

# WITHDRAWAL STUDY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Belmont Mill Building

August 28th, 2023

## IN ATTENDANCE

**Committee Members:** Randi Johnson, Committee Chairperson, Mark Ekberg, Charlie Krautmann, Calvin Todd, Jessica Treadway, Tracey LeClair, Travis O'Hara

**Consultant:** Phil McCormack

**Absent:** Cheryl Gordon and Sumner Dole

## CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Randi Johnson called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

## MEETING MINUTES

Review/Approval of the August 14th 2023 meeting minutes.

A motion was made by Charlie Krautmann and seconded by Mark Ekberg to approve the August 14th, 2023 Withdrawal Study Committee Meeting Minutes. The motion passed by unanimous vote with Travis O'Hara and Tracey LeClair abstaining due to their absence.

The next meeting of the Withdrawal Study Committee will be September 11th, 2023 in Canterbury. Randi will finalize location and send to the group

## SURVEY RESULTS

- The group reviewed the attached Survey Results.
  - Randi Johnson will calculate average bus time per town and provide it at the next meeting.

## RECEIVING SCHOOL QUESTIONS

- Phil McCormack has contacted all five Superintendents in regards to our questions. He prefaced that this is a difficult time of year for Superintendents as they are preparing for back to school and will be providing us an official update when he has all the information collected. Phil noted the following status
  - Concord: Met with the Superintendent, BA and High School and Middle School Principals
  - Bow: Spoke with BA Ford and noted that Bow will not be able to take middle school students
  - Winnisquam: Waiting on response to questions
  - Laconia: Waiting on response to questions
  - Belmont: Waiting on response to questions
- LEGAL GUIDANCE
  - Randi Johnson will start the process of engaging the attorney to answer our questions.

- The group has started to develop a list of question that we will need legal guidance on as follows:
  - School of Record definition
  - Where does the state money go? To the receiving school district or the town?
  - Can we legally provide transportation to one school and allow parents to choose to transport kids to another school ? What is our legal obligation for transportation?
  - Can a buyout be spread out across multiple years?

#### COST OF PLAN

- The committee recognizes that we need to finalize the cost of the plan and will be using the two September Meetings to do so. Randi Johnson will follow up with the SAU on the status of the updated Financial Information. The group agreed that if we are unable to get it by the next meeting that we will utilize last year's data to start the conversation.

#### UPDATES

- State Assessment Scores, Charlie Krautmann did some research on the iReport website and gathered 2022 State Assessment Data for Bow, Concord, Laconia and Winnisquam High Schools as follows:
  - Bow High School
    - ELA 69 % Proficiency (Target 62.5) (Top 25% of the State)
    - Math 43% Proficiency (Target 50.1)
    - Science 41% Proficiency
  - Concord High School
    - ELA 52 % Proficiency (Target 62.5)
    - Math 26% Proficiency (Target 50.1) (Lowest 25% of the State)
    - Science 29% Proficiency
  - Laconia High School
    - ELA 41 % Proficiency (Target 62.5)
    - Math 16% Proficiency (Target 50.1) (Lowest 25% of the State)
    - Science 25% Proficiency (Lowest 25% of the State)
  - Winnisquam Regional High School
    - ELA 32 % Proficiency (Target 62.5) (Lowest 25% of the State)
    - Math 18% Proficiency (Target 50.1) (Lowest 25% of the State)
    - Science 28% Proficiency
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- The 2023 Withdrawal Study Report
  - Randi Johnson will add the Survey results and State Assessment Scores to the Draft Report
  - The group would like to target the October 9th meeting to make their decision on whether to recommend withdrawal or not.

#### NEXT STEPS AND OPEN QUESTIONS

- Future Agenda Items:
  - Legal Guidance
  - Options other than Withdrawal
  - Transportation Discussions
  - Central NH Planning Forecast

### ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made at 7:33 pm by Jessica Treadway and seconded by Tracey LeClair to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Randi Johnson  
Withdrawal Study Committee Chair