

BLUE MOUNTAIN UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT
SCHOOL BOARD MEETING WITH HAVERHILL SCHOOL
BOARD
GARVIN LIBRARY
August 26, 2015

BMU members present: Angeline Alley (Chair), Bruce Stevens, Tom Page, Paul Hazel, Julie Oliver, Judy Murray, Sara Dennis, Nicole Guida, Josh Soulier

BMU Administration: Principal Emilie Knisley, Supt. Dr. William Miles

Haverhill members present: Dick Guy (Chair), John Rutheford, Sara Youngxu, Michelle Reagan, Nicole Horne, Maryanne Aldrich

Haverhill Administration: Supt. Dr. Donald Laplante

Moderator: Harry Frank

Called meeting to order at 7pm

Discussion on Act 46:

BMU- has a tax cap, 900 students needed to form a school district with one board, incentives are given if consolidation are complete before 2017

Haverhill-5 independent school districts, BMU & Haverhill consolidation could have legal impact, facility issues and cost, needs to know BMU's position within a few months time

Consolidation- topics discussed:

advantageous for both schools, more students, capacity, affordable, academic enrichment, efficiency, effectiveness and cost are common goals for both schools, looking to have more advanced programs, foreign language (possibly in middle school), industrial arts, home economics, buildings need renovation or addition, declining enrollment (Haverhill), small class size, increasing costs to the communities, limited opportunities, staffing has remained the same, cultural change, history, emotion, fairness, equity, Interstate schools have

different rules per VT law, need to decide if we want to move forward and what is most advantageous for both schools

BMU Board will let Haverhill Board know if they want to move forward with discussion on consolidation

Meeting adjourned at 8:50pm

Respectfully submitted by Angeline Alley