

1 Shaker Regional School District  
2 FINAL Withdrawal Study Committee Meeting Minutes  
3 Canterbury Meeting House  
4 October 10, 2022  
5

6 IN ATTENDANCE

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

10 CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

11 Randi Johnson called the meeting to order at 5:33pm.  
12

13 MEETING MINUTES

14 Review/Approval of September 26, 2022 public meeting minutes.  
15

16 ***A motion was made by Bob Steenson and seconded by Eric Johnson to approve the***  
17 ***September 26, 2022 Public Withdrawal Study Committee Meeting Minutes as***  
18 ***presented. The motion passed by unanimous vote.***  
19

20 The next meeting of the Withdrawal Study Committee will be October 24, 2022 at the  
21 Canterbury Meeting House.  
22

23 PUBLIC COMMUNICATION/CORRESPONDENCE

24 Calvin Todd, Canterbury resident, and Caley Shepard, Canterbury resident, were in attendance.  
25

26 REPORTS AND UPDATES

27 *Updates* –Randi Johnson stated that the Shaker Regional School District’s legal counsel, Jim  
28 O’Shaughnessy, attended the last school board meeting to address questions board members  
29 had regarding the Withdrawal Study Committee. At that meeting, Attorney O’Shaughnessy  
30 explained that the committee is a separate entity from the school board.  
31

32 Randi Johnson mentioned a few of the clarifications that the attorney spoke of at the Board  
33 meeting. Bob Steenson commented on Attorney O’Shaughnessy’s suggestion that he believed  
34 the Town of Canterbury could fund a consultant to assist with the committee’s work.  
35

36 Eric Johnson voiced his concern with the committee making a decision on moving forward with  
37 a withdrawal without having completed a final budget for what Canterbury would look like by  
38 itself, once separated from Belmont.  
39

40 Calvin Todd brought up the fact that there is growth potential in Canterbury for new residents.  
41 Bob Steenson stated that the Shaker Regional School District currently has capacity to absorb  
42 additional students.  
43

44 Rue Toland mentioned the concept of a default school, which would be Belmont High School,  
45 where the Town of Canterbury would provide transportation to that school. However, parents  
46 would have to transport to alternative schools.  
47

48 Randi Johnson mentioned Chichester as a town that is similar in size to Canterbury to use as a  
49 comparison. She discussed the cost of a part-time superintendent and other SAU services.  
50

51 Randi Johnson expressed her opinion that she believes it would be best to send the withdrawal  
52 study back to the town and recommend that the residents attach funds to cover a consultant  
53 for a future study committee. Rue Toland also brought up the need for funds to cover the cost  
54 of legal counsel as well.  
55

56 Bob Steenson said he believes there are differences of opinion amongst committee members  
57 on whether to move ahead with the committee. Charlie Krautmann expressed that he doesn't  
58 see any numbers to suggest that the committee shouldn't continue down this road of possible  
59 withdrawal.  
60

61 *Capital Improvement Costs Repayment* - Updates from Randi Johnson were included in the  
62 informational packet. Committee members discussed several line items included as past capital  
63 improvements to Canterbury Elementary School.  
64

65 Calvin Todd, Canterbury resident, expressed his desire for the committee to continue its work,  
66 and explore staying in the SAU and just having school choice at the high school level. Bob  
67 Steenson clarified Canterbury's removal would technically be a dissolution of the school district  
68 because there are only two towns involved.  
69

70 Bob Steenson reiterated that it is a complicated matter considering that the taxes Canterbury  
71 collects may be welcome by another school district. However, due to income levels of town  
72 residents, it does not also bring with it a lot of federal funds. He expressed the importance of  
73 providing options and opportunities for all children in the town.  
74

75 Caley Shepard asked why a vote from this committee is required. Tracey Leclair asked about  
76 filing for an extension and what that process would look like. There was discussion about a  
77 potential timeline if an extension was granted, and a new warrant article was drafted with  
78 funds attached. Alice Todd asked about the makeup of the committee in the future, and who  
79 may move forward, and if additional members would be possible.

80 Rue Toland suggested that Randi Johnson contact the consultants that she had contacted over  
81 the summer and ask them for an actual request for proposal to provide services. This would  
82 hopefully provide the committee with better information for costs.  
83

84 Discussion ensued on whether the best approach would be to continue with the Withdrawal  
85 Study Committee and submit a report requesting an extension. Ruth Mooney reminded  
86 committee members that the wording of a petitioned warrant article is very important to  
87 ensure funding is included. Also, there is a possibility that the Canterbury Selectmen may  
88 choose to bring the warrant article forward.  
89

90 *Information Consolidation for Final Report* –Randi Johnson summarized where the committee is  
91 currently, and what options there are to provide for a final report.  
92

93 ***A motion was made by Tracey Leclair and seconded by Rue Toland for the committee  
94 to file an initial report stating that the committee is underfunded and an extension to  
95 file the required report be requested. The motion passed by unanimous vote.***  
96

97 Rue Toland asked about the status of the consolidation of information for a final report. Charlie  
98 Krautmann explained portions the report will cover and current holes for data.  
99

#### 100 NEXT STEPS AND OPEN QUESTIONS

101 Randi Johnson will assist Charlie Krautmann with additional information. A draft of the report  
102 may be provided to the committee members prior to the October 24, 2022 meeting.  
103

#### 104 ADJOURNMENT

105 A motion was made by Rue Toland and seconded by Eric Johnson to adjourn the meeting at  
106 6:58pm. The motion passed by unanimous vote.  
107

108 Respectfully Submitted,  
109

110 Gretta Olson-Wilder

111 School Board Secretary