

Consolidation Forum

Falmouth and MSAD51
Reorganization Planning Committee
(RPC)

Format for Tonight

- Intent is to Update You on Consolidation Progress
- Provide a Forum for Questions and Comments—Hopefully More of a Conversation
 - Format Will Be Presentation/Questions & Comments
 - Will Need to Go To Microphone in Order to Make Comments and Ask Questions as

Falmouth & MSAD51 Reorganization Planning Committee

**MSAD51 (Cumberland & North
Yarmouth)**

Falmouth

David Perkins (MSAD51 Board)
Susan Campbell (MSAD51 Board)
Shirley Storey-King (Cumberland
Town Council)
Mark Fortin (Cumberland Community
Rep)
Anne Graham (NY Selectmen)
Linc Merrill (North Yarmouth

Beppie Cerf (Falmouth School Board)
Kathy Hillman Reed (Falmouth
School Board)
Joe Wrobleski (Falmouth Town
Council)
Peggy McGehee (Falmouth Citizen
Rep)
George Entwistle (Superintendent)

State's Objectives for

- Reduce the number of school units AND provide
- Equitable educational opportunities
- Rigorous academic programs
- Uniformity in delivering programs
- A greater uniformity in tax rates
- More efficient and effective use of limited resources
- Preservation of school choice
- Maximum opportunity to deliver services in

Our Vision for

- Greater Possibilities for Educational Enrichment for Our Students
 - Collective and Shared Assets
 - “Campus Model” Possibility
- Creative Community of Learners with World Class Leadership
 - Synergy of a Cohesive, Shared Vision and Culture
 - Shared Focus on Student Achievement

Our Vision for

- School/Community Partnership for Effective and Efficient Schools
 - Increased Transparency
 - Reduced Redundancy
- Realistic Transition
 - Cost Savings Achieved Over Time

Timeline

**August
31, 2007**



**November
1, 2007**



**December
1, 2007
Submit**

Timeline, continued

January,
2008–
June,



June,
2008 (if
Referendum



November
4, 2008
Last

Concept of Due Diligence

- Good Faith Effort to Consolidate
- Focus on Structural and Policy Framework
- Explore Options, Opportunities, and Impact within this Framework
- Inform and Invite Public Involvement and Comment

The Process

- **Intent to Consolidate (Completed)**
 - Consideration of Opportunities and Consequences
 - Opportunities for educational enrichment
 - Opportunities to achieve economies and efficiencies of scale
 - Avoidance of financial penalties

- Financial Penalties (State Imposed)
 - A 50% reduction in minimum subsidy (the special education minimum);
 - A further 50% reduction in system administration funds;
 - Less favorable consideration in approval and funding for school construction; and

The Process

- **Formation of a Reorganization Planning Committee (RPC)**
 - Concept of Due Diligence
 - Develop Plan for Proposed Regional School Unit (RSU)
- **Submit Reorganization Plan to Commissioner**
 - December 1, 2007
 - Commissioner Response by December 15,

- Voter Referendum on Reorganization Plan
 - Possible Dates:
 - January--November, 2008
 - If Reorganization Plan is Approved:
 - Election of RSU Board in Accordance with Governance Structure
 - If Reorganization Plan is Not Approved:
 - Restart Process
 - Must be approved by Voter Referendum by November 4, 2008 or penalties will start in FY 2009-10

Reorganization Planning Committee (RPC)

- Charge is to determine the structure of the RSU (i.e., the framework within which the RSU will operate)
- Key Task Areas:

<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Governance•Local School Committees•Property•Debt	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Employees•Transition•Cost Savings•Cost Sharing
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Status of RPC Activities

Considered	To Be Considered
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Governance• Local School Committees• Property• Debt• Cost Sharing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Employees• Transition• Cost Savings

Governance Decision

- Considered 4 Representation Options
 - Sub-District Representation
 - Weighted Voting
 - At-Large
 - Other

Governance Decision

- 6 Member Board of Directors
 - Apportioned by Municipality Population
 - 6 member Board avoids weighted voting
 - Falmouth – 3
 - Cumberland – 2
 - North Yarmouth – 1

Local School Committee

- Do Not Favor Establishment of Local School Committees
 - Concern about preserving unity of RSU
 - Encourage communication linkages with existing sub-bodies (foundations, booster organizations, PTO, school-based advisory committees, etc.)
 - Option remains to revisit once RSU is operational

Property and Debt

- Property (real and personal school property) Lists have been obtained
 - Facilities appear comparable
 - Town Officials and School District Business Managers will have further discussions regarding dispensation of real property at point of RSU approval
 - Personal school property remains with each school (unless otherwise determined by school administration)

Property and Debt

- Debt Schedules made available
 - Local Debt remains local

Cost Sharing Decision

- Required Local Contribution
 - Local contribution is based on state valuation of property and is mandated by law
- Additional Local Funds Share Formula represents that which should be distributed equitably

Cost Sharing Decision

- Recommend 4-year phase-in of a formula based on pupil count
 - Service-based formula, rather than valuation formula
 - No change/shift in first year
 - Tax impact range is +/- 1% in any given year

Cost Sharing Decision

- Consolidation Plan will be conditionally submitted requiring legislative approval of flexible, local cost sharing formulas.

Cost Sharing Phase-In

- Year 1 (the first year of operation of the new RSU or FY'10): The additional local funds would be allocated by the percent of additional local funds from each community in the previous year (FY '09). Using current figures, there would be no cost shift.
- *The figures in this example are based entirely

Cost Sharing Phase-In

- Year 2 (second year of operation, FY '11): Two thirds of the additional local funds would be allocated based on the previous year's percentage and one third would be allocated on the percentage of pupils. The cost shifts would be
 - +.51% (\$89,854) to Falmouth
 - +.44% (\$18,595) to North Yarmouth
 - -1.00% (\$108,544) to Cumberland.
- *The figures in this example are based entirely on 2007-08 budget figures from the two school units.

Cost Sharing Phase-In

- Year 3 (third year of operation, FY '12):
One third of the additional local funds would be allocated based on the previous year's percentage and two thirds would be allocated on the percentage of pupils. The cost shifts would be
 - +.51% (\$89,898) to Falmouth
 - +.44% (\$18,609) to North Yarmouth
 - -1.01% (-\$108,507) to Cumberland
- *The figures in this example are based entirely on 2007-08 budget figures from the two school units.

Cost Sharing Phase-In

- Year 4 (fourth year of operation, FY '13): All of the additional local funds would be allocated based on the percentage of pupils. The cost shifts would be:
 - +.51% (\$89,944) to Falmouth
 - +.44% (\$18,624) to North Yarmouth
 - -1.02% (\$108,473) to Cumberland
- *The figures in this example are based entirely on 2007-08 budget figures from the two school units.

Feedback and Questions

- What are your views regarding where we are headed?
- Are there questions/issues you think will need to be addressed as we move forward?

Copies of Materials and

- www.falmouthschools.org
- www.msad51.org