

Maps Working Group  
School Renewal Commission  
Conference Call  
March 25, 2004  
11:00 AM  
Kirk Miller, Presiding

Draft Minutes

Participants: Kirk Miller, Ric Floren, Kris Goss, Steve Meloy, Matt Bugni, Jim Standaert, Amy Carlson, Madalyn Quinlan, Bob Keenan (via telephone), Holly Raser (via telephone), Don Ryan, Carmen McSpadden (via telephone), Bruce Messinger, Carter Christiansen (via telephone), Mary Whittinghill, Tonia Bloom

Agenda

1. Map or Spreadsheet Data of the 2.7 statewide mills of Oil/Gas back to local districts—Matt Bugni

Notes

- Property Tax comparisons created winners and losers with the new scenarios.
- Sen. Ryan suggests that we need to look at other revenue sources than property taxes.
- Political concern regarding winners and losers once again emphasized.
- Centrally Assessed property taxes are the main reason why we haven't been able bridge the gap.
- There are large industries that would have extreme increases if the mills increased by 70.
- Homeowner property tax equity is a goal of the Working Group. Only disagreement is the manner in which we go about doing this. (Impact on specific areas and taxing entities).
- Not politically difficult to equalize amongst homeowners. It is 70 mill increase for centrally assessed property that will hurt proposal.

2. Maps or Spreadsheet Data of Fund Balance Reappropriated addressed differently giving a new picture of the impact on local property taxpayers—Matt Bugni

Notes

- Included above.

3. Centrally Assessed Property Tax options—Sen. Ryan and Jim Standaert

Notes:

- Handout from Jim discussed. Negative conclusion is that this does not reduce the range of disparity or taxes by much.
- Tonia Bloom asked the question to know the number of students affected by more mills or less mills. This is the best proxy for knowing the number of property taxpayers.

- Only going part way with Centrally assessed does not appear to go far enough to give property tax equity. Other funds must be equalized as well.
  - Madalyn requested a visual that would show this. Like a distribution chart to show how individual districts are affected.
  - Suggestion that the other funds need to be look at for equalization also.
  - With equity will come quality.
4. Classification of Taxes—A lesson from Jim Standaert  
Notes
- Jim has reexamined this and will send it out soon.
5. Utilizing the GTB model for above BASE (80%-100%) -- Jim Standaert and Matt Bugni
- Not completed at this time
  - Enough equalization would stretch state dollars further and wouldn't need 80% level.
6. Reporting to the Interim Tax Reform Study Committee
- Homeowner taxation equity.
  - Funding of K-12 education at the 80% level. GTB for 80%-100% level.
  - Describe that 80% is mandated and we do this with a vastly inequitable mechanism.
  - Consequences
    - Education decisions made based on quality (needs) rather than taxation.
    - May need a new revenue source.
    - Looking at a mill raising the same amount statewide. A mill per dollar value is the concept (like a mill per student)
  - Addressing items of quality can be built into the mechanism.
  - Preserve the community levy
  - Need to think about the commercial and ag properties along with centrally assessed.
7. Next Steps
- Report to Tax Reform Study Committee
  - Prep any new materials
  - Develop policy statements for consideration of the full School Renewal Commission