MEETING MINUTES- FY2016

ROWE SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Wednesday, July 27, 2016-4:30pm- Rowe School

Present: Susie Zavotka (SZ), Janet Cowle (JC), Ellen Miller (EM)

Also Present: Superintendent Jon Lev, Principal Bill Knittle, Russell Dupere

Audience: Cindy Lafond,

I. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Susie Zavotka at 4:35pm.

II. **School Committee Business:**

A. New Business: Russ Dupere, Rowe School Lawyer, was present to be part of a discussion concerning the Heath Education Initiative Task Force requesting a meeting with Rowe School Committee Chair (SZ) and Superintendent Lev. This task force is pursuing educating their children with another town(s). Since JC and EM seemed confused regarding this interest from Heath, Principal Knittle explained his attendance at a couple of Heath task force meetings. A representative from the task force, Heath School Committee member Budge Litchfield, had attended a previous Rowe School Committee Meeting on February 11, 2016 to explain the task force's mission. (please refer to the attached minutes from 2/11/2016). Mr. Dupere spoke of 3 possible governance possibilities that could occur between Rowe and Heath. 1. Tuition- Heath could tuition their students to Rowe with no representation on the school committee. 2. Heath could join the North Berkshire School Union and not have an operating school in their town similar to Monroe. There would be a tuition agreement with Rowe and Heath would have 3 representatives on the Union Board- overseeing hiring and management of superintendent and staff. 3. Would entail a regional agreement between Rowe and Heath which is the most complicated and would take several years to complete. A tuition agreement could be in place while that agreement is worked on and gets the approval of DESE. A regional agreement would probably give Heath representation on the Rowe School Committee. Russell was able to clear up some questions regarding Heath's responsibilities for their choice students –Mohawk has that responsibility, not Heath, and also how much and what kind of assistance the Dupere Law Firm could provide. A recommendation was made that MARS (Massachusetts Association for Regional Schools) could provide assistance to both Heath and Rowe if this moves ahead. It was clear that more

information regarding student numbers from Heath, did Heath want to keep some grades at their school, what specifically are they looking for from Rowe, and what questions do they have for Rowe, still needed answers before taking this any further. SZ and Superintendent Lev will attend the meeting tomorrow, 7/28, and report back to the committee. Other New Business: SZ told the committee that she had met with the Rowe SelectBoard earlier in the day and that they would like to meet with the school committee to discuss the special town meeting regarding joining MRSD 7-12. It was decided to schedule that meeting prior to the Rowe August School Committee meeting. On August 11, 2016 a joint Rowe SB and Rowe SC meeting will be held at 4pm and the SC meeting will follow at 5pm. Principal Knittle and Superintendent Lev discussed the upcoming 5/6 field trip to Washington D.C. in April 2017. **JC made a motion to approve the Rowe 5th and 6th graders field trip to Washington D.C. April 10, 2017 through April 14, 2017. 2nd by EM. Unanimous. EM made a motion to pay the $4,698.15 first installment to the National 4-H Youth Conference Center from the Rowe School's REAP Grant. 2nd by SZ. Unanimous.**

B. Old Business: None

III. **Announcements:** None

IV. **Audience of Citizens:** None

V. **Executive Session:** Not Necessary

VI. **Adjournment: JC made a motion to adjourn at 6:30pm. 2nd by SZ. Unanimous**

Next Meeting- Thursday, August 11,2016 @4pm.

Susan Zavotka 2016

Rowe School District

86 Pond Road, Rowe, MA 01367
(413) 512-5100

NOTICE OF MEETING

ROWE SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Wednesday July 27, 2016 – 4:30 p.m.
Rowe School, 86 Pond Road, Rowe, MA

Agenda

I. **Call to order:**

II. **School Committee Business:**

A. New Business:

Russell Dupere-Heath Discussion

B. Old Business:

III. **Announcements:**

IV. **Audience of Citizens:**

V. **Executive Session- Per Chapter 30A, Section 21 MGL**

VI. **Adjournment:**

The listing of matters is those reasonably anticipated by the Chair which may be discussed at the meeting. Not all items listed may in fact be discussed and other items not listed may also be brought up for discussion to the extent permitted by law.

Posted:

Any person may, pursuant to the provisions of the Open Meeting Law, audiotape an open meeting. As such, please be advised that this meeting may be taped by any person present.