

DRAFT
May 13, 2004

REGIONALIZATION WORKING GROUP
Conference Call

DISCUSSION LIST
Concepts for Consideration

- Every school district be assigned to a legally established regional service area even though participation is voluntary.
- All services be made available to schools in the region but not required.
- Schools should feel ownership and not a burden for participation in the regional service area.
- Establish boundaries so that geography allows reasonable travel and communication between members of the region and encourages every member school district to participate.
- Communication amongst every school in the service area is vital to the success of the area.
- Establish boundaries to ensure geography is not a barrier to participation.
- Preserve the integrity of the local district allowing participation that benefits students in the district.
- Success of special education cooperatives is due to voluntary nature; it helps students, preserves integrity of local district, understands geography, and maximizes financial savings.
- It is important for an emphasis to be placed on efficiency and cost savings.
- Governance structure established must allow for leverage of available resources while retaining local control.
- Maximize administrative efficiency to create cost effectiveness and efficiency of delivery.
- Overcome barriers of communication created by isolation and remoteness of schools.
- Establish governance structure that meets the needs of the member districts.
- Governance structure established must maximize the educational opportunity for each student.
- Must establish a funding structure that provides incentives for participation.
- Clearly defined need to meet the federal requirements of IDEA and NCLB and other federal programs (vocation ed, higher ed, head start, early child hood, etc).
- Funding mechanisms should investigate the use of current county superintendents within regions. Incentives to work together possibly through contracts.
- Allow the development of connections that already exist because of common needs (Native American Schools).
- Service Areas should not stop districts from collaborating on other items they may be working on.