

ALTERNATIVE PLAN SUBMITTAL SHEET

School Administrative Unit Submitting Alternative Plan:

- Indian Township School Department

Contact Information:

Name: Ronald D. Jenkins

Address: 39A Union Street

Calais

Maine

Telephone: (207)454-2126

email: rlenkins@bia.edu

Date Plan Submitted by SAU: 11-30-2007

The intent to submit an alternative plan has been approved by the Commissioner in the approval of the Notice of Intent?

YES NO

(If NO, please explain.)

Initial Receipt Revision (Version # _____)

Received: 12/3/07

Initial Review: 12/4/07

Review Completed: / /

Commissioner Response

Approved Revise & Return

Returned to SAU: / /

Revisions due to Department: / /

Initial Plan Received (if revision): / /

Alternative Plan Cover Sheet

(Please attach Alternative Plan as Exhibit A)

Plan Requirements				
Item	Complete	In Progress	Not Yet Started	Need Assistance ¹
Plan addresses how the SAU will reorganize administrative functions, duties and noninstructional personnel so that projected expenditures of RSU in fiscal 2008-2009 for the following areas will not have an adverse impact on the instructional program.				
system administration	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
transportation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
special education	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
facilities and maintenance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Plan addresses how cost savings will be achieved in fiscal 2008-2009 for the above four areas.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Parameters for Plan Development				
Enrollment meets requirements (2,500 except where circumstances justify an exception)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
When viewed in conjunction with surrounding proposed units, may not result in one or more municipalities being denied the option to join an RSU	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Includes at least one publicly supported high school	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Consistent with policies set forth in section 1451	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
No displacement of teachers	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
No displacement of students	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
No closures of schools existing or operating during school year immediately preceding reorganization, except as permitted under section 1512	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Collaborative Agreements				
			Yes	No
Does your plan currently include information/documentation on collaborative agreements? <i>(not required, but encouraged)</i>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

¹ Please explain what assistance you need to complete this portion of your plan, and state from whom you need assistance, on the next page.

Exhibit A

Alternative Plan

SAU: Indian Township School Department

Partners: Pleasant Point School Department
Indian Township School Department
Indian Island School Department

Partnership Name: Maine Indian Education

Parameters for Plan Development:

- Although our combined enrollment is less than 2,500, we meet the intent of the law since all partners are each members of a Tribal community. Two of the partners are on the Passamaquoddy reservations at Pleasant Point and Indian Township, and the third is the Penobscot Nation at Indian Island.
- We in no way interfere with the ability of surrounding municipalities to join an RSU.
- We intend to enter into written agreements with the area high schools where we currently have students enrolled as tuition students. Discussions with these high schools has already begun and we do not anticipate difficulty in negotiating agreements.
- We have no plans or intent to displace any of our teachers.
- We have no plans or intent to displace any of our students. (We will continue to encourage our high school students to remain in their school of choice.)
- We have no interest in closing any of our schools now or in the foreseeable future. Indeed, we are number two on the Bureau of Indian Education's list for replacement of Beatrice Rafferty School. We hope to enter the design phase in 2008. Federal money will be used for construction (as it has been in each of our school's construction.)

Collaborative Agreement(s)

While our collaborative agreement are currently more informal than formal, we have consistently worked with our neighboring districts (especially where our high school students are enrolled,) to share services. Examples would include our after school and summer school tutorial programs that we have left open to Non-Native students. We also have invited staff from neighborhood districts to attend various staff development programs. For the past several years' we have served as fiscal agent for most of the schools in Washington County and for the Washington County Regional Support System.

Governance

The partnership would have a 15 member committee consisting of 5 Tribally Elected members from each community. The 15 member committee would select a superintendent, business manager, and other Central Office staff as needed and/or as required by the Bureau of Indian Education or State of Maine. The function of the Central Office would be to carry out the same functions as prior to the Consolidation. The 15 member committee would have 3 sub-committees of 5 members each, one at each reservation. The members of the sub-committees would be the same members as mentioned in the first sentence. The sub-committees would function as and have the same powers and duties as the individual school committees of the original partner members. The 15 member committee would meet at least twice per year (in December and May.)

When the 15 member committee meets the members will vote on a weighted vote calculated by student population at the three reservations.

Cost Sharing

The facilities budget will be based on square footage of the facilities at each reservation. The Bureau of Indian Education owns our buildings and thus provides cost sharing information.

Other portions of the budget will be based on student population served at each reservation. The current figures (FY'2008) supplied by the Bureau of Indian Education are:

Indian Island (from Indirect Cost)	25.15%
Indian Township (from Indirect Cost)	39.99%
Pleasant Point (from Indirect Cost)	34.86%

Projected expenditures in Fy '09 will not have an adverse impact on the instructional program

Most system administration costs will be supported by our Bureau of Indian Education Grants and or Indirect costs contracts. Cutting money from these Grants and Contracts would neither save the State of Maine or Maine Indian Education money, but would surely diminish services.

We are reviewing how to be more efficient with transportation costs. At Indian Island we have a contracted service which we will re-bid in an effort to get a "better deal". Where we operate our own buses (Indian Township and Pleasant Point), we are looking at route changes and fewer trips, but with increased fuel costs I doubt there will be savings without an adverse impact.

In the area of special education, we have put in place at all three schools, the *Reading First* program and our first priority for our curriculum is that all children will be reading at grade level by the end of third grade. This program is showing very good results that we believe will decrease the number of referrals to special education. In this way we n save money importantly, provide a better education for all our students.

Most facilities and maintenance costs will be supported by our Bureau of Indian Education Grants and or Indirect costs contracts. Cutting money from these Grants and Contracts would neither save the State of Maine or Maine Indian Education money, but would surely diminish services.