# DEPOSIT-HANCOCK SHARED SERVICES INITIATIVE COOABORATION COMMITTEE

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## MINUTES

January 26, 2017
7:00 PM in the Deposit CS Library

**Present:** (Attendance List Attached)

**Meeting:**
Facilitator, Gray Stevens called the meeting to order at 7:06 PM, with a summary of the purpose for the committee and an historical synopsis of the committee's work.

Terry Dougherty provided a brief review of the "Alan Pole" recommendations from the original Shared Services Report. Chapter 11 of the report (Mr. Pole's Recommendations for possible shares) was reviewed with those recommendations accomplished in bold type and those recommendations yet to be addressed in regular type. Those recommendations in bold type were quickly reviewed and those yet to be addressed were discussed in terms of their status and impediments to accomplishment. Kudos to the staff and Boards of both schools were sincerely given for their hard work, commitment and belief in the need to share services. It was noted that the shares currently in place are yielding savings of $75,000 to $125,000 annually.

Ed Swartwout reported on the status and success of athletic sharing. Roughly 75% of all sports teams are now merged and the mergers are going very well. Student athletes are cooperative and working well together. Several other area school districts are now engaged in merging teams or exploring the option. The merger process and rubrics are reviewed after each season and the system for the Deposit-Hancock sports team mergers is working very well. There is an effort to maintain some independence in athletics in both schools for as long as possible. Examples are varsity basketball, baseball and softball. There have been no cuts and teams are getting good enrollment numbers for teams. Clarity and transparency have been vital to the success of this merged sports effort.

Theresa Rajner reviewed the shared Home & Careers position and the Technology position shares. Both are going well. The report highlighted the type of discussion, adoptability and willingness to listen that goes into creating a shared teaching position. Due to a variety of needs and circumstances each of the two positions is configured differently to accommodate the needs of the two school districts.

Jodi Newman reported out on the transportation share. Transportation around athletics continues to be a challenge since not all sports are merged. However, the scheduling is working, but very complex. Large equipment pieces are shared, i.e. Tire Machine and Undercoating equipment…these items are expensive and offer an opportunity to share and save money. The transportation personnel unions have been very cooperative. Ms

Newman noted that while the cost savings have been good and are important, the most important outcome has been greater opportunity for students.

Denise Cook reported on the progress of merged staff development. There have been several joint professional development opportunities. Each district takes turns hosting, presenting and arranging. The effort is going well and will continue. It was noted that this “share” was a local initiative and was not on the Share Report recommendations list.

Planning discussion around the table led to the observation that the “low hanging fruit” with regards to shared services has been picked. The share recommendations left are more complex. The committee was asked to review the “unbolded” recommendations from the report and come back to the next meeting with thoughts regarding future shares.

There was good and lengthy discussion regarding the fact that Deposit is in the B-T BOCES and Hancock is in the DCMO BOCES which makes for an additional challenge for academic shares. The decision was made to have Gray attempt to have the District Superintendent from each BOCES attend a meeting of this committee and enter a discussion of what might be done to mitigate the challenges of two schools in different BOCES being able to share. Thursday’s in March looked best for the committee.

Adjournment occurred at 8:08 PM.

NEXT MEETING: **Depends on date BOCES DS’s can attend in March. Hancock, 7:00 PM**