

**BUCKSPORT, ORLAND, MSAD 18  
REORGANIZATION PLANNING COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES**

**6:30 pm Monday, January 28, 2007**

**Jewett School Conference Room**

0. The meeting was called to order by Facilitator Ann Bridge at 6:30 pm, Laurie Boardman presiding.  
Members present: Wayne Ames, Laurie Boardman, Millard Clement, Tom Foster, Guy Haney, Rob Howard, Roxanne Mushrall, Roger Raymond, and Jennifer Riefler.

Members absent:

Facilitator: Ann Bridge

Superintendent: Judy Lucarelli

Others present: Jeff Robinson (Bucksport Council alternate), Rick Newman (MSAD 18 alternate), Diane Terry (Prospect Selectman), Cyndi Wood (Ellsworth American), Edward Wardell (Orland), Karen Bates-Cote (Orland), Bob Carmichael (Bucksport), Don Houghton (Enterprise)

1. Approval of Minutes of 1/7/08 meeting: Moved by Millard, seconded by Tom to approve the minutes of 1/7/08 as presented. Motion carried 9-0.
2. Report on data requested at previous meeting

Judy reviewed data provided:

- Compare our schools to EPS staffing ratios
- DOE System Administration model comparison
- State-assessed valuation-based data
- Cost of sanctions by school system based on conversation with Jim Rier.
- Report on meeting in Augusta with Jim Rier on 1/25/08 to discuss cost share, debt service, funding school choice, and cost of sanctions:

Roger stated that there are 4 remaining items we need to be able to understand and explain clearly:

- (1) Method of funding – cost share between school systems/towns; importance of clarity and flexibility to maintain the agreement; safeguard against future changes in valuation
- (2) Program differences between Bucksport and Orland, such as Orland's Pre-Kindergarten, And Bucksport's middle school unified arts
- (3) Issues relating to school choice: current law guarantees choice; what is the cost of Orland's choice for both Bucksport & Orland; future status for all towns after the expiration of contracts
- (4) Salary equalization: impact on contract negotiations and future personnel costs

3. Discussion and Possible Action on Plan Item 8: Disposition of existing school funds and financial obligations, including undesignated fund balances, trust funds, reserve funds, and other funds appropriated for school purposes

No action at this time: provide language edited based on 1/14 meeting.

4. Discussion and Possible Action on small unit item C: State Policies on educational programs

1. Equitable educational opportunity
2. Rigorous academic programs
3. Uniformity in delivery of programs consistent with Learning Results

No discussion or action at this time.

5. Discussion and Possible Action on small unit item C: State Policies on revenues

4. Greater uniformity of tax rates
5. Sustainability and predictability in providing resources for public schools
6. Effective use of public funds for the support of public schools
8. Economies of scale in providing services in larger units

No discussion or action at this time.

6. Discussion and Possible Action on Plan Item 12: Estimate of the cost savings to be achieved and how these savings will be achieved

No action at this time. This item cannot be resolved until Legislative action is complete. There was discussion of the concept of a “Super Union” that is before the legislature as an amendment to LD 1932. Judy stated that while this would not eliminate the redundancy in reporting that currently exists, it may be the option preferred by the communities. It is not known how a Super Union would differ from a School Union.

7. Discussion and Possible Action on small unit item C: State Policy 7 on School Choice

No discussion or action at this time.

8. Schedule Two Meetings:

It was decided to schedule just one additional meeting until the Legislative session ends and it is clear what requirements and options are in place. At the meeting on February 25<sup>th</sup> the Committee will determine what to forward to the Boards for submission to the Commissioner in March.

- 6:30 pm at Jewett School Monday 2/25/08

9. Develop Agenda for Next Meeting

Action on revised language on Item 8 and Policy issues other than School Choice

Revisit all items to determine if any should be changed or held back before March submission of the Plan.

List of 4 points

10. Identify additional data to be provided at the next meeting

11. Adjourn Moved by Guy seconded by Rob to adjourn. Motion carried 9-0. Meeting was adjourned at 7:40.