

November 5, 2020 Session Highlights

Updates Pertinent to Our Work

- Colebrook identified funds that could be used for the consolidated school effort - \$ 22,000 in a technology education fund and \$ 223,000 for business education.

Facilities Requirements

- The Facility Subcommittee (including Brian LaPerle, Sally Biron, Frank Sawicki, Karen and Debra) met with Dan Hebert to review the committees request to provide estimates for costing the two models proposed by the CRCPC committee.
- Discussion ensued regarding the elements of each plan relating to selecting and costing a regional high school and cte model. The subcommittee suggested we add a new regional hs and cte to the mix when estimating costs.
- Debra and Karen met to determine instructional, special services and administrative staffing requirements to deliver a comprehensive secondary education experience as well as an expanded CTE program offering.
- Next this information was summarized and shared with Dan Hebert to assist in determining space considerations for the new/or/expanded school.
- A report will be available at the December meeting.

Progress on Staffing Model and Cost Calculations

- Counselors drafted optional staffing models for a single regional high school.
- This information was further analyzed by Debra and Karen to determine numbers of teachers to instruct students and related special services and administrative personnel.
- The committee engaged RHR Smith and Co. to provide Financial Consulting Services. Their charges include organizational analysis and development of the current and potential future educational models which are under consideration by the committee. Consultants from the firm gathered current financial, staffing and enrollment information from each school system as well as future staffing model information. They also conducted interviews with the Superintendent and Business Administrator from each system. Their analysis is underway.
- We believe that they are on track to provide a draft model for the committee's review at our meeting in December.
- The Reimagine Summary has been revised and distributed to the committee. Next steps for discussion of this document?
 - Share with Individual School Boards - collect feedback and revisit at the next meeting. We are not prepared to share the report widely until financial analysis based upon what it includes is completed.

Business Plan Creation

- RHR Smith will meet with a subset of this committee on a weekly basis between now and our December meeting to review and finalize the work.

Articles of Agreement - Discussion

- Subcommittee met on two occasions to discuss then review early draft articles. (Included Sandra, Kyle, Karen, Debra, Paul G. and Jim O.)
- The attorneys recommended that the committee adopt Robert's Rules of Order and public posting protocols.

- The subcommittee identified questions that the committee will need to address prior to completion of the articles.

Questions and discussion outcomes include:

- What is the name of the newly formed district?
 - A contest will be held with school staff, students and community members suggesting names. A poll will be created and distributed community-wide. These steps will be completed by year-end and Katie, Sandra, Frankie and Don will spearhead the effort, with Katie as point person.
- What will the board representation be?
 - This will be determined after grade range of the district is determined.
- What will the grade range of the district be: PK-12?
 - For committee members to feel comfortable maintaining local control of elementary school grades and buildings, provisions must be included in the Articles of Agreement that stipulate what will continue to be decided at the community level. Kyle, Karen and Debra will work with the attorneys to propose language that accomplish this. The desire is to have one consolidated budget for the public schools and one governing body without losing some local autonomy. We will review this language in December.
- Will we permit tuition agreements with entities outside of the district?
 - Yes. The committee reached agreement on this.
- Topic areas that require further study – volunteers identified for these subcommittees:
 - Apportionment of operating expenses (including transportation and current and future debt allocation and amount of building aid available in each state) and existing debt:
 - Brian, Laurent, Phil, David, Mike, and Chris Brady, along with the business managers. Debra and Karen will coordinate scheduling for the group. Recommendations will be formed for our December meeting review.
 - Special Education laws, regulations and programming:
 - The business managers, director of special education for each group will form recommendations by year-end.