

1 Shaker Regional School District
2 FINAL Withdrawal Study Committee Meeting Minutes
3 Canterbury Meeting House
4 July 11, 2022
5

6 IN ATTENDANCE

7 **Committee Members:** Randi Johnson, Committee Chairperson; Ruth Mooney, Bob Steenson,
8 Eric Johnson, Charlie Krautmann, Alice Todd, Tracey Leclair, Rue Toland
9

10 CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

11 Randi Johnson called the meeting to order at 5:31pm.
12

13 MEETING MINUTES

14 Review/Approval of May 23, 2022 public meeting minutes.
15

16 *A motion was made by Bob Steenson and seconded by Eric Johnson to approve the*
17 *May 23, 2022 Public Withdrawal Study Committee Meeting Minutes as presented. The*
18 *motion passed by unanimous vote. Ruth Mooney abstained due to her absence from*
19 *the meeting. Charlie Krautmann, Rue Toland, Tracey Leclair, and Alice Todd abstained*
20 *due to their committee status at the time of the meeting.*
21

22 Review/Approval of June 27, 2022 public meeting minutes.
23

24 *A motion was made by Ruth Mooney and seconded by Bob Steenson to approve the*
25 *June 27, 2022 Public Withdrawal Study Committee Meeting Minutes as presented. The*
26 *motion passed by unanimous vote. Eric Johnson abstained due to his absence from the*
27 *meeting. Charlie Krautmann, Rue Toland, Tracey Leclair, and Alice Todd abstained due*
28 *to their committee status at the time of the meeting.*

29 Review/Approval of June 27, 2022 non-public meeting minutes.
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31 *A motion was made by Ruth Mooney and seconded by Randi Johnson to approve the*
32 *June 27, 2022 Non-Public Withdrawal Study Committee Meeting Minutes as*
33 *presented. The motion passed by unanimous vote. Eric Johnson abstained due to his*
34 *absence from the meeting. Charlie Krautmann, Rue Toland, Tracey Leclair, and Alice*
35 *Todd abstained due to their committee status at the time of the meeting.*
36

37 The next meeting of the Withdrawal Study Committee will be July 25, 2022 at the Canterbury
38 Meeting House.
39

40 PUBLIC COMMUNICATION/CORRESPONDENCE

41 None

42

43 REPORTS AND UPDATES

44 *Update on Reach Out to Surrounding Towns* – Randi Johnson presented information that was
45 also included in the informational packet.

- 46 ○ Belmont – Belmont accepts tuition students. Tuition for both middle school students
47 and high school students is approximately \$18k.
- 48 ○ Bow – Bow accepts tuition students. Tuition for middle school is approximately \$13k
49 and tuition for high school is approximately \$17k. Bow has a cap on class sizes, and
50 currently has existing agreements with the towns of Hooksett and Dunbarton. Tracey
51 Leclair and Bob Steenson asked about the selection of students in relation to athletics,
52 academics, and special education needs. Randi Johnson stated Bow is a good
53 comparison school even though it may not be able to take on all of the Canterbury
54 student population. Bob Steenson asked why they are a good comparison school if they
55 probably wouldn't work for Canterbury. Randi suggested it would be good to compare
56 Bow's academic offerings, extracurriculars, etc. when reviewing other school district
57 options.
- 58 ○ Concord – Information not yet received; Randi Johnson to follow up.
- 59 ○ Franklin and Gilford – Information pending; Randi to follow up.
- 60 ○ Laconia – Laconia accepts tuition students. Tuition for middle school students is
61 approximately \$16k and for high school is approximately \$18k.
- 62 ○ Merrimack Valley – No response has been received from the initial request; Randi
63 Johnson to follow up.
- 64 ○ Winnisquam Regional – Information pending. However, it may be difficult to obtain as
65 the school district recently hired a new superintendent and business administrator.

66

67 *Recent Withdrawal Study Committee Discussion -*

- 68 ○ Charlestown 2019 – The committee reviewed the report submitted to the NH
69 Department of Education. Discussion ensued regarding the study that included a
70 recommendation to withdraw from the Fall Mountain Regional School District and then
71 tuition their students back into the district.
- 72 ○ Strafford 2021 – SAU44 – The committee discussed the withdrawal of the Town of
73 Nottingham, and then the Town of Strafford withdrew from the district as well.
- 74 ○ Nottingham 2020 – The committee discussed comments heard about the costs
75 associated with setting up and maintaining their own SAU which has proven to be more
76 challenging than expected for the Town of Nottingham.

77

78 Charlie Krautmann mentioned he heard a couple of towns (including SAU23) that may offer a
79 voucher program and allow parents to choose a different high school for their student and pay
80 the difference in tuition. Charlie will research this topic further.

81
82 Eric Johnson asked what Canterbury residents were looking for as options. Randi Johnson
83 explained that her understanding was market options for students. Rue Toland stated she had
84 heard more talk about the high school and other options, including academics and
85 extracurricular activities for that age group.

86
87 Eric Johnson asked if there were any thoughts about making Canterbury Elementary School a
88 Kindergarten thru 8th grade school. Randi Johnson stated she had spoken with some middle
89 school students from Canterbury that conveyed they would welcome the opportunity to have
90 the choice to go to another middle and high school, as some already play club sports, etc. with
91 kids from other towns.

92
93 Bob Steenson asked what components Canterbury parents were seeking as an end result to the
94 study. Alice Todd mentioned her son plays lacrosse and hockey and is very interested in
95 technology and is concerned with Shaker Regional's offerings. Tracey Leclair mentioned the
96 number of AP course offerings that may be available at a larger school, which may be helpful to
97 college bound students. Bob Steenson suggested that if we are solving for more opportunities
98 and flexibility, then a voucher program may be an option. Bob also suggested that this topic
99 would be a conversation to be had with the State of NH Department of Revenue
100 Administration.

101
102 In relation to transportation if Canterbury residents chose to withdraw from Shaker Regional
103 School District, Randi Johnson mentioned that some towns have community bus stops as a
104 manner of transportation to other school districts.

105
106 Bob Steenson shared anxiety of the degree of uncertainty for tuitioning-in students if a
107 receiving school district experiences growth from towns within their district and decides to not
108 continue the relationship, etc. Randi Johnson mentioned all of this would be worked out in the
109 agreement between the sending town and receiving school district.

110

111 NEXT STEPS AND OPEN QUESTIONS

112 Randi Johnson will follow up with the other school districts, and plans to start cataloguing the
113 data collected. Charlie Krautmann agreed to assist Randi in that process. Bob Steenson and Rue
114 Toland will work on pulling other districts' agreements that may be available to the public and
115 financials. Tracey Leclair asked about work study/career opportunities, such as Running Start
116 courses, that may be available at high schools being considered by the committee. Eric Johnson
117 and Tracey Leclair will work together on compiling information on academics. Alice Todd and

118 Charlie Krautmann will work together on gathering information regarding sports and
119 extracurricular activities.

120
121 Rue Toland asked about the timeline for this committee, and Randi Johnson explained the
122 deadlines to provide required information to the State of NH Department of Education.

123
124 Rue Toland mentioned the need to research a hybrid arrangement where we share in
125 administrative costs with a district, but Canterbury would tuition students out for middle and
126 high school. Rue Toland also mentioned the desire to include the review of after-care programs
127 for middle school students.

128

129 ADJOURNMENT

130 A motion was made by Eric Johnson and seconded by Ruth Mooney to adjourn the meeting at
131 7:04pm. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

132

133 Respectfully Submitted,

134

135 Gretta Olson-Wilder

136 School Board Secretary