

**BOARDS OF EDUCATION WORKSHOP
For
Madison and Stockbridge Valley
Central School Districts**

***What Questions Should a Potential
Reorganization Feasibility Study
Address/answer?***

COMPILED COLLABORATIVELY BY THE MEMBERS
OF THE MADISON AND STOCKBRIDGE VALLEY
BOARDS OF EDUCATION AND THEIR
SUPERINTENDENTS AT A WORKSHOP ON
APRIL 12, 2011

*“Custom tools and research to aid a school district in defining a vision and
decision options for serving students in the future.”*

SES STUDY TEAM

Educational Program Questions Identified by the Boards of Education and Superintendents	Ranking out of 38 questions identified
<i>Category One: Enhanced/Accelerated/New Offerings/Overall Program Opportunities</i>	
What kind of increased academic opportunities might be offered?	2
How will we increase academic rigor?	13
<i>Category Two: Specific Programs and Program Questions</i>	
Would there be more college and Advanced Placement courses available to students?	6
What would our class sizes look like in a new district?	15
Is student achievement affected (up/down)?	20
How would scheduling work-during the day and after school?	21
How will special education programs be coordinated and delivered?	22
What information is collected for enrollment and how are projections determined?	23
Would the Pre-K program be continued?	25
<i>Category Three: Co-Curricular and Athletics</i>	
Will athletic programs be expanded in a reorganized district?	2
What co-curricular and interscholastic opportunities would there be for kids?	16
Does reorganization limit the opportunities for kids to participate in sports?	25

Financial Issues/Questions Identified by the Boards of Education and Superintendents	Ranking out of 38 questions identified
<i>Category One: Issues Related to Money/Costs/Taxes</i>	
What could be cost savings in a reorganized district?	3
What assurances are there from NYS that reorganization aid will be there in the future?	5
What would the tax rates in the reorganized district look like?	7
What will the actual cost savings be in a reorganized district even without incentive aid?	9
Would reorganization incentive aid be affected by the Gap Elimination Adjustment?	10
How would the proposed 2% tax cap affect the budgets of the newly formed district?	11
How does a school district plan for the eventual loss of incentive aid?	14
What would happen to the districts' fund balances?	18
How is BOCES aid affected in a reorganized district?	19
How is debt service handled in reorganization?	22
<i>Category Two: Labor Relations/Other</i>	
How will staffing be affected?	2
How are contracts dealt with in a reorganized district?	7
Does the study examine sharing of administrative staff and what might it look like?	12

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Functional Services/Operations Issues/Questions Identified by the Boards of Education and Superintendents	Ranking out of 38 questions identified
<i>Category One: Student Transportation</i>	
What would bus routes look like in a reorganized district?	8
<i>Category Two: Facility Questions</i>	
What would happen to our buildings and would they remain open?	1
What would building maintenance costs be and how much in the new district?	12
Would there be a need for additional buildings?	25
Cultural Questions	
	Ranking out of 38 questions identified
How might the small school feel be affected by a merged, larger district?	4
How would reorganization affect the student/staff relationships?	15
How could the reorganization of the districts affect the safety of students?	18
How does the reorganized district address colors, mascots, and names?	20
Governance Questions	
Do the Boards have the ability to determine what are and are not deal breakers?	15
How much interaction does the State Education Department and the Department of State have in the study process?	17
How long would it take for the new district to be up and running?	18
How will each community be represented on the Board of Education?	19
Anything on the horizon from NYS about mandating reorganization?	24

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