



JOHN ELIAS BALDACCI
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
23 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE
04333-0023

SUSAN A. GENDRON
COMMISSIONER

September 29, 2008

Gail Marshall, RPC Chair
PO Box 578
Mount Desert, ME 04660

Dear Mrs. Marshall:

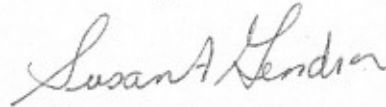
Thank you for the amended (to correct a technical oversight) Interlocal Agreement that you submitted on behalf of the Bar Harbor School Department, Mount Desert School Department, Southwest Harbor School Department, Tremont School Department, Cranberry Isles School Department, Frenchboro School Department, Trenton School Department, Mount Desert CSD (CSD 7), and MSAD 76 (Swan's Island) on September 19, 2008 for Department review for compliance with the school reorganization law, P.L. 2007, chapter 240, Part XXXX. We will replace the Interlocal Agreement submitted August 25, 2008, as amended by your September 18, 2008 submission, with this final version in your Reorganization Plan for an Alternative Organizational Structure.

Members of my staff and I have completed the review of the amended Interlocal Agreement, and have determined that it corrects the oversight and does not affect the previously issued approval, dated August 25, 2008. Therefore, I have determined that your plan and Interlocal Agreement are complete and in compliance with the law.

What I am reviewing for approval is a plan which is by its very nature prospective, with steps yet to be taken or finalized; and any review comments or approval given are in relation to the elements required under P.L. 2007, chapter 240, Part XXXX but not the legality of all the activities proposed. Thus, I strongly recommend that you have your own legal advisor(s) review the details of any particular transaction proposed in your plan (particularly with respect to the disposition of property, to debt, and to employee contracts/relations) as you proceed, to ensure the legality of the steps you'll be taking to implement the plan. If that review leads to any substantive changes in any parts of your plan, please be sure to submit an amended plan to the Department for our review and our file.

I appreciate the great amount of time, effort and leadership that went into preparing your Reorganization Plan. I wish you continued success as you proceed to referendum and implement the elements set forth in this plan.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Susan A. Gendron".

Susan A. Gendron
Commissioner of Education

cc: Robert Liebow, Superintendent, Mt. Desert Island CSD/Union 98
James Boothby, Superintendent, Trenton School Department
Brian Hubbell, RPC Vice-Chair