STERLING HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

501 S. WARWICK ROAD, SOMERDALE, NEW JERSEY 08083-2175

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Matthew Sheehan  
Superintendent



Meeting 10-19-23

Time 7:15

Attendees: 8:25

Laurel Springs - Ryan Mahlman and Eric Stones

Magnolia - Karen Macpherson and Nick D'Amico

Somerdale - Rob Ford and Kevin Smith

Stratford - Renee Egan and Mike Redfearn

Sterling - Matt Sheehan, Bill Hiltner, and Jim McCullough

Rowan School Regionalization Institute - Mark Magyar and Scott Oswald

Agenda

1. Introductions

1. Background
   1. Previous barriers
      1. Contract issues
      2. Interim School Boards
      3. Cost sharing
      4. NJEA opposition (tenure, seniority protections)
   2. Newer
      1. Interim Boards retain control
      2. 3 years to negotiate new contract
      3. State is paying 100% of study (50% upfront, 50% upon conclusion)
      4. No obligation to move forward
      5. State pays referendum fees if decide to regionalize
      6. State pays implementation fees (grants)
   3. **\*\*Don't regionalize for cost savings - Regionalize for Education\*\***

1. Recent Regionalization Wins
   1. Henry Hudson Regional
      1. Moved forward under new law
      2. 750 students (25 BOE Members)
   2. Brian Folkowski (Fiscal Expert - will do SHS study)
2. Upcoming Regionalization Studies
3. Areas of Study
   1. Start collecting data (enrollment, structure, ELA/Math supports)
   2. BOE Representation determined by enrollment
   3. Demographics (present and future - disaggregated data)
   4. Education and Program - staffing, SpEd programs, one location, space, expertise)
   5. Finance Team - facilities, State Aid, taxes, debt
   6. Misc - Transportation, district operations
   7. School Specific items (district interests)

1. Present study - ultimately up to BOE's to determine. Study is PRO REGIONALIZATION
2. Voting - can vote K-12, can vote to maintain, do NOT need YES from all districts

1. Next Steps
   1. Length of Study - 6-8 Months
   2. Data Review
      1. Sharepoint uploads? On-site reviews?
      2. Scheduled when? In advance?
2. Q & A
   1. Open your mind to creative thinking, creative spaces (i.e. Elevator)
   2. No timeline on Regionalization
   3. Common Message?
      1. MM - Regionalization and Shared Services Study, looking at Educational Improvements with no obligation to move forward.
   4. NJEA endorsed Regionalization Legislation
      1. Tenure, Seniority ALL applies - no layoffs

Timeline:

* 6-8 Total
* Starting - November
* Ending - End of School
* Results presentation to this group? As is
* Results presentation individual? Available
* Referendum timeline? - November earliest? Year planning
  + Can vote 5 times over course of year
    - Nov
    - 4 Capital Budgeting Timelines

What can BAs expect?

* JM will serve as point person to get BAs together
* On site visits
* What can / should we do to promote the study, how do we communicate to our Boards/communities

Regionalization and Shared Services studies; academic efficiency, no obligations, benefits to the students

