



Lamoille North: a MUUSD

Strengthening Bonds Together



Welcome

- Introductions
- Goals
- Overview
- An Apology
 - While Act 46 Has many Qualitative Aspects in the Law, this Presentation will Focus on Operational & Financial Aspects



WHERE WE STAND...

Act 46 Options...

- 1) ~~**Accelerated Mergers** - Had All Towns Voted YES, Incentives: 10 cents, 8 cents, 6 cents, 4 cents, 2 cents provides incentives to a new district that is formed by the merger of all districts within a single supervisory union and that meets certain additional criteria, including becoming operational as a supervisory district on or before July 1, 2017 (Act 46, Sec. 6) .~~
- : 2) **MUUSD/REDS Mergers** – MUUSD/REDS incorporates the processes and incentives enacted in Act 153 of 2010 for Regional Education Districts (REDs) and Act 156 of 2012 for Side-by-Side Mergers, Layered Mergers, and **Modified Unified Union School Districts** – three variations on REDs that are eligible to receive incentives available to REDs at 8 cents, 6 cents, 4 cents, 2 cents Each of these governance models is potentially an "Alternative Structure" as envisioned in Act 46, Sec. 5(c).e
- : 3) **Conventional Mergers** – Other mergers meeting size and certain additional criteria, including becoming operational as a supervisory district after July 1, 2017 and on or before July 1, 2019. (Act 46, Sec. 7)
- 4) **Unmerged Districts**- A district that has not pursued a voluntary merger or that does not expect to voluntarily merge before July 1, 2019 is required to complete three tasks, pursuant to Act 46, Sec. 9:
 - 1) Evaluate its ability to meet or exceed State goals set out in Act 46, Sec. 2;
 - 2) Meet with other districts in the area to discuss ways promote improvement in the goals
 - 3) Submit a proposal to the State Board to maintain its current structure, or work with others.

Secretary's Proposal

Act 46, Sec. 10 requires the Secretary of Education to develop a proposal to realign districts into more sustainable models of governance to meet the goals set out in Sec. 2. The Secretary will develop the proposal based on information gleaned from Voluntary Mergers, proposals from Unmerged Districts above, and from other resources. The Secretary will propose changes to the extent necessary and in a manner that is possible and practicable for the region. The Secretary will post the proposal on the Agency's website and present it to the State Board of Education by **June 1, 2018**.



April 12 Vote District Results

- LNMUUSD= 4 Towns Together Plus LUSD#18
- LNSU = MUUSD + 1 appointed Member each NMED
- NMED=Cambridge
- NMED= Waterville

- LNMUUSD Board Members

Town/District	1 Year Term	2 Year Term	3 Year Term
Belvidere		1	
Cambridge	2	1	2
Eden	1		1
Hyde Park	1	2	1
Johnson	2	1	2
Waterville		1	

Belvidere: Angie Evans

Cambridge: Bill Sander, Laura Miller , Heather Hobart, Mark Stebbins, Sue Prescott

Eden: David Whitcomb ,Jeff Hunsberger

Hyde Park: Chasity Fagnant ,Lisa Barry ,Patti Hayford ,Andrew Beaupre

Johnson: Katie Orost, Bobbie Moulton, Angela Lamell, Heather Rodriguez, Mark Nielsen

Waterville: Wade Chivington



Board Voting & Make-Up

- LNMUUSD= Elected Members each with 1 Vote
 - (CES & WES Recuse Themselves from ALL Elementary Decisions)
- LNSU= LNMUUSD Elected Members Plus 1 Appointed Member from each NMED (CES & WES)
 - LNSU Board Members =1 Vote each EXCEPT in Cambridge & Waterville where they each get 5/6 vote and 1/2 respectively

A vertical photograph on the left side of the slide shows a person climbing a rope ladder in a forest. The ladder is made of ropes and wooden rungs, and the person is wearing a blue shirt and shorts. The background is a dense forest of tall trees with green foliage.

Terms of Board Members

- **LNMUUSD**= Terms Begin at Time of Organizational Meeting BUT, Clock doesn't Start Ticking on Terms Until Annual Meeting; Spring, 2017
 - Compensation will be voted at Annual Meeting, and May be Awarded in Arrears
- **CURRENT BOARDS**=Cease Educational Operations July 1, 2017 (EXCEPT in Cambridge & Waterville)
 - Article 14 Maintains Current Boards Remain in Existence for the Sole Purpose of Completing Outstanding Business of the District Until Not Needed, Through 12/31/2017
 - And, Must Act to Insure Quorum Capability Until: 1) Whatever Date Business is Completed After 7/1/2017, 2) But No Later Than 12/31/2017

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Board Retreat

Board Meeting Committee Structures

- Negotiations/Personnel
- Finance
- Operations (Transportation, Food Service, Technology)
- Communications/PR
- Policy/Legal (d.b.a: Lamoille North School District)



Transition Funds Available

- Act 46 Grant \$150,000.00
- Spent \$ 19,713.22
- Remainder \$130,286.78



Can Waterville & Cambridge Still Join?

- YES!
 - Positive Revote Prior to July 1, 2017...
 - allows tax savings for the 4 years and Maintains Small School Grant of @\$80,000 among other benefits...especially for Income Sensitive Taxpayers!
 - July 1, 2017 or After...
 - Must Get Permission by State Board of Ed for a Vote
 - Positive Vote from Citizenry
 - Must be Accepted by Member Boards

Scheduled Ramifications-

- *July 1, 2017 – Fiscal Year 2018:*
 - 3.5% calculation – “tail” removed (transition year #2) – applies in FY18
 - 5% Tax Increase – failure to follow law re: SU duties – FY18 is earliest it can apply

Grant Funds Jeopardized?

CFP- Poverty % of both CES & WES standing alone are too low to be Schoolwide Programs
Currently, LNSU poverty-based federal monies are awarded and we must “Target & Rank” our schools so a student at the highest poverty school must receive “more, or equal to” a student at other schools in the LNSU. Calculation per student is done, then distributed by total enrollment on October 1, potentially giving more poverty-based money to richest schools...pressure to change this exists and is likely to change.

Other Federal Funds- Also likely to change

- *July 1, 2018 – Fiscal Year 2019:*
 - 3.5% calculation – “tail” removed (fully removed if transitioning) – applies FY19
 - Small School Guidelines – State Board of Education publishes for annual determinations
- *7/1/19 – Fiscal Year 2020:*
 - New sustainable governance models become operational throughout the State
 - Small Schools Grants – \$0 unless paid in perpetuity as a Merger Incentive Grant

\$0 available only upon annual determination that small school is EITHER: geographically isolated from another school with capacity OR □ academically excellent and operationally efficient

Scheduled Ramifications

- *July 1, 2016-2018* Education Quality Standards (EQS) Consequences – clarification of the State Board of Education’s existing authority and new State Board of Education authority for districts that are not moving toward meeting EQS (Sec. 40)
- Alternative strategies
- List advantages & disadvantages of each
- State cost of each option
- *July 1, 2020 – Fiscal Year 2021:*
 - 3.5% calculation – hold-harmless provision repealed except if voluntarily merged



Budget Development

1. Cambridge Elementary PreK-6 (Cambridge Board)
 2. Waterville Elementary PreK-6 (Waterville Board)
 3. MUUSD PreK-6 (MUUSD BOARD)
 4. MUUSD 7-12 (MUUSD BOARD)
 5. LNSU (LNSU BOARD)
- } Blended Rate through Act 130 & Assessment





Questions?