**MOHAWK TRAIL REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**MOHAWK’S BEST FACILITIES AND FINANCE SUBCOMMITTEE**

**July 12, 2016**

**DRAFT MINUTES**

The Massachusetts Open Meeting Law requires minutes for all school committee and subcommittee meetings.  The recorded minutes are open to the public for inspection within 10 days of the meeting. Minutes recorded provide a brief overview that reflects the subject matter discussed and any decisions made.  If any motions are made clearly state the motion and indicate who made the motion and who seconded the motion.  Record who was in favor, opposed, or abstained.  The names of any person(s) appearing before the committee are to be indicated.

**Date:**  Tuesday, July 12, 2016 **Time:** 6:00p.m. **Place:** Principal’s Conference Room at Mohawk

**Committee Members in Attendance:** Martha Thurber and Lark Thwing

**Committee Members Not in Attendance:**  John Payne

**School Committee Members in Attendance:**  None

**School Administration:** Business Manager Mike Kociela

**Others in Attendance:**  None

**Documents:**

July 12, 2016, Agenda

June 22, 2016 Draft Mohawk’s BEST Facilities & Finance Subcommittee Minutes

**Call to Order:** Lark Thwing called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**Citizen Comment:** None

**Approve Minutes:** On a motion by Martha Thurber, seconded by Lark Thwing, the Committee approved the minutes from the June 22, 2016 meeting.

**Continue Review of Consolidation Scenarios:**

1. **Pre-Kindergarten in Heath Elementary School and Colrain Central School. Pre-Kindergarten – Grade 5 at Buckland-Shelburne Elementary School and Sanderson Academy. Grades 6-12 at Mohawk**
2. **Pre-Kindergarten – Grade 5 at all District Elementary Schools. All District Grades 6-8 at Buckland-Shelburne elementary School. Grades 9-12 at Mohawk**

**Discuss Consolidation Scenario further action based on joint Heath, Charlemont and Hawley meeting:**

Given the very positive reception from the Hawlemont School Committee to Heath’s consideration of sending its students to the Hawlemont School, the Subcommittee spent time analyzing Scenario #3, under which Heath elementary students were no longer part of the District and Colrain Central School housed only pre-K students. With only 10 pre-K students expected at Colrain for FY18, the per pupil cost of this option makes it extremely inefficient, given the staffing required to support a pre-K program. Even if retirement benefits for former Colrain teachers are not considered in the analysis, the total operating cost would be still more than $30,000/student. The subcommittee agreed to invite members of the Colrain educational task force and Colrain’s School Committee members to the next meeting to review several scenarios, including: closing the Colrain School; maintaining only a pre-K at the school; maintaining pre-k to Grade 2 at the school; and maintaining pre-K through Grade 5 at the school. Mike Kociela will have scenarios that reflect these assumptions. Mr. Kociela also will remove costs associated with retired former employees of Colrain from the building-level budget as these are not costs associated with current operations of the facility for purposes of scenario analysis.

The subcommittee agreed to meet on Wednesday, July 20 at 6pm with Colrain representatives.

**Other:**

None

**Set next meeting Date and Agenda:**

Wednesday, July 20 at 6pm at Mohawk

**Adjournment:** On a motion by Lark Thwing, seconded by Martha Thurber, the Subcommittee voted to adjourn the meeting at 6:55 p.m.

Submitted By: Martha Thurber