

Maplewood-Colonie Common SD and North Colonie CSD  
Reorganization Feasibility Study  
December 12, 2006  
Minutes

- 1) Dr. Lee Peters opening the meeting:
  - Any questions about 11/28 minutes – no
  - Any questions given to chairs of Maplewood or North Colonie – no
  - Change of one email address (R. Flood)
  
- 2) Consultant Dan Porter revisited governance and finance
  - Tax rates for each individual districts and combined
  - Tuition
    - Maplewood nonresidents
    - Maplewood's resident high schoolers (about \$250,000 would be lost by annexation but would be picking up tax levy)
  - Annexation tax chart shows 14 years
    - What happens after 14 years?
    - Answer – after 14 years just money entitled to
  - Tax rate after 5 years of annexation
    - Variables involved – state aid, assessed values, homestead /non-homestead, fixed item
  - Tax rates
    - Showed trending
    - North Colonie tax wouldn't move much but Capital gains would be large
    - Maplewood – a large tax reduction
  - Question – Charts show 25% and up of monies used on tax rate. If less percentage was used, would it be more economical- said next time would show 10% & stops in between
  
- 3) Dr. Lee Peters led the first Break-Out session by breaking the committee into 3 groups
  - Question 1
    - After annexation, should current members of Maplewood's board be retained in a non-voting advisory capacity? If so, how many? How long?
  - Results
    - Group 2 – Should be one Maplewood advisor (2-5 years)
    - Group 1 – Should be with all 3 advisory for a 3 yr. period (with a reevaluation in a 3 year period)
    - Group 3 – Advisory committee – 2 Maplewood board members for 3 years – start July 1, 2007 – 08

## Question 2

Do you concur – “Non-resident tuition should be consistent in all buildings following an annexation, but current Maplewood non-residents should be guaranteed admission?”

## Results

Group 3 – tuition consistent, no guarantees

Group 1 – tuition consistent, any nonresident Maplewood grandfathered in (K-6) or highly considered

Group 2 – tuition consistent, no guarantees based on policy

- 4) Next four topics led by Consultant Dan Porter – summary of Pupil enrollment in both districts & projected enrollment (info in hand-out packet)
- Transportation summary given by Dan Porter (info. In hand-out packet)
  - Break and tour of Maplewood’s Annex (where lunch happens)
  - Maplewood / North Colonie lunch program & what could occur
  - Legal Rights (in packet)
- 5) Break-Out # 2 (same 3 groupings)  
Led by Dr. Peters

Question – To what extent do you recommend protecting existing employees’ jobs in each district following an annexation? Which jobs? For how long?

## Results

Group 3 – Needs to be discussed more – really didn’t know – maybe no guarantees

Group 1 – Should protect existing jobs – discussion about Maplewood building staying open vs. closing has effect on positions – discussed tenured positions – what about retirees/ teacher rights under existing contracts

Group 2 – Couldn’t agree – human vs. business – first priority is students – if Maplewood is kept open, all could be kept (a benefit to students-guarantee jobs for 2 years (create a job) – if not, absorb after 2 years what happens is a question.

The next meeting will take place on:

Tuesday, January 9 at Shaker Jr. High

5:00 pm (light dinner)

Meeting at 5:30 pm

Happy Holidays!

Respectfully submitted,  
Jean Kostun  
Maplewood School  
December 14, 2006