

Franklin Withdrawal Planning Committee Meeting Minutes

March 14, 2016
Franklin Middle School Library

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Committee Members: Leigh Webb, Member of the Public, Susan Cook, School Board, Scott Burns, School Board, George Dzujna, Councilor, Janet Desrocher, Member of the Public, Anthony Giunta, Councilor, David Testerman, Member of the Public

Absent: Anthony Giunta

Administration: Daniel LeGallo - Superintendent, Amanda Bergquist – Business Administrator, Judi Milner – Finance Director

Others: School Board Clerk – Robyn Keane

Call to Order by David Testerman at 6:00 PM

Public Input – NONE

It was decided to ask each committee member their views of the draft plan.

Scott Burns: Is not voting for the plan. The consolidation needs to be taken out. Scott does not want the withdrawal. He feels that Hill should be the ones to withdraw.

Leigh Webb: Consolidation needs to be taken out. Does not want pre-decided events on the plan. He would like to see a complete plan with specifics. Would like to include the moral obligation of how Hill would move forward and what the compensation of the loss of revenue will be.

Susan Hallett-Cook: What is the purpose of the withdrawal? Consolidation needs to be taken out.

Janet Desrocher: Consolidation needs to be taken out. Needs a generic paragraph on how Hill would move forward. Would still like to see Hill have contracted services.

George Dzujna: Would like to see paragraph on contracted services. Letter from the Mayor will be read at the next Franklin School Board meeting. He feels the school board may rescind their decision on consolidation. There are a few grammatical errors in the draft plan.

It was noted that contracted services for Hill will still need to be by the RSA.

Leigh Webb would like to see a chart showing the SAU personnel with the withdrawal and a chart showing the SAU personnel without withdrawal.

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Cathy Viau stated if you are going think about contracted services then why bother with the withdrawal. What is the reason? Hasn't heard any reasons as to how much better the withdrawal will be for the students of Franklin.

Leigh Webb brought up the fact that the high school will be going through the accreditation process next year. How will the withdrawal effect this process? Dan LeGallo stated the accreditation is very comprehensive and expensive.

Bob Desrocher stated there is no accountability, no leadership and no discipline. It needs to be about Franklin and only Franklin.

George mentioned we need to handle our own business. What will it cost to withdraw? Deb Brown, Franklin School Board member, stated there should be no fees from the Department of Education, but there will be lawyer fees to setup the SAU. It could be anywhere from \$5,000 to \$15,000. Dan LeGallo will call the lawyer and get a guestimate on how much it will cost.

Dan LeGallo mentioned Hill School District could RFP out for SAU services.

Dave Testerman will put together another plan, but he stated he is at a loss for a detailed plan.

Next meeting will be Wednesday, March 23rd at 6:00 PM.

Judi Milner reminded the committee that the proposal to withdraw is just a proposal and does not have to be accepted.

Meeting adjourned at 7:00 PM.