate this effort
    - a. They will be responsible for moving this along

Glenburn),