

## **Sherman Town Office**

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**From:** "Gravelle, Paula B" <Paula.B.Gravelle@maine.gov>  
**Date:** Monday, April 06, 2015 12:29 PM  
**To:** "Sherman Town Office" <sherman@fairpoint.net>  
**Subject:** RE: withdrawal petition

Hello Debra,

Please see my responses below.

*Paula Gravelle*

School Finance Coordinator

Maine Department of Education

Phone (207) 624-6792

<http://www.maine.gov/doe/>

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**From:** Sherman Town Office [mailto:sherman@fairpoint.net]  
**Sent:** Monday, April 06, 2015 9:20 AM  
**To:** Gravelle, Paula B  
**Subject:** withdrawal petition

Good morning Paula –

The Town of Sherman is one of the communities that is a member of RSU #50. Formerly we were one of four communities in SAD #25 and our school buildings were/are located in the Town of Stacyville. When RSU #50 came into being SAD #25 combined with Southern Aroostook Community School which has a building in Dyer Brook. Currently RSU#50 operates three buildings – 2 in Stacyville and 1 in Dyer Brook for 722 students.

Currently RSU #50 is in the process of streamlining its operations due to continued declining enrollment and increasing costs. One of the proposals is to combine classes and perhaps eliminate a building. We have citizens who want to lower costs and we have parents with concerns about where the children will attend school.

We were recently presented with a petition to withdraw from RSU#50. In addition the Town of Patten has also received a petition and the Town of Mt. Chase has begun the process. Unsure of the status of the Town of Stacyville at this time. (These four communities used to be SAD #25).

Some of the questions that we have include:

- **Deadline for the municipal officers to initiate the process – is there any date or schedule specifically set by state law?**

There is no specific deadline for the municipal officers to initiate the referendum vote once receiving the petition from the public in the Withdrawal Statutes which are part of the Education Law – but there may be something within Municipal Law regarding a timeline for initiating a referendum vote after receiving a petition; I am not familiar with Municipal Law requirements, you may want to seek legal counsel for information if the municipal officers are not familiar with the requirements.

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- **The money amount required in the article to be voted upon – how is that determined?**  
The amount of money to be designated by the Town towards the withdrawal process is a local decision but should take into consideration the probable need for an attorney and possibly a consultant regarding the financial requirements when building a school budget, etc.
- **Local citizens desire to revert back to former SAD status – is this a possibility?**  
It is no longer possible to form a School Administrative District (SAD), but the new Regional School Unit (RSU) process is an option and is very similar to the old SAD system. Yes you are able to form an RSU after each town has withdrawn separately from the current RSU. This can be done at the same time with much effort and work on the part of the individual town's and I highly recommend an attorney to help with the process. So far we have only had this happen in one situation. Five towns withdrew from RSU 20 and also voted to form a new RSU together – this is going to be RSU 71 and will be effective on July 1, 2015. The requirements to form a new RSU can be found in Education Law Title 20-A, Subsection 1461.
- **If the citizens vote to withdraw, in addition to tuition cost what other financial responsibilities would the Town of Sherman incur?**  
That is a difficult question to answer, the Town of Sherman is legally responsible for the education of all the students that live in Sherman. The cost of that education depends on many factors including special education requirements and whether or not you are still a member of a combined district or you are an individual municipality paying tuition to another district. Even if you are paying tuition and not operating a school within your town, you are still responsible for transportation and all costs associated with special education. You still need to have a Superintendent and possibly a Business Manager and Special Education Director, and are required to submit data for both Federal and State requirements.

If there are any other communities similar to us that have gone through this process that you may be aware of, we would really appreciate it if you could provide that information.

As mentioned previously, the five towns that just withdrew from RSU 20 and formed the new RSU 71 are Belfast, Belmont, Morrill, Searsmont and Swanville. A number of other towns have withdrawn from their RSU or SAD in the last few years and have become individual municipalities or joined other existing RSU's. Here is a link to a page on our website with that list and links to actual withdrawal and reorganization plans:  
[http://www.maine.gov/education/Withdrawal\\_Procedures\\_RSU\\_SAD/WithdrawalList.html](http://www.maine.gov/education/Withdrawal_Procedures_RSU_SAD/WithdrawalList.html)

We are just trying to obtain as much information as possible so that the municipal officers are able to answer questions from our citizens at the public hearing.

Thank you so much!  
Debra J. O'Roak  
Town Manager  
Town of Sherman

## Sherman Town Office

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**From:** "Gravelle, Paula B" <Paula.B.Gravelle@maine.gov>  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 07, 2015 9:57 AM  
**To:** "Sherman Town Office" <sherman@fairpoint.net>  
**Subject:** RE: withdrawal questions

Hello Debra,

See responses below. Please also keep in mind, Maine is a local control state, many of your questions will be determined locally by decisions made at the local level.

*Paula Gravelle*

School Finance Coordinator  
 Maine Department of Education  
 Phone (207) 624-6792  
<http://www.maine.gov/doe/>  
[Subscribe to the Commissioner's Update](#)

**From:** Sherman Town Office [mailto:sherman@fairpoint.net]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 07, 2015 8:20 AM  
**To:** Gravelle, Paula B  
**Subject:** withdrawal questions

Good morning Paula -

I have more questions. First of all what happens with state subsidy? Does that money come directly to the Town or is it sent to the school system where we tuition our students?

If you withdraw from RSU 50 and become an individual municipality, then the Town of Sherman is now solely responsible for the education, and all costs associated with that education, of the students living in Sherman and the School Department becomes a department of the Town, similar to other functions of the town. The State subsidy for education will then be calculated based on the individual town needs using the Essential Programs and Services Funding Formula, and will be sent to the Sherman School Department directly. If you join another district and form an RSU then the State subsidy is calculated based on the membership of the RSU and sent to the RSU on behalf of the member towns. If you tuition your students to another district then you are responsible to pay that tuition to them, the State does not pay debts on behalf of the school department.

Are there any other options besides forming a new RSU? Many of our citizens are so unhappy with the present RSU structure and I think they want to avoid it all costs. So what other choices are there besides tuition to another RSU or forming a new one?

Again, as I said previously, In Maine, the municipality that you reside in is responsible for providing a "free public education" for your children, from age 5 (by October 15) to age 20, per [Title 20-A §2](#), in accordance with the Constitution of Maine, [Article VIII](#). How your town chooses to provide that education is a local choice. The options available include:

1. Being an individual municipality and operating a school within your community for your resident students.
2. Being an individual municipality and not operating a school and either offering school choice and paying tuition to the school chosen by parents, or contracting with another district/school

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to accept your resident students and paying them tuition.

3. Form an RSU and combine with other towns to educate your students in schools operated by the RSU; or if the RSU does not operate all schools required, paying tuition to another school. Please note, that an RSU has replaced the old SAD and is very similar to the SAD structure that Sherman was part of prior to joining RSU 50.
4. Form an AOS (Alternative Organization Structure), which is basically just a combined unit in terms of leadership and administrative functions, similar to the old School Unions. You would still be an individual municipality but you would share a Superintendent, Special Ed Director, Transportation Director, and other leadership/administrative functions. You would still receive the State Subsidy directly from the State, but would also have to pay a share to the AOS for administrative functions as well as being responsible to pay all other costs associated with the education of resident students. You would have your own local school board but would also be a member of an AOS School Board. The AOS structure was formed as an Alternative to the RSU, but many towns in an AOS at this time are dissolving the AOS because it is not as efficient as was first hoped.

**If we tuition our students do we still need a superintendent, business manager, special director etc.? Or can we allocate additional funds to the school system that we tuition to?**

You will always need a Superintendent and other administrative functions whether you operate a school or tuition your students. As part of a combined district in an RSU, you have a shared Superintendent and the RSU is responsible for the administrative requirements and functions. You may be able to contract with another district for the Superintendent and other administrative functions, but again, that would be a local decision and the contract would be a local agreement.

**If the decision is made to tuition our students since we do not have a school system located within our community, how would that be calculated? Is there a formula for tuition costs, busing etc.?**

There is a law with a formula for calculating the maximum allowable tuition rate for both public schools and approved private schools, but the sending school board can vote to pay a higher amount. In other words, the amount of tuition paid is a negotiable item between the sending town and the receiving district/school. Here is a link to information regarding tuition rates and the applicable law:  
<http://www.maine.gov/education/data/tuitionrates/tuitrate.htm>

This does not always include the cost of transportation, that is also negotiable. And Special Education costs are the responsibility of the sending town at 100% above the cost of tuition. So, in other words, if you have even 1 student with high cost special education needs, the Town of Sherman is responsible for all those costs plus the cost of tuition. As a member of an RSU, you are able to share those costs with the other members of the RSU, but as an individual municipality you would be responsible for all of those costs on your own.

**We know we are going to be asked which would be more cost effective by the folks looking for a reduction in their tax bill and we are unable to answer that question at this point.**

Some towns that have considered withdrawal hoping to reduce their tax bill have realized that this is not always going to result in a lower tax bill and a better option may be to seek a change in the local cost sharing formula if it seems to be unbalanced.

Many thanks!

Debra O'Roak  
 Town Manager

4/10/2015

Town of Sherman

**Maine Revised Statutes**  
**Title 20-A: EDUCATION**  
**Chapter 103-A: REGIONAL SCHOOL UNITS**

**§1466. WITHDRAWAL OF A SINGLE MUNICIPALITY FROM A REGIONAL SCHOOL UNIT**

1. **Petition.** Beginning January 1, 2012, the residents of a municipality that has been a member of a regional school unit for at least 30 months may petition to withdraw from the regional school unit in accordance with this subsection.

A. Ten percent of the number of voters in the municipality who voted at the last gubernatorial election must sign the petition to withdraw from the regional school unit. [2009, c. 580, §9 (NEW) .]

B. At least 10 days before the special election called pursuant to this paragraph, the municipal officers of the municipality within the regional school unit shall hold a posted or otherwise advertised public hearing on the petition. The municipal officers shall call and hold a special election in the manner provided for the calling and holding of town meetings or city elections to vote on the withdrawal from the regional school unit. [2009, c. 580, §9 (NEW) .]

C. The petition to withdraw from the regional school unit must be approved by secret ballot by a majority vote of the voters present and voting before it may be presented to the regional school unit board and the commissioner. Voting in towns must be conducted in accordance with Title 30-A, sections 2528 and 2529, even if the towns have not accepted the provisions of Title 30-A, section 2528, and voting in cities must be conducted in accordance with Title 21-A. [2009, c. 580, §9 (NEW) .]

For the purposes of this subsection, the 30-month period after which a petition to withdraw may be considered in a member municipality of a school administrative district that was reformulated as a regional school unit pursuant to Public Law 2007, chapter 240, Part XXXX, section 36, subsection 12 is 30 months after the original operational date of the school administrative district; and the 30-month period after which a petition to withdraw may be considered in a member municipality of a school administrative district that did not reformulate as a regional school unit but that became a member entity of an alternative organizational structure is 30 months after the operational date of the alternative organizational structure.

[ 2011, c. 328, §1 (AMD); 2011, c. 328, §2 (AFF) .]

2. **Form.** The article to be voted upon must be in substantially the following form:

"Article: Do you favor filing a petition for withdrawal with the board of directors of regional school unit (name of regional school unit) and with the Commissioner of Education, authorizing the withdrawal committee to expend \$ (insert amount) and authorizing the (municipal officers; i.e., selectpersons, town council, etc.) to issue notes in the name of the (name of the municipality) or otherwise pledge the credit of the (name of the municipality) in an amount not to exceed \$ (insert amount) for this purpose?

Yes No"

[ 2009, c. 580, §9 (NEW) .]

3. **Notice of vote.** If residents of the municipality vote favorably on a petition for withdrawal, the clerk shall immediately give written notice, by registered mail, to the secretary of the regional school unit and the commissioner that must include:

A. The petition adopted by the voters, including the affirmative and negative votes cast; and [2009, c. 580, §9 (NEW) .]

B. An explanation by the municipal officers, stating to the best of their knowledge the reason or reasons why the municipality seeks to withdraw from the regional school unit. [2009, c. 580, §9 (NEW) .]

[ 2009, c. 580, §9 (NEW) .]

**4. Agreement for withdrawal; notice; changes in agreement; final agreement.** The agreement for withdrawal must comply with this subsection.

A. The commissioner shall direct the municipal officers of the petitioning municipality to select representatives to a withdrawal committee as follows: one member from the municipal officers, one member from the general public and one member from the group filing the petition. The commissioner shall also direct the directors of the regional school unit board representing the petitioning municipality to select one member of the regional school unit board who represents that municipality to serve on the withdrawal committee. The municipal officer and the member of the regional school unit board serve on the withdrawal committee only so long as they hold their respective offices. Vacancies must be filled by the municipal officers and the regional school unit board. The chair of the regional school unit board shall call a meeting of the withdrawal committee within 30 days of the notice of the vote in subsection 3. The chair of the regional school unit board shall open the meeting by presiding over the election of a chair of the withdrawal committee. The responsibility for the preparation of the agreement rests with the withdrawal committee, subject to the approval of the commissioner. The withdrawal committee may draw upon the resources of the department for information not readily available at the local level and employ competent advisors within the fiscal limit authorized by the voters. The agreement must be submitted to the commissioner within 90 days after the withdrawal committee is formed. Extensions of time may be granted by the commissioner upon the request of the withdrawal committee.

(1) The agreement must contain provisions to provide educational services for all students of the petitioning municipality within the regional school unit. The agreement must provide that during the first year following the withdrawal students may attend the school they would have attended if the petitioning municipality had not withdrawn. The allowable tuition rate for students sent from one municipality to another in the former regional school unit must be determined under section 5805, subsection 1, except that it is not subject to the state per pupil average limitation in section 5805, subsection 2.

(2) The agreement must establish that the withdrawal takes effect at the end of the regional school unit's fiscal year.

(3) The agreement must establish that the withdrawal will not cause a need within 5 years from the effective date of withdrawal for school construction projects that would be eligible for state funds. This limitation does not apply when a need for school construction existed prior to the effective date of the withdrawal or when a need for school construction would have arisen even if the municipality had not withdrawn.

(4) The agreement must establish how transportation services will be provided.

(5) The agreement must provide for administration of the new administrative unit, which should not include the creation of new supervisory units if at all possible.

(6) The agreement must make provision for the distribution of financial commitments arising from outstanding bonds, notes and any other contractual obligations that extend beyond the proposed date of withdrawal.

(7) The agreement must provide appropriately for the distribution of any outstanding financial commitments to the superintendent of the regional school unit.

(8) The agreement must provide for the continuation and assignment of collective bargaining agreements as they apply to the new or reorganized regional school unit for the duration of those agreements and must provide for the continuation of representational rights.

(9) The agreement must provide for the continuation of continuing contract rights under section 13201.

(10) The agreement must provide for the disposition of all real and personal property and other monetary assets.

(11) The agreement must provide for the transition of administration and governance of the schools to properly elected governing bodies of the newly created administrative unit and must provide that the governing body may not be elected simultaneously with the vote on the article to withdraw unless the commissioner finds there are extenuating circumstances that necessitate simultaneous elections. [2009, c. 580, §9 (NEW) .]

B. Within 60 days of the receipt of the agreement, the commissioner shall either give it conditional approval or recommend changes. The changes must be based upon the standards set forth in paragraph A and the commissioner's findings of whether the contents of the agreement will provide for appropriate educational and related services to the students of the petitioning municipality and for the orderly transition of assets, governance and other matters related to the petitioning municipality and the regional school unit. [2009, c. 580, §9 (NEW) .]

C. If the commissioner gives conditional approval of the agreement, the commissioner shall notify the regional school unit board and the municipal officers by registered mail of the time and place of a public hearing at least 20 days prior to the date set for the hearing to discuss the merits of the proposed agreement of withdrawal. The chair of the regional school unit board shall conduct the hearing.

(1) The regional school unit board shall post a public notice in each municipality of the time and location of the hearing at least 10 days before the hearing.

(2) Within 30 days following the hearing under this paragraph, the withdrawal committee shall forward the final agreement to the commissioner. [2009, c. 580, §9 (NEW) .]

D. If the commissioner recommends changes to the agreement, the commissioner shall:

(1) Send the agreement back to the withdrawal committee for necessary corrections;

(2) Establish a maximum time within which to make the corrections; and

(3) Indicate that the corrected agreement must be returned to the commissioner for conditional approval before it goes to public hearing as set forth in paragraph C. [2009, c. 580, §9 (NEW) .]

[ 2009, c. 580, §9 (NEW) .]

**5. Date of municipal election; notice; warrant; polling hours.** The date and time for voting is as set forth in this subsection.

A. The commissioner shall determine the date upon which the voters of the petitioning municipality must vote upon the agreement submitted to them. The election must be held as soon as practicable, and the commissioner shall attempt to set the date of the vote to coincide with a statewide election. [2009, c. 580, §9 (NEW) .]

B. At least 35 days before the date set in paragraph A, the commissioner shall give written notice of the date by registered or certified mail to the town clerk or city clerk of the municipality petitioning to withdraw. [2009, c. 580, §9 (NEW) .]

C. The town clerk or city clerk shall immediately notify the municipal officers upon receipt of the notice under paragraph B, and the municipal officers shall meet and immediately issue a warrant for a special town meeting or city election, as the case may be, to be held on the date designated by the commissioner. No other date may be used. [2009, c. 580, §9 (NEW) .]



D. In a warrant under paragraph C, the municipal officers shall direct that the polls are to be open by 10 a.m. and remain open until 8 p.m. [2013, c. 167, Pt. A, §1 (AMD) .]

[ 2013, c. 167, Pt. A, §1 (AMD) .]

**6. Public hearing; voting procedures.** The following requirements apply to the voting procedures.

A. At least 10 days before the election, the municipal officers shall hold a posted or otherwise advertised public hearing on the withdrawal question. [2009, c. 580, §9 (NEW) .]

B. Except as otherwise provided in this section, the voting at the meeting held in a town must be conducted in accordance with Title 30-A, sections 2528 and 2529, even if the town has not accepted the provisions of Title 30-A, section 2528. [2009, c. 580, §9 (NEW) .]

C. The voting at the meeting held in a city must be conducted in accordance with Title 21-A. [2009, c. 580, §9 (NEW) .]

[ 2009, c. 580, §9 (NEW) .]

**7. Article.** The article to be voted on must be in the following form.

"Article: Do you favor the withdrawal of the (name of municipality) from the regional school unit (name of regional school unit) subject to the terms and conditions of the withdrawal agreement dated (insert date)?

Yes No"

[ 2009, c. 580, §9 (NEW) .]

**8. Ballots; posting of agreement.** The withdrawal agreement need not be printed on the ballot. Copies of the agreement must be posted in the municipality in the same manner as specimen ballots are posted under Title 30-A, section 2528.

[ 2009, c. 580, §9 (NEW) .]

**9. Required vote.** Before the municipality may withdraw from the regional school unit, the withdrawal agreement must be approved by a majority vote of those casting valid votes in the municipality, and the total number of votes cast for and against withdrawal at the municipal vote must equal or exceed 50% of the total number of votes cast in the municipality for Governor at the last gubernatorial election.

[ 2013, c. 461, §1 (AMD) .]

**9-A. Required vote; exception for a municipality of a school administrative district that was reformulated as a regional school unit.** A 2/3 vote of those casting valid votes in the municipality is required before a municipality that is a member municipality of a school administrative district that was reformulated as a regional school unit pursuant to Public Law 2007, chapter 240, Part XXXX, section 36, subsection 12, as amended by Public Law 2007, chapter 668, section 48, may withdraw from the regional school unit.

[ 2013, c. 461, §2 (AMD) .]

**9-B. Required vote.**

[ 2013, c. 461, §3 (RP) .]

**10. Restriction on withdrawal petitions.** A municipality within a regional school unit may not petition for withdrawal within 2 years after the date of:

A. A municipal vote on a petition for withdrawal if the petition received less than 45% of the votes cast; or [2009, c. 580, §9 (NEW) .]

B. A municipal vote on a withdrawal agreement if the agreement received less than 45% of the votes cast. [2013, c. 461, §4 (AMD) .]

[ 2013, c. 461, §4 (AMD) .]

**10-A. Restriction on withdrawal petitions for a municipality of a school administrative district that was reformulated as a regional school unit.** A municipality that is part of a school administrative district that was reformulated as a regional school unit pursuant to Public Law 2007, chapter 240, Part XXXX, section 36, subsection 12, as amended by Public Law 2007, chapter 668, section 48, may not petition for withdrawal within 2 years after the date of:

A. A municipal vote on a petition for withdrawal if the petition received less than 45% of the votes cast; or [2013, c. 461, §5 (NEW) .]

B. A municipal vote on a withdrawal agreement if the agreement received less than 60% of the votes cast. [2013, c. 461, §5 (NEW) .]

[ 2013, c. 461, §5 (NEW) .]

**11. Cost of advisors.** The expense of employing competent advisors by the municipality petitioning to withdraw must be borne by the municipality, and the expense of employing competent advisors by the regional school unit must be borne by the regional school unit with the municipality bearing its share according to the regional school unit's cost-sharing agreement.

[ 2009, c. 580, §9 (NEW) .]

**12. Determination of vote.** The town clerk or city clerk shall, within 24 hours of determination of the result of the vote in the municipality, certify the total number of votes cast in the affirmative and the total number of votes cast in the negative on the article to the commissioner.

[ 2009, c. 580, §9 (NEW) .]

**13. Determination of results; execution of agreement.** Except for a school administrative district that was reformulated as a regional school unit pursuant to Public Law 2007, chapter 240, Part XXXX, section 36, subsection 12, as amended by Public Law 2007, chapter 668, section 48, if the commissioner finds that a majority of the voters voting on the article has voted in the affirmative and the total number of votes cast for and against the article equal or exceed 50% of the total number of votes cast in the municipality for Governor at the last gubernatorial election, the commissioner shall notify the municipal officers and the regional school unit board to take steps for the withdrawal in accordance with the terms of the agreement for withdrawal. For a municipality that is part of a school administrative district that was reformulated as a regional school unit pursuant to Public Law 2007, chapter 240, Part XXXX, section 36, subsection 12, as amended by Public Law 2007, chapter 668, section 48, if the commissioner finds that at least 2/3 of the votes validly cast in the municipality are in the affirmative, the commissioner shall notify the municipal officers and the regional school unit board to take steps for the withdrawal in accordance with the terms of the agreement for withdrawal.

[ 2013, c. 461, §6 (AMD) .]

**13-A. Determination of results; execution of agreement; effective date.**

[ 2013, c. 461, §7 (RP) .]

**14. Recount; checklists and ballots; disputed ballots.** This subsection applies to recounts, checklists, ballots and disputed ballots.

A. If, within 7 days of the computation and recording of the results of the voting, the municipality requests to the commissioner in writing a recount of the votes, the commissioner shall immediately cause the checklists and all the ballots cast in the municipality to be collected and kept at the commissioner's office so they may be recounted by the municipality. [2009, c. 580, §9 (NEW) .]

B. The town clerk or city clerk of the municipality is authorized to deliver the checklists and ballots to the commissioner, notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary. [2009, c. 580, §9 (NEW) .]

C. The commissioner shall resolve any question with regard to disputed ballots. [2009, c. 580, §9 (NEW) .]

[ 2009, c. 580, §9 (NEW) .]

**15. Execution of agreement; certified record; certificate of withdrawal.** When the agreement for withdrawal has been put into effect by the municipality, the municipal officers shall notify the commissioner by certified mail that the agreement of withdrawal has been executed. A complete certified record of the transaction involved in the withdrawal must be filed with the commissioner. The commissioner shall immediately issue a certificate of withdrawal to be sent by certified mail for filing with the regional school unit board and shall file a copy in the office of the Secretary of State.

[ 2009, c. 580, §9 (NEW) .]

**16. Indebtedness.** This subsection applies to outstanding indebtedness.

A. Whenever a municipality withdraws from a regional school unit having outstanding indebtedness, the regional school unit remains intact for the purpose of securing and retiring the indebtedness. The withdrawal agreement may provide for alternate means for retiring outstanding indebtedness. [2009, c. 580, §9 (NEW) .]

B. For the purposes of this subsection, "outstanding indebtedness" means bonds or notes issued or assumed by the regional school unit board and lease-purchase agreements issued or assumed by the regional school unit, but does not include any indebtedness of the withdrawing municipality assumed by the regional school unit at the time of formation. [2009, c. 580, §9 (NEW) .]

[ 2009, c. 580, §9 (NEW) .]

**17. General purpose aid.** When a municipality withdraws from a regional school unit, the general purpose aid for the municipality must be computed in accordance with chapter 606-B.

[ 2009, c. 580, §9 (NEW) .]

**18. Committee recall.** If the commissioner determines that the withdrawal committee has failed to comply with the requirements of this section, the commissioner may authorize the municipal officers to appoint new representatives to the withdrawal committee.

[ 2009, c. 580, §9 (NEW) .]

**19. Transfer of property.** The regional school unit board may negotiate with the withdrawal committee regarding an equitable division of the regional school unit's property between the regional school unit and the municipality represented by the withdrawal committee and transfer title of the property to the

municipality following withdrawal. The regional school unit board shall determine that the regional school unit's educational program will not be disrupted solely because of the transfer of any given property before it may complete the transfer.

[ 2009, c. 580, §9 (NEW) .]

**20. Reorganization; penalties.**

[ 2011, c. 251, §12 (AFF); 2011, c. 251, §7 (RP) .]

**SECTION HISTORY**

2009, c. 580, §9 (NEW). 2011, c. 251, §7 (AMD). 2011, c. 251, §12 (AFF). 2011, c. 328, §1 (AMD). 2011, c. 328, §2 (AFF). 2011, c. 678, Pt. J, §§1-5 (AMD). 2013, c. 167, Pt. A, §§1, 2 (AMD). 2013, c. 461, §§1-7 (AMD) .

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**Sherman Town Office**

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**From:** "Lora Ryan" <townmt.chase@fairpoint.net>  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 08, 2015 9:03 AM  
**To:** "Sherman Town Office" <sherman@fairpoint.net>  
**Subject:** RE: withdrawal from RSU

Mt. Chase has not hired anyone for this process. It is me and Jen Hartsgrove doing the legwork. Terry Hill has gotten lots of information from Dale Emery, selectman from Winterville. We have had our public hearing, and will hold the first referendum election on May 11. If the vote is favorable, the withdrawal committee will form, and I imagine at that time, a lawyer will need to be hired to make sure all the paperwork is legal. We haven't gone much further (haven't looked into lawyers), until after the vote.

Dale Emery from Winterville is very helpful, and can answer any questions you may have. They just withdrew from their RSU and are now their own SAU. The town office number is 444-6460 and his email is [wintervillechairman@fairpoint.net](mailto:wintervillechairman@fairpoint.net).

Mount Chase is asking for up to \$5,000. The thought process by our board is that this will be for lawyer fees, and if more money is necessary, they will go back to the voters.

Let me know if I can help in any way!  
Lora

**From:** Sherman Town Office [mailto:sherman@fairpoint.net]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 07, 2015 2:04 PM  
**To:** townmt.chase@fairpoint.net  
**Subject:** withdrawal from RSU

Good afternoon -

Sherman was presented with a petition to withdraw from RSU #50 last Friday. We were wondering if Mt. Chase has hired anyone for this process and if so, could you please provide their contact information?

Also, do you know how much money to ask for in order to include it in the referendum question?

Thanks!!

Debbie & Linda

## **Sherman Town Office**

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**From:** "Gravelle, Paula B" <Paula.B.Gravelle@maine.gov>  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 08, 2015 10:27 AM  
**To:** "Sherman Town Office" <sherman@fairpoint.net>  
**Subject:** RE: withdrawal from RSU

Yes, but you would have to go back to the voters with another referendum asking for additional funding.

*Paula Gravelle*

School Finance Coordinator

Maine Department of Education

Phone (207) 624-6792

<http://www.maine.gov/doe/>

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**From:** Sherman Town Office [mailto:sherman@fairpoint.net]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 08, 2015 10:25 AM  
**To:** Gravelle, Paula B  
**Subject:** withdrawal from RSU

Good morning -

Regarding the money amount in the article to be voted upon – in the event that the amount is not enough would we be able to go back to the voters to ask for additional funding?

Thank you,  
Debra O'Roak  
Town Manager  
Town of Sherman

4/10/2015