

August 9th 2012

The Wiscasset Withdrawal Committee –

We started out coming up with a basic plan to retrieve information through central office of which Jeff Slack took the role of contact. Ongoing has been arranging the documents as they come in properly fitting each part of the 11 required elements of a withdrawal agreement.

We have not only been looking at options within an agreement but also options beyond the agreement. Meeting with AOS 93 and 98. Jason , Mary and Tim have been compiling the information as an extension to our residents to have the information they desire before they go to the polls. Along with this we went to the Wiscasset Board of Selectman on August 7th where our own Jeff Slack who is our member representative from the municipal officers, presented the Board with the request of a Sub committee for the task future planning beyond the withdrawal agreement. The Board was in favor and we will return on the 21st with specifics of number of members desired and duties /responsibilities to be performed.

We currently are assessing revenue/budget, current cost sharing, central office costs, transportation, special education, shared staff, services and programs. What agreements may bind Wiscasset and the RSU and what can be shifted back to pre RSU to Wiscasset. We are focusing currently on any inter local agreements, state subsidy changes, expenditures, shared expenses, general funds, future improvement needs, and keeping the quality of education at highest priority.

We have appointed individual tasks-

Jeff Slack- newspaper, email contact for our residents(rsucommittee@wiscasset.org), contact for central office.

JasonDowning-contact to Jim Rier, Lawyer, reaching out to neighboring school districts, recording minutes

Timothy Merry- recording minutes, research and dividing elements of withdrawal agreement, following other towns seeking withdrawal

Mary Myers-chair, public binder, contact to RSU ad hoc committee, contact to Westport Withdrawal committee, contact to town office,

We have accomplished the following

-request of documents from central office(jeff- 7/20/12)

-receipt of information from central office currently flowing in. slow due to central office move to sommerville

-timeline to be finalized at 16th Aug meeting,

-review of Monmouth fact finding report(Jason,tim-7/26/12)

- review of Starks withdrawal agreement(found to not be of much help considering the diverse circumstances) (Jason,jeff -8/2/12)
- division of 11 elements of withdrawal agreement(Tim-8/2/12)
- statement and explanation to our voters of how we got here and next steps(mary-8/2/12)
- public notice of our meeting schedule(jeff-7/23/12)
- request and receipt of reorganization plan(jeff,-7/25/12)
- Town of Wiscasset Audited financial statement june 30th 2008 (mary-7/26/12)
- contact with Jim Rier,plan to have meeting(Jason-7/27/12)
- request and receipt copy of reorganization plan for AOS 98(boothbay)
- receipt copy of interlocal agreement for AOS (boothbay, boothbay harbor, edgcomb,southport)
- receipt of the Wiscasset educational research panel informational packet
- tentative goal dates

First meeting with lawyer(aug 9th 2012)

First meeting with RSU ad hoc committee(rescheduled)

Second meeting with lawyer(Aug 22nd 2012)

Committee draft of withdrawal agreement with exception of #11(unknown)

Second meeting with RSU ad hoc committee(goal before Septembers RSU board meeting)

*****keep in mind, we will not rush , it is our goal to complete our fact finding with efficiency to best benefit the education of our students in Wiscasset and give our voters the respect of having informative voting . Also it is our goal to work in relationship form with the RSU ad hoc withdrawal committee, together forming a withdrawal agreement not only financially secure to educate our students properly but ensure a functional transition with all preparedness emphasized and written out and agreed on as stated in 1466

Respectfully submitted,

Wiscasset Withdrawal Committee(Mary Myers-chair, Jason Downing, Timothy Merry, Jeff Slack)

Update presented by Jason Downing