

**REGIONAL PLANNING COMMITTEE
MINUTES
September 6, 2007**

Eric L. Haley, Superintendent of Schools for the Waterville Public Schools, called the meeting of the Consolidation Planning Committee to order at 5:03 p.m. in the cafeteria at Messalonskee Middle School in Oakland. Mr. Haley served as Chairperson of the meeting, noting that he, Dr. James C. Morse, Sr., Superintendent of Schools for MSAD 47, and Elaine Miller, Superintendent of Schools for School Union 52, would share that responsibility on a rotating basis.

Those in Attendance: Mary Ann Bernier, Lawrence Brown, Lee Cabana, Malcolm Charles, Charles Clark, Robin Colby, Judy Coombs, Donald Dufour, Steven Dyer, Elwood Ellis, Doug Eugley, Ralph Farnham, Jr., Jeffrey Frost, Monique Gilbert, Michael Gosselin, Eric Haley, Michael Heavener, Melanie Jewell, James Jurdak, Linda Laughlin, Libby Mitchell, Robert Moreau, Nora Murray, Wendy Nivison, Joan Phillips Sandy, Paula Pooler, Kelly Roderick, Gerald Saint Amand, Phil St. Onge, Jack Sutton, Sara Sylvester, Peter Thiboutot, Michael Thurston, Laughlin Titus, and Michael Tracy

Mr. Haley reviewed with Committee members the ground rules.

- Each School Administrative Unit (SAU) will appoint a spokesperson for voting.
- There will be one vote per SAU.
- There will be 20 minutes reserved at the beginning of each session for public comments, with a two-minute limit per person.
- Meetings will occur on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month.
- Superintendents of the three schools systems involved will chair the Committee on a rotating basis.

Mr. Haley asked if there were any delegations.

Malcolm Charles, a Selectman representing the Town of Rome, addressed the Committee regarding the addition of the Towns of China and Vassalboro. With the addition of China and Vassalboro, there are only five meetings to develop a plan to submit to the state, and he expressed concern about developing plans and having enough time to do so.

Mr. Haley noted that these needs are formulative needs, and that there are no absolutes because towns have filed letters of intent.

Elaine Miller noted that Vassalboro voted to submit two letters of intent to the State, one including Winslow, China, Vassalboro, Palermo, and Waterville, and a second including Winslow, China, Vassalboro, and Palermo. China also voted to submit two letters of intent, one including China, Vassalboro, Winslow, Palermo, and Waterville, and a second including China, Vassalboro, Winslow, and Palermo. Winslow also submitted two letters of intent, one including Winslow, Waterville, and MSAD 47, and a second including Winslow, China, Vassalboro, and Palermo. The only town that has filed an amendment for this group is Vassalboro. Ms. Miller noted that representatives from the Town of Palermo have openly stated that they have no

interest in partnering with Winslow, and if Winslow is involved with any of the letters of intent of the other towns with which they will partner, Palermo will not be involved.

Dr. Morse noted that the letters of intent are just that – the intentions of what will be done. MSAD 47 filed three letters of intent, one by itself, one including MSAD 47, Waterville and Winslow, and one including China, MSAD 47, Vassalboro, Waterville, and Winslow. As Committee members go through the process, they need to review what makes sense, how they want to proceed, and then make recommendation to respective school committees. They are trying to meet state deadlines while not knowing definitely where they will be going. They want to insure that towns are covering all the bases.

Elaine Miller noted that School Union 52 is very effective and efficient, but under the new law, the school union will be dissolved. It is difficult for school unions because they have worked in partnership for many years. Under the new law, what was once a good partnership does not necessarily become a good RSU.

Jack Sutton, Chair of the Budget Committee for the Town of Belgrade, noted that the pro forma analysis of the financial impact on the municipalities before the savings by taking today's budget and allocating them based on the letters of intent will go a long way in sorting out what route this Committee will take.

Mr. Haley noted that whatever the Committee decides for a plan will have to be presented to and approved by the public, and their question is the budget.

Phil St. Onge noted that at the last meeting the Committee voted to have one vote per SAU and asked how that would be accomplished.

Dr. Morse noted that what was attempted last week was to level the playing field. What would have happened is that if voting were done by town/SAU, Messalonskee would have four votes, Waterville one vote, and Winslow one vote. Any vote that was taken, the Messalonskee vote would carry. By having one vote per SAU it insures that each SAU is acting as one and that the voting would be equitable for all parties.

Joan Phillips Sandy noted that when it really comes down to it, the key decision is who will be partnering with whom and where they are headed. This group does not have the authority to compel any arrangement; it has to be voluntary.

Gerald Saint Amand noted that last week Commissioner Gendron reinforced her intent. Once towns finalize and focus on one letter on intent, there is no mechanism in the law to change that.

Mr. Haley noted that there are no financial penalties if the Committee does not come up with a plan by December 1, 2007. The next fiscal year is not where the penalties will be assessed if the Committee does not agree regarding consolidation. It very well may be that the December 1, 2007 plan will state that the RPC is "in progress". There is that flexibility.

At this point, Mr. Haley asked for new members of the Committee to introduce themselves and state a couple concerns they each have.

Don Dufour, representative from the Waterville City Council, is concerned about the quality of education for children, as well as the financial impact on voters and taxpayers.

Joan Phillips Sandy, a member of the Waterville School Board, is concerned about the quality programming for children and the fiscal responsibility.

Jeffrey Frost, Board Member from MSAD 47, stated he is convinced it takes a community to raise a child and is concerned that if there is too much centralization, community involvement will be lost. Can this be done without interruption to employees, by putting money into the classrooms and by reducing costs?

Laughlin Titus, community representative from the Town of Vassalboro, stated that the Committee needs to insure that this makes sense financially.

Gerald Saint Amand, a member of the Winslow Town Council, stated that he hopes that further possibilities will be available for the students of Central Maine, and that there needs to be a better understanding of school choice.

Charlie Clark, a member of the China School Committee, wants to insure the educational enhancement and benefits for all schools in the Central Maine area and wants to review the financial picture.

Mr. Haley noted that the state has provided for up to \$2,500 to RSUs, once letters of intent have been approved, to help pay for costs in order to move ahead. The public must be kept as informed as possible, and information must be made available for the public as soon as it is available. On each district's web site there is a regionalization link that will provide updated information.

A discussion ensued regarding the availability of the meeting minutes and at which point they will be posted on line for access to the public. It is very important that the information that is published is the best information available and that it is accurate.

The Committee reached a consensus that the minutes will be distributed to Committee members. Everyone will have 48 hours to report any errors or omissions. If there are none, then the minutes will be posted as a draft copy. If there are concerns, the minutes will not be posted, and amendments will occur at the next Committee meeting.

Elaine Miller addressed the Committee regarding the latest developments involving the Towns of China and Vassalboro. There has been much discussion surrounding the towns of the school union. There are concerns about a K-12 system being aligned. The one issue that continues to arise is how the school choice piece in the law impacts the K-12 systems. There were multiple

meetings with the union board and also the separate school committees. Members felt they wanted to stay together and wanted to be aligned with K-12 systems. The Town of China is being recruited to join School Union 132 (Chelsea, Jefferson, Whitefield) and School Union 133 (Palermo, Somerville, Windsor). China and Vassalboro representatives felt very strongly that in the law they need to be aligned or be able to contract with a public high school. They cannot align with a school that will not contract. They want to insure that all children in China and Vassalboro have the opportunity to attend public high school and give them more choices.

In the initial conversations Winslow included Waterville and Messalonskee in their consolidation discussions, but Waterville and Messalonskee had concerns over school choice, as did Winslow. There have been discussions this week regarding China and Vassalboro, and it was decided that China and Vassalboro representatives would be invited to come to the table to discuss consolidation.

Charlie Clark of China noted that the process has been long. The Board had a couple of options. Erskine has been considered the hometown high school for many years. There were issues, and there was the possibility that the School would be turned over to the Town of China. There are certain groups of people who feel they should not have to pay for the extras. China pays the state average, and that has always meant higher tuition rates. It is a higher burden because the state average includes all high schools. China pays an insured value, and that has been an issue of concern. Insured value is the state's way of equalizing state aid funds. When this law was passed China thought that it would simply turn the union into a RSU, with the possibility of becoming RSU 26, including Winslow, Vassalboro, China, and Palermo. Looking at that it could be seen that the savings would be from Palermo. The Town of Palermo is much like China and Vassalboro in some ways, with regard to economic background, lakefront properties and valuation.

The Town of China does not want to give up school choice. China representatives have opted not to partner with Augusta because of governance issues. They were told that they are very interested in the "Super 8", the six union towns that wanted to come together and include Vassalboro and China with them and wanted to try to come up with agreements with 16 towns. The concerns were very varied, but they wanted to align with two high schools. The RSU with Messalonskee, Waterville, and Winslow has three public high schools. We have some very good things in the Town of China that would benefit the group. For the last 12 years China has voted their budget by referendum. Budgets not only have to be sold to school boards and school committees, but they also have to be sold to the public.

Mr. Haley noted that the insured value factor pays for private school is a 10% surcharge. Even paying a state average, tuition is still at a higher rate. It costs China and Vassalboro more money to send students to Erskine. What the law says is that the additional cost would be borne by the municipality.

Dr. Morse reviewed with Committee members a PowerPoint presentation he presented at the last meeting on August 22, 2007 related to a Messalonskee, Waterville, and Winslow regional school unit, with the addition of the Towns of China and Vassalboro, giving a snapshot of the three school systems. The most important issue is the focus on the youngsters. What are the educational opportunities that could exist for MSAD 47, Waterville, Winslow, China and Vassalboro?

The purpose of the Regionalization Planning Committee is to increase educational opportunities for Messalonskee Waterville, Winslow, China and Vassalboro students, as well as to create cost efficiencies, and to comply with the consolidation law in order to make recommendations to respective school boards. Can we create a better school system, perhaps the best public school system in the state, and can we do it cost effectively?

The Consolidation Law reduces Maine school systems from 290 to 80, with at least 2,500 students per Regional School Unit (RSU). The Consolidation Law was drafted due to declining student enrollment statewide, taxpayer revolt, and school administrative units being too small due to declining enrollment. Exceptions to the 2,500-student goal per RSU include offshore islands and Indian Schools, efficient high performing schools, and the “doughnut” hole. This would be a case where a school unit would be in the middle of surrounding school units that have consolidated but no one has partnered with the particular school unit. The Consolidation Law requires the formation of Regional Planning Committees to review pros and cons of possible partnerships and the creation of a regional agreement.

Key Dates of the Consolidation Law include:

- Summer of 2007 – formation of Regional Planning Committee
- August 31, 2007 – Notice of Intent Letter submitted to Commissioner
- December 1, 2007 – Regional Plan submitted to Department of Education
- January 15, 2008 – 1st voting opportunity, with operational date of July 1, 2008
- November 4, 2008 – 2nd voting opportunity, with operational date of July 1, 2009 - If there is lack of voter approval, penalties will be invoked.

Penalties for non-compliance include an additional 50% reduction in administrative support, less favorable treatment for school construction, reduction in Essential Programs and Services (EPS) subsidy, and ineligibility for transition adjustment.

There are currently three governance models for school districts: municipalities, school unions, and school administrative districts. A municipality is a department of the city, such as Waterville. A school union is comprised of several municipal school systems that share the cost of a central office, but each member is independent of the other members and has its own school board, such as School Union 52. Under a school administrative district, member communities share school governance through one school board, such as MSAD 47. Under the consolidation law, all these units will disappear and be replaced with Regional School Units, which are similar to school administrative districts. Every school system in the state will become a regional school union, even if the systems have no partners. A system may have one member, but it will be a RSU.

Dr. Morse reviewed details related to MSAD 47, Waterville, Winslow, China and Vassalboro. The Census 2006 estimated population for MSAD 47 is 14,478, Waterville is 15,639, China is 4,408, Vassalboro is 4,337 and Winslow is 7,944, for a total population of 46,806, with each community having a voting weight of 1 vote per thousand. If districts are viewed collectively, they are at about 1/3 of the population each. In relation to the merging of these five different administrative units, the balance is impressive.

The valuation as per 2006 data from the Maine Department of Education for MSAD 47 is \$1,248,200,000, for Waterville is \$632,500,000, for China is \$285,100,000, for Vassalboro is \$236,250,000, and for Winslow is \$437,650,000, for a total valuation of \$2,839,700,000. Collectively the towns look balanced, indicating that in terms of how each is viewed socio-economically, they are very similar. This is the data that the Department of Education uses as a foundation as to what districts receive for school funding. The valuation as per 2007 data from Maine Revenue Service is \$1,484,600,000 for MSAD 47, \$697,450,000 for Waterville, \$323,450,000 for China, \$259,650,000 for Vassalboro and \$474,850,000 for Winslow, for a total valuation of \$3,240,000,000.

The estimated debt as of June 30, 2009 is \$11,981,809 for MSAD 47, \$4,401,351 for Waterville, \$385,330 for China, \$1,267,784 for Vassalboro and \$10,246,524 for Winslow. The way the law was written, state approved debt transfers into the RSU, meaning that debt will be paid for by all taxpayers in the RSU.

The 2007-08 combined school budgets total \$73,840,451, with MSAD 47 at \$25,401,211, Waterville at \$19,367,633, China at \$7,936,777, Vassalboro at \$6,990,830 and Winslow at \$14,144,000, serving a total student population of 7,117. Each district is operating efficiently. As a comparison, the Portland Public Schools has a budget of \$75,000,000, serving a student population of approximately 7,000.

Student population (based on 2004-05 data) is 7,117, with 2,634 students in MSAD 47, 2,010 students in Waterville, 535 students in China, 513 students in Vassalboro and 1,425 students in Winslow. There are some small neighborhood schools in these towns. These schools are not in danger of closure in an RSU because they are all full. School closure is an unlikely event based on the population that is being served in those schools. The 2007-08 student population as per the ED 281 state report is 7,249 for all three districts. The ED 281 report uses the average of the April 1 and October 1 enrollments.

Dr. Morse reviewed a comparison of student drop out rates, graduation rates, average daily attendance, and college placement.

District	Drop-out Rate	Graduation Rate	Average Daily Attendance	College Placement (2005-06)
SAD 47	0.77%	92.76%	96.90%	84.00%
Waterville	1.50%	87.57%	94.15%	78.00%
Winslow	0.17%	88.65%	94.24%	80.00%

It was noted that all three high schools are accredited through the New England Association of Schools and Colleges.

The socio-economic data related to free/reduced lunch status and special education counts was also reviewed. All three school systems have comprehensive programs to deal with the most needy youngsters, as well as gifted youngsters. All of the units, except for Waterville are in the 1/3% range in terms of free/reduced lunch and special education counts. Waterville has twice as many poor youngsters as Winslow. When high school completion, placement, and dropout rates are reviewed, Waterville is comparable to MSAD 47 and Winslow in each category. It may be speculated that because there are many poor students, there must be a lot of children with special needs. This is not true. Waterville has taken poverty out of the equation. .

Per pupil costs (based on 2004-05 data) for secondary education were also reviewed. The yearly cost to educate students in grades 9-12 is \$7,729.32 in MSAD 47, \$9,037.85 in Waterville, \$8,040.97 in China, \$8,125.73 in Vassalboro and \$8,480.27 in Winslow. The state average is \$8,951.75. The cost per student in MSAD 47 is lower than the other towns. This is because there are four towns in MSAD 47 that share expenses and have already "regionalized". Dr. Morse stated that the regionalization of school systems should not be anything to fear. At Messalonskee the education results are great, and the cost per student is decent.

Per pupil costs (based on 2004-05 data) for elementary education were also reviewed. The yearly cost to educate students in grades pre-k through 8 is \$6,621.48 in MSAD 47, \$6,764.78 in Waterville, \$6,961.75 in China, \$7,008.22 in Vassalboro and \$7,912.86 in Winslow. The state average is \$7,873.29. By and large almost all of the schools are operating below the state average.

Required elements of the regional plan to be submitted to the Department of Education include governance, disposition of real and personal school property, disposition of existing school indebtedness, lease purchase obligations, assignment of school personnel contracts, disposition of existing school funds, transition plan for the development of a first-year budget, and interim school policies. Dr. Morse noted that by combining the three school districts, the opportunity exists for enhancing educational opportunities for all students. Dr. Morse stated that from his perspective and from the perspectives of Superintendents Haley and Miller this consolidation effort will not involve the closure of high schools or the elimination of sports programs. The new vision for schools is providing the best education in the State of Maine. The Superintendents feel strongly that by combining efforts, they can enhance educational opportunities for all students.

Dr. Morse noted that the commitment that could come from China and Vassalboro is that these issues are on the table. If discussions go forward in the next couple of months, they might be willing to limit that choice and then have discussions regarding special needs programs and costs associated with tuition and assuming a share of debt. The result of inviting China and Vassalboro representatives to the table is to move forward together to see if a plan may be forged that is cost effective and benefits students.

Eric Haley noted that the state approved debt service by law has to be absorbed by the RSU. Who will benefit the most? The RSU could state that a school will be accepted and used, but that it doesn't want the debt service. According to the current law, the school system that was in the original district will assume that debt.

Mr. Haley stated that he, Superintendent Miller and Superintendent Morse have a vision of a school system that would be the envy of all. This would be a unique development tool to entice people to move to the Central Maine area because people would want their children in these schools. People will move here if they believe that there is a much better system in this area. There are resources to make this happen. There are opportunities right now to make some major changes in opportunities for students.

Mike Gosselin said that it is his understanding that Elaine Miller has resigned as of December 1. He asked if the Winslow Board would appoint a new superintendent. Superintendent Miller noted that if a superintendent were appointed, it would be a superintendent of schools for the union and, most likely, would be an interim position. There has been some discussion about the plan for a superintendent, but nothing has been decided.

Mr. Gosselin said that the Director of Technology for Waterville has resigned. He asked if there was intent to replace that position. Mr. Haley said that a discussion needed to occur with the Board of Directors prior to hiring.

Jack Sutton noted that the presentation was well and good, but until these numbers are translated with pro forma figures, there is a lot of doubt. The sooner that is done, the better all will know where the districts are headed financially. He asked that the figures be out on the table so that the core of the issues may be discussed. He noted that the Commissioner sent a template for systems to use and asked when a budget would be available.

Dr. Morse noted that those figures should be available when the Finance Subcommittee meets next Thursday, September 13. The superintendents want to insure that the data that will be presented is as accurate as possible.

Phil St. Onge asked what themed high schools are and what type of high school Winslow High School would be, and if there would be school choice for students.

Mr. Haley stated that there is much discussion about being able to offer specialty discipline areas to students.

Elaine Miller stated that discussion has occurred regarding thematic high schools, but the culture of communities should be maintained. We want to make sure we don't take opportunities away from students. The concept of a themed high school is similar to the concept of a vocational school, where students come together for vocational courses. In viewing themed high schools, if communities are part of an RSU instead of each high school in the RSU trying to offer everything, each high school in the RSU would have an expertise, such as math or science.

Dr. Morse noted that the U.S. Department of Education has identified 16 career pathways. Fundamentals of the high school curriculum being exactly the same in all three high schools would not change. What would change would be the electives in that high school. For example, if Winslow High School were a science high school, it is very possible that an engineering course would be offered there, with Messalonskee and Waterville students sitting in their host schools picking up that course through technology, or attending Winslow for that course. Themed high schools would open up pathways for students who have a particular interest. However, there needs to be assurance that the populations of the high schools are balanced.

Mr. Haley noted that the technology is available now through ATM. There are, however, scheduling issues with these three high schools that would need to be aligned.

Charley Clark asked if there is much that has been said about finances and debt service. In relation to consolidation discussions, China has very little debt. But that doesn't mean that there isn't any anticipated debt. It is anticipated that there would be debt service in China.

Eric Haley noted that by June 30, 2009, school districts need to be consolidated. There will be no more state approved debt service. He noted that Libby Mitchell sponsored a public hearing last night and asked if she would provide an update.

Senator Mitchell referred to a newspaper article that appeared today and noted that often newspaper articles are not clear. In reading the article, those were the questions asked, and those were the answers provided. She thought the Commissioner was extraordinarily professional. The Commissioner stood and took questions for almost two hours. If she could score one thing when this law was being discussed in the Legislature, what is happening around this table was the ideal vision for legislators. People coming together trying to create something better for children, building on the work that Waterville, Winslow, and MSAD 47 has done for five years. When there are huge differences in valuation that is a big issue for cost sharing for bringing towns together. It doesn't work so well with the current school funding formula when funding is based on valuation.

Another issue was school choice and who will take care of all of the special needs students. What are the financial barriers for dealing with young people from towns with choice and the fear that all students will not be accepted at private schools? This will now become the financial problems of all these RSUs. School districts will bring their debts and assets to the table and try to balance out those issues. We are very dedicated to trying to make this work. You are offering the best of all worlds, and we will do our part. Senator Mitchell noted that the leadership of this group has been noticed in Augusta.

Elaine Miller stated that there were a many questions. Winslow, China and Vassalboro representatives attended the meeting. A majority of the audience members were representing small towns and school choice towns. Joel Elliott, Sentinel reporter, revisited the question of how towns were going to work with their voters regarding school choice. There needs to be a way for the public high schools to also have some choice. Work needs to be done on the

law to make it more palatable with public high schools. There needs to be assurance that all students are provided with a quality education.

Joan Phillips Sandy asked if there is a likelihood the legislators will address the specific piece of who pays for school choice. Currently, the towns pick up the tuition. She also asked if there is a likelihood that the law will be addressed and altered so that perhaps families pay some portion of the tuition rather than towns.

Senator Mitchell stated that the law states that municipalities must pay the tuition. As the state struggles, she is learning that it is not just Vassalboro and China who are working in good faith, but this issue encompasses the entire state. How do we solve and recognize the extra burden and the cost?

Charley Clark noted that in Vassalboro the town pays the state average tuition plus 10% insured value. If parents want their children to attend school elsewhere, then the family picks up the difference over and above the state average plus 10%. Senator Mitchell noted that under the new law, the municipality picks up the cost.

Mike Gosselin asked in terms of the school choice issue, if he is a resident of Oakland, and he has an 8th grade student, whether his family would have school choice.

Senator Mitchell noted that the law guarantees choice to those schools that had it. Eric Haley noted that within the RSU there is the possibility of school choice because it would be the same school system.

Jim Morse noted that there are different kinds of required subcommittees that need to be formed. The handout lists the items the plans must cover. He asked that Committee members assign themselves to a Subcommittee.

Subcommittees were formed to carry forth work regarding these issues in relation to what needs to be completed to have a plan ready for the Commissioner for December 1. There must be a balance of community representation on each subcommittee.

Jim Morse stated that the last time the Committee met there were various questions and concerns from the communities, centering on two issues: educational planning and finances. The law requires four areas to address: transition, personnel, governance and finance. There is also a local option committee to discuss educational programming.

Dr. Morse reviewed the charges of each Subcommittee (from flip chart).

Charges of The Transition Subcommittee

1. Develop a protocol for the first RSU budget.
2. Educate community and public regarding the budget validation process.
3. other transition issues as identified

Elaine Miller will lead this Subcommittee.

Charges of the Personnel Subcommittee

1. contracts
2. salary comparisons
3. comparing collective bargaining agreements
4. review personnel issues
5. other personnel issues as identified

Eric Haley will lead this Subcommittee.

Charges of the Governance Subcommittee

1. SAUS involved
2. size, composition, coordination of public meetings
3. method of voting
4. Identify what happens if one SAU does not pass consolidation.
5. choice issue
6. what to do regarding local school committees
7. other governance issues as identified

Jim Morse will lead this Subcommittee.

Charges of the Finance Subcommittee

1. indebtedness
2. lease purchases
3. trust funds, reserve accounts
4. disposition of school funds
5. real and school property
6. facilities
7. estimate of savings (costs – transition)
8. other finance issues that develop

Connie Packard, Paula Pooler, and Gray Smith will lead this Subcommittee.

Charges of the Educational Programming Subcommittee

1. future search
2. schedules
3. graduation requirements
4. course offerings
5. other educational issues identified

Linda Laughlin, Nora Murray, and Peter Thiboutot will lead this Subcommittee.

Jim Morse asked Committee members to sign themselves on to the Committee on which they would like to work and begin the process of identifying what is required for information.

There are 13 required elements of the reorganization plan, and the Subcommittees identified the required elements and assigned individual Subcommittee work as follows.

Finance Subcommittee

5. The disposition of real and personal school property. Please describe.
6. The disposition of existing school indebtedness and lease-purchase obligations if the parties elect not to use the provisions of section 1506 regarding the disposition of debt obligations. Please describe.
8. The disposition of existing school funds and existing financial obligations, including undesignated fund balances, trust funds, reserve funds and other funds appropriated for school purposes. Please describe.
9. A transition plan that addresses the development of a budget for the first school year of the reorganized unit and interim personnel policies. Please describe.
12. An estimate of the cost savings to be achieved by the formation of a regional school unit and how these savings will be achieved. Please describe.
13. Such other matters as the governing bodies of the school administrative units in existence on the effective date of this chapter may determine to be necessary. Please describe.

The Finance Committee is tentatively scheduled to meet on September 13 at 5:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at the Oakland Town Office.

Governance Subcommittee

1. The units of school administration to be included in the proposed reorganized regional school unit. Please describe.
2. The size, composition and apportionment of the governing body. Please describe.
3. The method of voting of the governing body. Please describe.
4. The composition, powers and duties of any local school committees to be created. Please describe.
11. An explanation of how units that approve the reorganization plan will proceed if one or more of the proposed members of the regional school unit fail to approve the plan. Please describe.
13. Such other matters as the governing bodies of the school administrative units in existence on the effective date of this chapter may determine to be necessary. Please describe.

The Governance Subcommittee is tentatively scheduled to meet on September 13 at 5:00 p.m. at the Superintendent's Office of MSAD 47 in Oakland.

Personnel Subcommittee

7. The assignment of school personnel contracts, school collective bargaining agreements and other school contractual obligations. Please describe.
9. A transition plan that addresses the development of a budget for the first school year of the reorganized unit and interim personnel policies. Please describe.
13. Such other matters as the governing bodies of the school administrative units in existence on the effective date of this chapter may determine to be necessary. Please describe.

Transition Committee

9. A transition plan that addresses the development of a budget for the first school year of the reorganized unit and interim personnel policies. Please describe.
10. Documentation of the public meeting or public meetings held to prepare or review the reorganization plan. Please describe.
13. Such other matters as the governing bodies of the school administrative units in existence on the effective date of this chapter may determine to be necessary. Please describe.

The Personnel and Transition Subcommittees will merge and are tentatively scheduled to meet on September 13 at 3:30 p.m. at the Superintendent's Office of the Waterville Public Schools.

Mr. Haley thanked members of the Committee for attending the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.