

**Conditional Declaration** (*draft #3 - 04.08.2021*)

The State Board of Education might choose to entertain the following motion:

- A. **Finding.** The State Board of Education **FINDS** that if it reconstitutes the Ripton School District for prekindergarten through grade 12 effective on July 1, 2022, the students living in Ripton “will attend a school that is in compliance with the rules adopted by the State Board pertaining to educational programs” in the 2022-2023 academic year.
- B. **Conditional Declaration of Withdrawal and Reconstitution.** The State Board of Education:
1. **APPROVES** the request of the Ripton voters to withdraw from the Addison Central School District pursuant to 16 V.S.A. § 724(c), **and**
  2. **DECLARES** that the withdrawal of Ripton from the Addison Central School District shall be effective as of July 1, 2022; **and**
  3. **DECLARES:**
    - a) That the Ripton School District is reconstituted as a prekindergarten through grade 12 school district; **and**
    - b) That the Ripton School District shall assume sole responsibility for the education of its resident students in prekindergarten through grade 12 on July 1, 2022; **and**
    - c) Between *{the date of the motion}* and July 1, 2022, the Ripton School District shall exist solely for the purpose of meeting each of the conditions outlined below and transitioning to full operations; **and**
    - d) The Ripton School District shall not be entitled to administrative or other services from the Addison Central Supervisory District until such time as the State Board makes a determination of supervisory union boundaries.

**PROVIDED**, however, that the approval, the declarations, and the effective dates of July 1, 2022 in this Item B are **CONDITIONED** on completion of each of the following on or before *{insert as the deadline the date required in subdivision (iv) below – September 8??}* in a manner satisfactory to the State Board:

- i. **Election of School Board Members.** The Secretary of State calls a special election at which the Ripton School District voters elect school board members pursuant to 16 V.S.A. § 424(c).
  - ii. **Negotiation of Financial Agreement.** The Ripton School Board and the Addison Central School Board negotiate and finalize the proposed financial details of withdrawal pursuant to 16 V.S.A. § 724(c), which proposal is presented to the voters residing in the *non*-withdrawing towns of the Addison Central School District for approval.
  - iii. **Approval of Financial Agreement.** The voters residing in *each non*-withdrawing town within the Addison Central School District vote to approve the negotiated financial arrangements pursuant to 16 V.S.A. § 724(c).
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- iv. **Written Report to State Board of Education.** The Ripton School Board notifies the State Board in writing no later than *{usually 10-14 days before the State Board meeting at which this will be discussed – September 8?}* of the results of the activity in subdivisions (ii) and (iii) above.
- v. **Attendance at State Board of Education Meeting.** Members or representatives of the Ripton School Board and the Addison Central School Board appear before the State Board at its regularly-scheduled meeting on *{September 15, 2021}* to answer questions regarding the activity in subdivisions (ii) and (iii) above, recognizing that the results of the subdivision (iii) vote may not be final.

C. **Question of UUSD's Continuance.** The State Board of Education **NOTIFIES** "the remaining towns and cities in the [Addison Central] school district" of the State Board's intent to meet on *{May 19, 2021}* and of the opportunity for "the relevant representatives" to be heard at that time regarding "whether it is in the best interests of the State, the students, and the school districts remaining in the unified union school district that the unified union district continue to exist."

D. **Supervisory Union Boundaries.** The State Board of Education:

1. **NOTIFIES** all interested parties of its intent "to review on its own initiative" supervisory boundaries in connection with the assignment of the Ripton School District to a supervisory union pursuant to 16 V.S.A. § 261(a); and
2. **INVITES** the Ripton School Board to discuss potential future supervisory union boundaries with the Addison Central School Board and the board of one or more neighboring supervisory unions as appropriate and to develop a proposal to present to the State Board regarding the supervisory union to which the Ripton School District should be assigned.
  - a) Members or representatives of the Ripton School Board may appear before the State Board at its regularly-scheduled meeting on *{September 15, 2021}* to make proposals and answer questions regarding assignment of the Ripton School District.
  - b) Members or representatives of the board of one or more other supervisory unions and supervisory districts may appear before the State Board at its regularly-scheduled meeting on *{September 15, 2021}* to present written or oral testimony, or both, regarding potential supervisory union boundaries.