



CENTRAL BERKSHIRE REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

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To: School Committee Members

Re: Talking Points for Town Meetings on the Proposed Amended Regional Agreement

Why are we voting on a new regional school agreement and what is different about this document?

- I. The proposed agreement has been updated to be compliant with all law and regulation regarding regional school districts.
- II. The original agreement was amended several times since the formation of the district and although these amendments were approved locally, they were never approved by the Massachusetts Department of Education – which is required. This updated agreement has been preliminarily approved by DESE and the Commissioner will sign off after the towns approve the document.
- III. The proposed updated agreement now includes a required provisions regarding Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) and pension liabilities. With these provisions, all member towns carry their fair share of these costs in the event that a town is added or if a town withdraws.
- IV. The proposed agreement more clearly describes the budget and apportionment process that is currently used by the District.
- V. The proposed updated agreement provides for two pathways for towns that may choose to withdraw at some point in the future.
- VI. The agreement also provides more clarity regarding the process to amend the agreement.
- VII. There is a provision in the agreement for five-year reviews of the document should there be a need for future changes or upgrades.

Sincerely,

Rich Peters, Chairman CBRSD School Committee
Leslie Blake-Davis, CBRSD Superintendent