

Farmington River Regional School District RAAC Subcommittee

Farmington River Elementary School Library

Meeting #2

Thursday, October 19, 2023

5:30 PM

Minutes

The Meeting was called to order at 5:35 p.m.

Members Present: Jon Sylbert, Sue Brofman, Terrie Gould, Carol Lombardo, Steve Seddon, Carl Nett, Frank Tolopko

Guests: Denise Hardie

Note: The meeting is being recorded

- 1) Heidi Utenis has agreed to be the Secretary and will create the minutes from the recording as she is not able to be here today.
- 2) The Committee chose to re-order the agenda and appointed Frank Tolopko as the contact person with DESE. Frank will put together the questions with the RAAC approval and get answers in writing from DESE.
- 3) It was also decided that Sue Brofman would collect and forward the questions to Tim Lee, who would be the contact person with the Legal Counsel and will put forth several questions that need response in few quantities so as not to incur excessive legal costs.
- 4) The committee decided to go through the Regional Agreement in order and review the suggestions from Michelle Griffin of DESE.

Section I – Regional School District Committee

- A. Michelle Griffin pointed out that the current makeup of the School Committee does not meet one person one vote provisions of law. Frank will ask DESE what needs to change in our current committee to meet that provision.
- B. It was agreed that wording throughout the agreement be changed to include Pre-K through twelve as that is the current status of our district. It was also agreed that we could remove the words “initial or any subsequent” from the agreement. Denise said the School Committee is working on that.
- C. There was a discussion regarding a Quorum. It was agreed that members should not discuss RAAC business outside of the meetings as that might create a problem with the Open Meeting Law. Frank will clarify the definition of a Quorum with DESE.

Section II – Type of Regional School District

- A. DESE suggested we change grades kindergarten through grade twelve to Pre-K through twelve and to remove the highlighted wording. This change was approved.

Section III – Location and Leasing

- A. DESE recommended the district have leases with buildings the individual towns own. That is no longer the case and there was discussion of removing section III

5) Section IV looks to be lengthy and will be discussed at the next meeting.

6) The next meeting will be November 16, 2023 at 5:30, location to be determined.

Respectfully submitted,

Heidi Utenis
RAAC Secretary