

## School Withdrawal Meeting

August 23, 2022

- Members in attendance: Kara Kugelmeyer, Mike Gardner, BillieJo Brown-Woods, Scott Corey.
- Dan Stockford- Attorney
  
- Approximately 30 residents in attendance

### Notes:

- If Albion left MSAD 49, the Town would be afforded one year with the school district before being out on their own.
- Things such as busses, curriculum, etc.... would be negotiated with MSAD 49 before leaving.
- We are at the beginning stages of drawing up a proposal to be sent to the district.
- Upon examination, the inside of the Albion school isn't in as poor condition as originally reported. Structurally it's in good condition.
- An Education consultant (**CBG**) has been hired to help with model viability.
- Thus far, the Town has spent \$9,227.96 on the withdrawal process, leaving \$36,000. In the budget, with most of the money spent on legal fees.
- Current encumbrance on Albion is \$13,000.
- Albion brings approximately \$4 Million to the table (budget wise) with the annual budget for the district being approximately \$29 Million. \$1 Million of that, Albion residents pay through taxes, with the remaining \$3 Million coming from the State.
- The district's plans for the elementary school would mean 5-600 children in each school. The K-2 building would house 5-600 children, and the building housing 3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grade would consist of 5-600 students as well.
- Creation of Models: The Town must weigh the impact of leaving vs. the impact of what it looks like to stay in the district.
- Taxes go up on average 2.5% each year and will go up whether we stay or go.
- The biggest risk on breaking away from the district would be in the Special Education Department. Other towns typically put away money each year in case funding would be required for a child requiring Special Education.
- The Board is working on a Survey for residents to gather demographic information like how many children in the household are in elementary school, High School, would you like school

choice? Where would you like to send your child once out of the Elementary School. Responses will be limited to one response per family.

**Citizen's Input:**

- Linda Sawtelle: Please clarify, do we need 2/3 of the vote of actual voters in attendance? **Yes** (K.K.)
- Elaine Staples: Is it mandatory for the Town to bus High School students? **Elementary transportation is mandated, not H.S.** (Dan Stockford)
- Mary Rowe: How many busses for Elementary? **3 Busses** (B.W.)
- Fran Ward: Will we have enough classrooms for children in elementary? **Yes, unless there's significant town growth.** (k.K.). Will you include specials in your model? **Yes** (k.K.).
- Joe Dube: Where will busses be maintained? **That's still something we need to investigate.** (K.K.)
- Bonnie Shaw: Don't hesitate to reach out to Mt. View to inquire about fees for Middle Schooler's and High Schooler's.
- Josh Grant: If the bid goes out to a contractor, is it itemized, or will there be a general contractor? **General Contractor** (B.W.)
- Have Charter Schools been looked at for special education models? **Yes, we've had lengthy discussions and plan to explore creating a stronger bridge between homeschoolers and the public school system.** (K.K.)
- Bekah Brockway: Once you've gone to the district and decided on final plans, does it come back to the citizens of Albion to vote on? **Yes.** (K.K.)