

COMMISSION TO STUDY SCHOOL FUNDING

Adequacy Workgroup

Agenda

May 21, 2020, 10-noon

10:00 Open, chair's comments and tech check

Roll call

- This meeting is being recorded and posted on the Commission website.
- Before we begin, we will take a roll call. If there is anyone else present in the room with you during the meeting, let us know.
- Also please note, there will not be a period of public comment during the meetings. You may visit the website for the Commission hosted by the Carsey School and provide comment using the link provided. Also, visit the Commission website to learn about public engagement opportunities during the study. Further questions can be directed to the Chair.
- We will use the following group agreements throughout the meeting

Group Agreements

- Listen first
- Be open-minded
- It's okay to disagree, but don't personalize it. Focus on the idea, not the person. If you disagree, consider asking a question rather than arguing to prove your point.
- Accept working through conflict to its resolution as a catalyst for learning
- It's okay to put issues like race and class on the table.
- Be purposeful and to the point. Notice if what you are conveying is or is not pertinent to the topic at hand.
- Take risks, be raggedy, make some mistakes – then let go • We all share responsibility for making the group productive.

10:10 School Business Officers – panel

- Tim Roehr, Keene, SAU 29
- Duane Ford, Bow, SAU 67
- Nathan Lunney, Portsmouth, SAU 52

1. What are the state mandates (in 193-E and elsewhere) that affect your school budgets? Which have the most impact? For example, special education costs? Transportation requirements? Other?
2. Help us think about fixed vs. variable costs in your budgets. How does this get factored into what we call an adequate education?
3. Considering the 2008 definition of adequacy, what still makes sense and what doesn't (from a fiscal perspective)? What's missing?

4. What is the relationship between payroll expenses (staff size and qualifications) and delivery of education with respect to addressing disparities?
5. Help us anticipate the costs going forward associated with COVID or other possible regional, national, global threats.

11:00 Special education directors – panel

- Jennifer Dolloff, SAU 19
- Mary Steady, SAU 37
- Kim DiSalvo, SAU 48

1. What have been the cost trends relative to delivering special education services over the past 5 years? What are the causes of the increases in costs you have seen?
2. Help us understand how the mix of funding you receive (local budgets, state differentiated aid, federal aid, Medicaid, 3rd party payers) affects the delivery and quality of special education services.
3. Help us understand out-of-district placement costs. How much do you rely on out-of-district placements because your district doesn't have the capacity to provide its own services?
4. Help us understand your relationship with charter schools that might serve as a parent-initiated placement or the IEP team's determination of LRE. How does that money flow, what control over quality and expenses do you have, is there anything about this that needs our attention?
5. What is the relationship between the incidence of poverty in your district and the identification and education of children with special needs?

11:45 Review of AIR Scope of Work

12:00 Adjourn

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