

Chaplin, Scotland, Hampton, Region 11 Boards of Education
Special Meeting
8 Sep 2016

Present were Sherry Smardon, Scott Sears, John Bolduc, Jamie Spalding, Will Hooper, Jaclyn Chancey, Stacy Foster, Rose Bisson, Ann Gruenberg, Maryellen Donnelly, John Burnham, Mark Becker, Steve Dunn, Bud Smallwood, and Jennifer Nelson.

1. Sherry Smardon called the meeting to order at 7:02.

2. Audience for citizens: none.

3. Committee reports.

a. Cost Committee

The cost committee presented the requested information from the 5 towns that responded. Each town was asked to provide the budgeted tuition, including special education, and the number of enrolled students for each of the last 5 school years. It also requested to not include grants, and transportation in those numbers.

Actual responses were distributed and discussed. As part of that discussion, it was brought up that any per pupil savings may be affected by a shift from students currently attending a school of their choice, but at their own expense, to attending a public school at district expense.

Also discussed was potential impact of the recent CCJEF v. Rell decision. Current school funding models may change in the near future.

John Burnham said he would forward this information to the groups studying Addition/Withdrawal and Dissolution.

b . Survey Committee

The committee has agreed upon the final survey. The mailing list has been proofread for duplications and errors, and is almost complete.

There was a question from the printing company about how to bill for the survey. It was decided to send equal bills to each of the 4 Boards of Education.

There was discussion on the time table for sending and receiving surveys. The goal was to get to the printer by 21 September for a mailing of 30 Sep 2016. Returned surveys would then need to be postmarked by 14 Oct 2016. Surveys could be returned by mail, or a sealed drop box will be placed in each town hall. At the conclusion of the survey, there will be a call for volunteers to help in data entry. The time and place will follow usual public notice protocol, and will occur in a public place.

c. Shared Services Committee

Letters will be sent to some of the common vendors to discuss ways that money could potentially be saved if there was cooperation between districts.

The committee also had discussed how any shared services procedures would work.

4. Update on Addition/Withdrawal and Dissolution study groups.

a. Addition/Withdrawal group has met 2 times. Posting of meetings needs to be clarified so that all town halls and members get meeting information on time.

Ann Gruenberg had discussed the Addition/Withdrawal Study with CABE. They offered resources if the committee desired them.

b. The Dissolution study group has not met.

5. Next Steps

a. Send notices for the survey to local newspapers, including the Chronicle, Hampton Gazette, Highland Herald, Norwich Bulletin, town and school web sites.

b. Chairs of each board will be alerted when volunteers are needed to help tabulate survey results to reach out to their respective members for help.

c. Letters to vendors need to go out.

6. Next meeting will be at Hampton Elementary School on 27 Oct 2016 at 7:00pm.

7. Audience for Citizens

a. Claire D'Appalonio advised that information for the Highland Herald needs to be submitted by 15 Sep 2016

8..Meeting adjourned at 8:30pm.

Respectfully submitted by

Scott Sears, Scotland Board of Education.