

THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE DRAFT REGIONAL AGREEMENT v. 12.21.15
(reflected from School Committee Meeting Minutes)

2013: THE REGIONAL AGREEMENT AMENDMENT SUBCOMMITTEE 2.5.13

The Regional Agreement Amendment Subcommittee (RAAS) was established on 2.5.13. This group, aided by legal counsel and by consultants, developed many versions of proposed amendments to the Regional Agreement.

On 9.17.13, the Chair of the RAAS presented to the School Committee (SC) a summary of amendments to date, and circulated a version dated 9.11.13. No SC votes were taken.

It was determined that a special SC/RAAS meeting be held on 10.1.13, to review the amendments more carefully. This meeting was held; the process and recommendations and the need for DESE review were explained. No SC Votes were taken.

On 10.8.13, the Chair of the RAAS presented revisions made to 5 sections of the 9.11.13 draft. These changes were incorporated into the document, dated 10.8.13, and circulated after the meeting. Also at this meeting, a vote was taken to dissolve the RAAS, as the work had been done; to direct the Superintendent to bring forth the proposed amended Regional Agreement, once it had been vetted by DESE, and to authorize the Superintendent to work with RAAS members and the Communications Task Force to clarify and publicize the new draft Regional Agreement for 2014 Annual Town Meetings.

On 12.19.13, Attorney Lenox presented a new version to the SC, dated 12.13.13 which incorporated recommendations from DESE. No vote was taken on this version, but a vote was taken to ask the RAAS to reconvene to review the 12.13.13 draft and to make recommendations to the SC at the meeting scheduled for 1.14.14.

2014: ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

On 1.14.14, the Chair of the RAAS gave a report on the RAAS meeting at which the 12.13.13 draft was reviewed. She then provided a summary of the amendments offered by the RAAS, and the SC took section by section votes on these amendments. They then voted to approve the revised Draft Regional Agreement as presented and modified with amendments as discussed, and to submit it to all member towns for consideration at their upcoming 2014 Annual Town Meetings. These changes were incorporated, and this became the 1.27.14 version of the document.

On 2.11.14, the School Committee met and approved a number of additional amendments that had emerged, and took a vote to approve these revisions to the draft Regional Agreement of 1.27.14. This then became the 2.12.14 version.

On 3.11.14, further amendments to the 2.12.14 version were presented and approved by School Committee. This became the Draft Regional Agreement (v. 3.11.14).

This **Draft Regional Agreement (v. 3.11.14)** was sent to all 16 Towns for consideration at SP 2014 Town Meeting. 10 towns approved; 1 voted no; 5 passed on it.

2015: ANNUAL TOWN MEETING RECONSIDERATION

The School Committee requested that this be considered again by the 6 towns that did not approve it at the 2015 Annual Town Meeting. 1 passed on it; 1 placed no item; 1 dismissed, 2 passed over, and 1 postponed indefinitely.

AFTER 2015 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

Two additional amendments were presented to the School Committee on 4.14.15, but the School Committee voted to table indefinitely.

SUMMER 2015 TERMINATION OF EFFORTS

On 7.7.15, the School Committee voted to direct the Superintendent and his Administration to terminate their efforts to amend the Regional Agreement, except to the extent required to fulfill the District's legal obligations to the Town of Wayland pursuant to the recent vote of its Town Meeting. As part of this vote, the School Committee encouraged communities in the District to make further attempts to amend the current Agreement, as they felt this effort should be initiated by the Boards of Selectmen in the 16 member towns, not by the Minuteman School Committee or by the Minuteman Administration.

FALL, 2015 BOARDS OF SELECTMEN EFFORTS

The Boards of Selectmen were encouraged to take up the matter of the Regional Agreement again in the Fall, 2015. After a series of meetings were held, additional amendments were proposed and the School Committee considered these at their 12.21.15 meeting, and took the following vote on these proposed changes:

ACTION 2015 #100

Moved (Spalding) and seconded (Flood)

That the District School Committee approve the proposed amendments to the Draft Regional Agreement (v. 3.11.14), dated 12.21.15.

FURTHER VOTED: That within seven (7) days from the date on which this vote is adopted, the Secretary notify the Boards of Selectmen of each member town of the District of this vote, and request that a special Town Meeting be held prior to March 1, 2016 to consider approval. The secretary is further instructed to send the draft warrant article language to the 16 Boards of Selectmen.

Vote: Unanimous (with 13 members present)

The 12.21.15 version incorporates all changes approved by the School Committee, as shown in the 3.11.14 version that went to Town Meeting, as well as the additional changes proposed by the Selectmen and approved by the School Committee on 12.21.15.