

School District Advisory Committee  
May 6, 2025  
Landaff town hall

Members present: Brenda Dodge, Joe Wiggett, Jamie Jarvis, Mary Beaudin, Francie Kinney, Sam Natti, John Barth, Deb Erb, Dale Locke

Public present: Paul Varcek, Doug Erb, Michelle Beaudin, Matt Culver, Molly Culver, Matt Copithorne, Toni Butterfield

Meeting began at 7:03 pm

Amended minutes approved

Discussion of the Google Drive share access was discussed. Jamie volunteered to enter a compilation of both, valid reference sources and factors in a quality education, via a spreadsheet on the shared drive.

Valid reference sources included:

- Census data (with date)
- NH Department of Education for comparative per pupil costs, among other data
- US Department of Education
- Local SAUs (Business office, etc.)
- Local school boards
- Department of Labor
- NH Legislature
- Local business leaders
- School visitations
- Public Input
- Course offerings
- Rating services
- National Center for Educational Statistics
- College readiness stats
- Honor roll information
- Subject matter experts

Dale added, “any other sources as approved by the committee.”

Factors of a Quality Education included:

- Graduation rates
- SAT scores
- Socio-economic background
- Teacher quality
- Curriculum relevance
- School leadership
- School culture and climate

- Safety (physical and emotional safety)
- Staffing
- Community and parental involvement
- AP, Running Start, or other college credit opportunities
- Internship opportunities
- Variety and quality of extracurricular opportunities (athletics and clubs)
- Citizenship
- Culture

Mary reiterated that the committee must look at all levels preK to 12.

Next three meetings were scheduled. May 20, June 3, and June 17 at 7pm at the town hall.

The committee began to define the scope of the committee's duties. Deb Erb gave everyone a copy of the warrant article for reference.

Sam- the committee's duty should include the impact of costs on the taxpayer. Avoid subjective opinions.

Jamie- further discussion is needed on the meaning of quality education

John- Education needs to be good enough to keep the community viable

Joe- look at the number of kids we are talking about

John- Vermont is mandating regionalization

Toni Butterfield distributed the latest Landaff school budget. Summarized \$559,000 for 51 students.

We need to fully understand the costs of the Blue School. Both tangible and intangible items should be considered.

Try to quantify the effect of regionalization and its affect on our costs.

Dale stated that the May 20 meeting should be used to figure what information is needed from Lisbon and the other schools. Discussion ensued about whether school board members should attend. Jamie's concern would be that board members might "plead their cases" with the committee. Sam suggested a questionnaire (without opinion questions).

Matt Copithorne said RSA 195 is about forming an SAU, which necessitates all towns agreeing.

Mary suggested creating a pro and con chart, as some items can be seen as both pros and cons.

Sam- how do we back up conclusions about quality education?

Jamie- use the tools we have listed

Molly Culver was willing to track Blue School students as they move on to other schools via honor roll lists.

Sam- definition of quality education will evolve as we go

**Homework: Two or three questions that need to be answered through research and discussion by the committee**

Public input:

Matt Culver- The committee is tasked with looking at analytical data, but also interpreting the data. Opinions matter.

Michelle Beaudin- Suggested using process boards to discuss and process data without disagreement.

Toni Butterfield will be added the Google drive shared folder to add budget data.

Meeting adjourned at 8:59pm.