

SCHOOL UNION #98

Office of the Superintendent of Schools
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November 29, 2007

Susan Gendron, Commissioner
Maine Department of Education
23 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333-0023

Re: Reorganization Plan for Union 98 SAUs

Dear Commissioner Gendron:

Enclosed please find the Reorganization Plan for the SAUs that currently comprise Union 98. Also included are the relevant Reorganization Plan Cover Checklist, Submittal Sheet and copies of prior Notices of Intent.

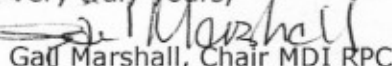
Our plan reflects our communities' confidence in the strengths of our current system, specifically: a consolidated high school and strong, independent, community-centered and supported municipal K-8 schools. Integral to unifying that system into an effective whole is a central office with a single superintendent, curriculum director, special education director, business manager and technology coordinator. It also should be noted that although we currently have five separate teacher's associations, the five schools located on Mount Desert Island and their respective associations already enjoy the benefits of identical teacher contracts. Further, each SAU has previously voluntarily adopted policies and practices that are all virtually identical.

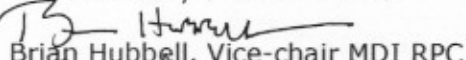
There are several discussions, including those pertaining to local funding formulae, that have not to date been finally concluded. Work is ongoing on those matters. Further, due to the challenging timelines and press of business this plan has not been reviewed by our counsel prior to submission. For these reasons, this plan is presented as a status report and not a completed plan. We reserve the right to make necessary changes.

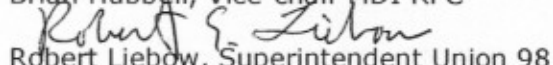
However, as our Planning Committee, which approved this plan unanimously, is committed to this model, we seek a preliminary response from you about the concepts presented. Our legislators have offered to assist by arranging a joint meeting with you if that would be helpful. Appreciating that you will be busy reviewing plans in these next few weeks, we of course would be happy to come to Augusta anytime that is convenient.

We look forward to hearing from you and appreciate your assistance in this manner.

Very truly yours,


Gail Marshall, Chair MDI RPC


Brian Hubbell, Vice-chair MDI RPC


Robert Liebow, Superintendent Union 98

Cc: Hon. Hannah Pingree, House Majority Leader
Hon. Theodore Koffman
Senator Dennis Damon
Richard Spencer, Esq.