

Act 46 Independent School Governance Study

MVU Library
September 21, 2016
7:00 PM

Committee Members and Staff:

Bob Berger - Chair, Connie Beyor, Toby Maguire, Bob Irish, Jason McConnell, Terri O'Shea, and Winton Goodrich

Visitors: Jim Jewett, Becky Hart, and Lora McAllister

Agenda/Minutes:

7:00 Call meeting to order at 7:05

Adopt minutes from Sept. 1st, 2016 committee meeting (Jason/Connie) passed

What do we need to do at this meeting?

- Clarify roles
- Dig into scope of project
- Walk through components of DMC study with respect to achieving Act 46 Goal 3
- Discuss Alburgh's and Bakersfield's interest regarding merger or collaboration
- Determine work assignments outside the meeting cycle
- Review new AOE Alternative Structure Check Off Template (1)

What are the roles of the committee, consultant, and superintendent? (suggestions for consideration below)

- Study Committee
 - Advise, research, analyze, provide recommendations
 - Outreach
 - Toby and Win report out interests and issues discussed with the Alburgh Board on Sept. 19th
 - Champlain (NY) offers tremendous choice opportunities
 - 30 @ MVU – 40 @ BFA St. A. – 15 @ NY – 5 @ Colchester – few at Essex
 - Win and Jason McConnell report out interests and issues discussed with the Bakersfield Board on Sept. 19th
 - Bakersfield, Montgomery, and Berkshire consider creating single board
 - Berkshire might consider conjoining with Enosburg and Richford, but would give up choice in Berkshire
 - Richford and Enosburg consider creating single board
 - Communicate with other Act 46 districts
 - Secure list of districts pursuing Alt. Structure – Win task, check with VSA
 - Terri and Win will combine both AOE templates

- Committee chair
 - Keeps us on track, maintains open, civil, and productive meetings, leader of committee
 - Press/media contact
 - Point of contact for outside resources

- Consultant
 - Facilitator of process, researcher, writer, nudge, helps manage meetings

- Superintendent
 - Support, provide information, expertise, and big picture view
 - Point of contact for outside sources
 - Media support
 - Post information on web site – Win
 - Link for legal and financial analysis support
 - Snacks

Continue reviewing data requirements identified in the AOE Act 46 Alternate Structure Guide

- Work on scope of study
- Decide what additional information and data is needed
- Review new Alternative Structure Check Off Template (1)

Jim Jewett distributed the Picus report

7:30 Continue assessing data needed regarding the SU's current ability to meet or exceed each of the Act 46 goals below.

- (1) Provide substantial equity in the quality and variety of educational opportunities statewide;
- Data needed:
 - Compare programs across all schools
 - Possible SALT meeting
 - Analyze time and programs with individual principals and Libby
 - Compare to schools in the region
 - Compare alternate structure to a possible merger structure
 - Reality for all schools in each structure (narrative should address nuances available in each school – Sheldon Forest and Highgate Arena...)
 - Questions for principals and CO
 - What programs do we offer?
 - What programs other schools offer that we don't?
 - What doing collaboratively with other schools?
 - Where do you see other collaboration options?
 - Analyze master schedules from each school
 - Each committee member bring master schedule from local school

- Analyze enrollment numbers for each grade over past 5 years – Becky
 - IEP,EST,504,ESL,FRL,
 - Cost per equalized pupil
 - Gather special education service time in each school – Win
 - Assess quality and equity across all schools
 - RTI/MTSS – Libby and principals
 - Intervention Tier II and III
 - State of Union analysis by the superintendent – Create new policy
 - Student learning
 - Facilities
 - Equity of opportunity
 - Quality
 - Operational efficiency
 - Climate and culture
- (2) Lead students to achieve or exceed the State’s Education Quality Standards, adopted as rules by the State Board of Education at the direction of the General Assembly;
 - Data needed: Education Quality Standards - <http://education.vermont.gov/sites/aoe/files/documents/edu-state-board-rules-series-2000.pdf>
- (3) Maximize operational efficiencies through increased flexibility to manage, share, and transfer resources, with a goal of increasing the ratio of students to full-time equivalent staff;
 - Data needed:
 - DMC or DMC type audit
- (4) Promote transparency and accountability; and
 - Data needed:
- (5) Delivered at a cost that parents, voters, and taxpayers value:
 - Data needed:
 -
- 8:00 Begin to analyze school data used in a DMC type school/SU efficiency audit
 - Use analysis to support achievement of Act 46 Goal 3
 - Distribute Smarter Budgets-Smarter Schools books and establish reading assignments
 - Discuss Giangreco para research
- 8:30 Provide direction on research needed for the October 3rd Study Committee meeting
 - Begin to describe why an alternative structure will be as good or better than a preferred structure merger
- 8:45 Other

9:00 Adjournment @ 9:15

Future Study Committee Meetings - MVU Library from 7:00 to 9:00 PM:

- Oct. 3 - Oct. 17 - Nov. 3 - Nov. 16 - Nov. 29 - Dec. 14

Act 46 Independent Study Time Line

- August through December – Research Study options
- December 14, 2016 – Complete Study draft
- December, 2016 - Provide draft Study recommendations for local school board review
- January 4, 2017 - Present Study recommendations to SU Board
- January 20, 2017 – Include Study recommendations in Town Reports
- February, 2017 - Information meetings
- March, 2017 - Community vote on Study recommendations at Town Meetings
- October, 2017 – School boards present Act 46 rationale to the State Board of Education