

October 18, 2013

Scott Brown  
Maine Department of Education  
23 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333-0023

RE: Land Transfer in Vocational Region 2

Dear Scott:

As we have discussed, Voc Region 2 in Houlton (the “Region”) is considering transferring to M.S.A.D. No. 70 a parcel of land and building located in Hodgdon that is no longer needed for educational purposes. Under Maine law 20-A M.R.S.A § 8467(1) before a vocational region may transfer land, the transfer must be approved by the State Board of Education.<sup>1</sup> The purpose of this letter is to obtain approval of the transfer by the State Board of Education as required by the statute.

The Cooperative Board of Region II voted at its meeting on August 20 to transfer the property to M.S.A.D. No. 70. The property is described in a deed from School Administration District Number Seventy to Southern Aroostook Vocational Education Region 2 recorded in the Aroostook County Registry of Deeds, Book 1326, Page 191. Under state law M.S.A.D. No. 70 must conduct a referendum before it may acquire the property,<sup>2</sup> and the referendum will be held on November 5.

I would respectfully suggest that the State Board of Education approve a motion as the follows:

The Cooperative Board of Voc. Region 2 is hereby authorized to transfer properties as follows:

- (i) The region’s property located in the Town of Hodgdon to M.S.A.D. No. 70, subject to approval of the voters SAD 70;
- (ii) The region’s property located in the Town of Staceyville to R.S.U. No. 50, subject to approval of the voters in R.S.U. 50; and

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<sup>1</sup> The statute reads: “1. Sale of capital assets. A region may sell any of its buildings, equipment or other capital assets if the sale is in compliance with the conditions of any indebtedness issued to finance such assets and if the sale is approved by the state board.” 20-A M.R.S.A § 8467(1)

<sup>2</sup> See, 20-A M.R.S.A. § 15901(4)(D) that reads: “School construction project” means: D. The building of or acquisition of other facilities related to the operation of school administrative units. See also, 20-A M.R.S.A. 15904 (3-A) that reads: “Prior to final approval by the state board, a school construction project, except a small scale school construction project as defined in section 15901, subsection 4-A, must receive a favorable vote conducted in accordance with the following . . . In a regional school unit, the vote must be conducted in accordance with chapter 103-A.”

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- (iii) The region's property located in the Town of Danforth to M.S.A.D. No. 14, subject to approval of the voters in SAD 14.

Thank you for your help with this matter. Please don't hesitate to call if you have any questions.

Very truly yours,



Robert P. Nadeau

RPN:jzr