

**Draft**  
**Mansfield, Willington Cooperative Agreement Study Committee Meeting**  
**June 23, 2016**  
**Minutes**

**Attendees:**

Mansfield Representatives: Randy Walikonis, Chair, Kelly Lyman, Martha Kelly, Paul Shapiro, Matt Hart, Cherie Trahan

Willington Representatives: David Harding, Erika Wiecenski, Christina Mailhos, Kim Kowalyszyn, Barry Wallett

Mary Glassman, Facilitator

Absent: Jay Rueckl - Mansfield, Jim Bulick - Willington

**Call to Order:** Mr. Walikonis called the meeting to order at 7:30pm, welcomed members from Willington who are joining with Mansfield for this discussion. Mr. Walikonis also introduced Mary Glassman, Manager Office for Regional Efficiencies at CREC.

**Introduction of Study Committee Members from Mansfield & Willington:** The committee members introduced themselves.

**Introduction of Invited Guests:** Ms. Glassman introduced visitors from the State Department of Education: Kathy Demsey, Chief Financial Officer, Matt Venhorst, Attorney, Division of Legal & Governmental Affairs, and Kevin Chambers, Education Consultant

**Presentations:**

David Harding, Superintendent of Schools, Willington Public Schools and Kelly Lyman, Superintendent of Schools, Mansfield Public Schools reported challenges facing our schools and benefits of a cooperative agreement between the two districts.

**Role of the Connecticut State Department of Education:** Ms. Demsey, with Attorney Venhorst and Mr. Chambers, reviewed the role the CSDE could play in supporting a cooperative agreement.

**Public Comment:**

The following people spoke regarding a cooperative agreement:

Brian Coleman – Mansfield resident: inquired about the land next to the middle school.

Sharalyn Sibilia – Mansfield resident: inquired about hiring more staff if districts are combined.

Greg Grzywacz – Willington resident: inquired about busing

Peter Latincsics – Willington resident: inquired what would happen if one side changes its mind.

Katherine Paulhus – Mansfield resident, member of Mansfield Board of Education: inquired about difference between cooperative agreement and having Willington tuition in.

Marybeth Wallett – Willington resident, member of Willington Board of Education: inquired about reimbursement rates.

Nancy Barry – Mansfield resident: wants to be sure the money from the State is going to be there.

Jason Bracich – Willington resident: inquire how it would affect loss of staff.

**Identify Next Steps:** The Committee informed Ms. Glassman it is interested in pursuing the study. The committee generated questions to be answered at the next meeting which will be scheduled the end of August or early September and held in Willington.

**Adjournment:** Meeting was adjourned at 9:25pm.

Respectfully submitted, Celeste Griffin, Mansfield Board of Education Clerk