

**McLean County Museum of History**

**School District Consolidation Campaign 1992 - 1996**

Processed by  
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**Collection Information**

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## Brief History

In 1992 an ad hoc committee requested a study of the future of education in Bloomington-Normal, beginning what would become a campaign for consolidation of the two school districts, #87 and #5. A formal committee, as mandated by statute, called the "Committee of Ten" organized to prepare a petition to organize a new community unit school district. After the filing of that petition, a public hearing was held by the district superintendent, who approved the petition. In order to prepare for a referendum, a series of informational meetings were held to inform the public of the advantages of consolidation. The referendum was voted on and defeated in 1996.

## Scope

The collection includes the working materials of the Committee of Ten, as collected by William Mueller, Jr., District 87 board member, and Committee of Ten member. It includes studies and reports regarding Unit 5 and District 87, financial information used to prepare and support the campaign to consolidate, school policies and contracts, and correspondence regarding the campaign.

### Folder 1: Reports and Studies for Consolidation

- 1.1.1 Preliminary Report to Boards of Education of Bloomington School District No. 87 and Normal Community Unit School District No. 5, December 1991, with comments by District 87 Superintendent Roberts.
- 1.1.2 Reorganization study by Illinois State Board of Education for District 87 and Unit 5, Jan 1992
- 1.1.3 Demographics and facilities study for Unit 5 and District 87, by Illinois School Consulting Service, Feb 1992.
- 1.1.4 Memo from Bill Barry to Mary Wood-Collier disputing Reorganization Study of January 1992, 6 Feb 1992.
- 1.1.5 Educational Cooperation and Partnerships Report, Citizens Advisory Council, McLean County Unit District No. 5, February 1992.
- 1.1.6 Executive Summary of Study of the Future of Education in McLean County Unit District No. 5 and Bloomington School District 87, by Drs. David W. Quinn and Shannon B. Cahill, North Central Regional Educational Laboratory, Oak Brook, Illinois and Raymond L. Lows and Samuel R. Shugar, Northern Illinois University, April 13, 1993.

### Folder 2: Reports and Studies for Consolidation (part 2)

- 1.2.1 Study of the Future of Education in McLean County Unit District No. 5 and Bloomington School District 87, by Drs. David W. Quinn and Shannon B. Cahill, North Central Regional Educational Laboratory, Oak Brook, Illinois and Raymond L. Lows and Samuel R. Shugar, Northern Illinois University, April 13, 1993.
- 1.2.2 Update to Study of the Future of Education, 7 Jun 1993.
- 1.2.3 Memo with Citizens Advisory Council Preliminary report, 15 Dec 1993.
- 1.2.4 Merger Committee Preliminary Report, Citizens Advisory Council, Dec 1993.
- 1.2.5 McLean-DeWitt Counties Regional Office of Education Statistics report, 1994 – 1995.

- 1.2.6 LUDA Salary Survey, Statewide, 1994 - 1995
- 1.2.7 McLean County Unit District No. 5 Enrollment changes and Retention Levels of Regular Education Students, 1986 to 1995, prepared by H.T. Davis, Jul 1995.
- 1.2.8 Facilities Study with Enrollment Projections, 1995 – 2010, by Dr. Robert Malito, Unit 5, Nov 1995.
- 1.2.9 Unit 5 and District 87 Consolidation Hearing Financial Analysis, Nov. 14, 1995, Robert B. Meeker, Treasurer for Bloomington Public Schools.
- 1.2.10 Untitled report by the Committee of Ten, with exhibits, undated, after Nov 1995.

**Folder 3: Petition to Regional Superintendent of Schools**

- 1.3.1 Petition to Organize a new Community Unit School District, 3 Oct 1995.
- 1.3.2 Petition signatures, Sep – Oct 1995.
- 1.3.3 Notice of Prehearing Conference, 25 Oct 1995.
- 1.3.4 Notice of Second Prehearing conference, 9 Nov 1995.
- 1.3.5 Joint Stipulation, 14 Nov 1995.
- 1.3.6 Draft Index to Exhibits for November 14 hearing on Merger (no exhibits attached)
- 1.3.7 Notice of Public Hearing at Presser Hall, 14 Nov 1995.
- 1.3.8 Proposed findings by District 87, draft, Nov. 20, 1995.
- 1.3.9 Unit 5's Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law.
- 1.3.10 Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, 26 Dec 1995
- 1.3.11 Decision of Superintendent, Eugene P. Jontry, 26 Dec 1995.
- 1.3.12 Schedule for making petition.
- 1.3.13 Amendment to House bill 3638, adopted 10 May 1994.

**Folder 4: Statutes**

- 1.4.1 Amendment to House bill 2638, 10 May 1994.
- 1.4.2 Elections Code, Article 5/2A.
- 1.4.3 School Code, Article 11A.
- 1.4.4 School Code, Article 7, Boundary Change.
- 1.4.5 School Code, Article 5/24-12, Removal or dismissal of teachers.
- 1.4.6 Explanation of School code 11A, 11B and 7, State incentive payments to reorganized districts.
- 1.4.7 Explanation of School Code 18 and 11D, Supplementary State Aid.
- 1.4.8 Decision, Board of Education of Wapella v. Regional Board of School Trustees of McLean-DeWitt Counties, 185, Ill. Dec. 697, 614 N.E.2d, 1993.

**Folder 5: Correspondence re drafting of petition and litigation**

- 1.5.1 Letter from Raymond A. Hauser to Dr. Leonard Roberts, re options for merger, 11 Jun 1993.
- 1.5.2 Letter from Raymond A. Hauser to Dr. Leonard Roberts, re proposed amendments to enable reorganization, 21 Jul 1993 ( no attachment).
- 1.5.3 Letter from Raymond Hauser to Dr. Leonard Roberts (87) enclosing draft petition, 10 Aug 1993.
- 1.5.4 Memo from Bill Mueller to Dr. Roberts et al, re incorrect petition drafted, 3 Aug 1993.

- 1.5.5 Letter from Raymond A. Hauser to Dr. Leonard Roberts, enclosing proposed amendments to enable reorganization, 10 Sep 1993 .
- 1.5.6 Letter from Raymond Hauser to Dr. Leonard Roberts regarding amendments to the school code, 9 Feb 1994.
- 1.5.7 Letter from Raymond Hauser to Dr. Leonard Roberts re bonded indebtedness, 23 Feb 1994.
- 1.5.8 Memo from Dr. Leonard Roberts to Bill Mueller, dates and deadlines for petition, 11 Mar 1994.
- 1.5.9 Letter from Bill Mueller to Dr. Richard Sens (87) re draft petition for reorganization, 12 Oct 1994.
- 1.5.10 Draft petition (4<sup>th</sup> draft)
- 1.5.11 Draft petition (Final)
- 1.5.12 Letter from Raymond Hauser to Dr. Richard Sens re petition and bonded indebtedness, 24 Oct 1994.
- 1.5.13 Letter from Bill Mueller to Raymond Hauser re further draft of petition and organization of the school board, 12 May 1995.
- 1.5.14 Letter from Raymond Hauser to Bill Mueller re organization of school board, 22 May 1995.
- 1.5.15 Letter from Raymond Hauser to Bill Mueller declining to represent the Committee of Ten in the petition, 1 Jun 1995.
- 1.5.16 Letter to Eugene P. Jontry, Regional Board of Education from Committee of Ten filing the petition and 1711 signatures of registered voters, 3 Oct 1995.
- 1.5.17 Press release re petition for merer referendum filed today with regional superintendent, 3 Oct 1995.
- 1.5.18 Memo from Bill Mueller to Committee of Ten re October 25 1995 pre hearing conference with Superintendent Jontry, 26 Oct 1995.
- 1.5.19 Letter from State's Attorney Charles G. Reynard to litigants re Order of Proceedings for Pre Hearing Conference, 27 Oct 1995.
- 1.5.20 Letter from David J. Dubicki (Attorney for Unit 5) to Roy Davis and Mark T. Dunn (Attorneys for Dist. 87) re request for materials from District 87, 27 Oct 1995.
- 1.5.21 Memo from Dr. Richard Sens to Bill Mueller re request for materials to Unit 5, 7 Nov 1995.
- 1.5.22 Hand written notes re telephone conference between Sens and Mueller, 7 Nov 1995.
- 1.5.23 Letter from David J. Dubicki to Eric T. Ruud (State's Attorney office) re failure of Committee of Ten to respond to discovery requests, 8 Nov 1995.
- 1.5.24 Letter from Bill Mueller to Roger Joslin re his scheduled testimony on 16 Nov 1995, 10 Nov 1995.

**Folder 6: Correspondence 1991 – 1994**

- 1.6.1 Minutes, Joint planning committee (District 87 & Unit 5) re study by Illinois School Consulting, 17 Dec 1991.
- 1.6.2 Letter to Gilbert Dorsey from Robert Malito and Leonard Roberts re his membership in steering committee for joint study of relationship between Unit 5 and District 87, 20 Jan 1992.
- 1.6.3 Memo from Bill Barry to Mary Wood-Collier re Reorganization Study, 6 Feb 1992.

- 1.6.4 Memo from Heidi Biederman to LUDA Superintendents regarding pension buyouts, 28 Dec 1992.
- 1.6.5 Memo from Jeannette Barrett (County Clerk) to Superintendent of Normal Unit 5 re tax rate, 18 June 1993.
- 1.6.6 Memo from Jeannette Barrett (County Clerk) to Superintendent of Normal Unit 5 re tax rate, 18 June 1993
- 1.6.7 Memo from Jeannette Barrett (County Clerk) to Superintendent of School District #87 re tax rate, 18 June 1993.
- 1.6.8 Press release, WJBC to press re WJBC news survey on merger question, 21 Jun 1993.
- 1.6.9 Memo from Bob Malito to Dr. Roberts re Draft of Executive summary as per June 28, 1993.
- 1.6.10 Meeting, 7 Jul 1993.
- 1.6.11 Memo from Bill Barry to Dr. Roberts re District 87/Unit 5 Operational issues associated with consolidation, 26 Jul 1993.
- 1.6.12 Memo from Superintendent Roberts to Board with “leaked” memo from Unit 5 and action plan, 1 Oct 1993.
- 1.6.13 Memo from Superintendent Roberts to Barry Weer and Carole Ringer re John Dee Panel discussion, 15 Oct 1993.
- 1.6.14 Letter from League of Women Voters to William Mueller, voicing support of merger study, 9 Nov 1993.
- 1.6.15 Memo from Superintendent Roberts to Board re possible road map for merger actions, 10 Nov 1993.
- 1.6.16 Letter from John Dee to Dr. Bob Malito, re bonded indebtedness and merger, 23 Dec 1993.
- 1.6.16 Memo from Superintendent Roberts to Board of Education re 5+87 meeting and opposition from Unit 5, 10 Jan 1994.
- 1.6.17 Memo from Randy and Bill to Board of Education et al, re Plan B, 21 Jan 1994.
- 1.6.18 Memo from Superintendent Roberts to Board re annexation issue with background information, 23 Feb 1994.
- 1.6.19 Letter from Bill Mueller (?) to Dr. Roberts re 23 Feb 1994 letter from Raymond Hauser, 24 Feb 1994.
- 1.6.20 Press release, McLean county Chamber of Commerce, Chamber committee to Monitor District 87 merger hearings, 10 Mar 1994.
- 1.6.21 Memo from Dr. Leonard Roberts to Bill Mueller re key dates and time frames associated with petition, 11 Mar 1994.
- 1.6.22 Report to McLean County Chamber Board re public hearing on merger rationale and perspective, 15 Mar 1994.
- 1.6.23 Memo from Superintendent Roberts to Board re amendment to school code affecting consolidation, 27 Apr 1994.
- 1.6.24 Letter from Randy Berg to Rose Marsaglia re presentation of testimony at 4<sup>th</sup> public hearing, 11 May 1994.
- 1.6.25 Letter from Bill Mueller to Dr. Richard Sens re McLean County Planning Commission comprehensive plan hearing, 1 Jun 1994.
- 1.6.26 Memo from Jeanette Barrett (County Clerk) to Superintendent of Sch Dist #87, re tax rates, 6 Jun 1994.

- 1.6.27 Memo from Jeanette Barrett (County Clerk) to Superintendent of Sch Dist #87, re tax rates, with hand written notes, 6 Jun 1994.
- 1.6.28 Memo from Bill Mueller to Board members re reschedule public hearing, 14 Jun 1994.
- 1.6.29 Memo from Superintendent Roberts to Board of Education, perspective on merger from an almost retired superintendent, 22 Jun 1994.
- 1.6.30 Memo from William Barry to Dr. Richard Sens, re proposed tax levy for new district, 20 Oct 1994.
- 1.6.31 Memo from Bill Barry to Robert Meeker re per pupil operating cost for District 87 and Unit 5, 22 Nov 1994.

**Folder 7: Correspondence Jan 1995 – May 1995**

- 1.7.1 Confidential memo to Darrell Hartweg and Steve Wannemacher re merger conspiracy, undated.
- 1.7.2 Confidential memo from B. Mueller to “merger conspirators,” re work by engineers on census data, undated.
- 1.7.3 Memo from Dr. Sens regarding request for map and costs for map, Jan 1995.
- 1.7.4 Letter from Keith Davis regarding targeting influential citizens in area most affected by merger, 8 Feb 1995.
- 1.7.5 Press release re merger hearings resume, 17 Feb 1995.
- 1.7.6 Memo from Robert Meeker to Dr. Sens comparing cost per pupil, indebtedness per pupil, 4 Mar 1995.
- 1.7.7 Memo from Robert Meeker to Dr. Sens re operating expenses per pupil, 29 Mar 1995.
- 1.7.8 Memo from Diane Stempinski to Dr. Sens re notes from April 6, 1995 public hearing.
- 1.7.9 Memo by Robert Meeker regarding financial position paper, 12 Apr 1995.
- 1.7.10 Letter from Ronald Blake to Dr. Richard Sens re review of District 87 properties on official tax maps, 25 Apr 1995.
- 1.7.11 Memo from Robert Meeker to Dr. Sens re school financial downsizing, with attachments, 25 Apr 1995.
- 1.7.12 Memo from William R. Barry to Robert B. Meeker re financial projections, 26 April 1995.
- 1.7.13 Memo from Dr. Sens to B. Mueller with BHS newsletter and report from BHS principal on outstanding students, 2 May 1995.
- 1.7.14 Memo from Robert B. Meeker to Dr. Richard Sens re 1993 Levy, 4 May 1995.
- 1.7.15 Memo from Robert B. Meeker to Dr. Richard Sens re Update of comparison of EAV and Tax rates, 5 May 1995.
- 1.7.16 Memo from Robert B. Meeker to Dr. Richard Sens re comparison of fund balances, 5 May 1995.
- 1.7.17 Press release, Dr. Richard Sens, re state incentives for school consolidation, 17 May 1995.
- 1.7.18 Fax transmission from Dr. Richard Sens to Bill Mueller re statistical report, 17 May 1995.
- 1.7.19 Fax transmission from David Scott (State Bd of Education) to Bill Mueller with timelines and dates for petitions, 18 May 1995.

**Folder 8: Correspondence Aug 1995 – Dec 1995**

- 1.8.1 Letter from Darrell Hartweg to William Mueller re organizational structure of merger campaign committee, 24 Aug 1995.
- 1.8.2 Memo from William A. Mueller, Jr. to Darell Hartweg et al re campaign organizational chart, 31 Aug 1995.
- 1.8.3 Memo from Bob Malito to 5+87 Ad hoc Committee Members, re Unit 5 goals and study topics, 18 Sep 1995.
- 1.8.4 Memo from Robert B. Meeker to Dr. Richard Sens re state incentives, 19 Sep 1995.
- 1.8.5 Memo from Robert B. Meeker to Dr. Richard Sens re tax caps, 19 Sep 1995.
- 1.8.6 Memo from Robert B. Meeker to Dr. Richard Sens re special finance report, 25 Sep 1995.
- 1.8.7 Memo from Steve Wannemacher to Darrell Hartweg et al re proposed press release and press conference, 25 Sep 1995.
- 1.8.8 Memo from John Libom to Bill Mueller re draft of statement re school board member districts, 25 Sep 1995.
- 1.8.9 Memo from William A. Mueller, Jr. to Committee of Ten re press release and petition signatures, Committee of Ten profile, 29 Sep 1995.
- 1.8.10 Press release: Petition for merger referendum filed to day with regional superintendent, 3 Oct 1995.
- 1.8.11 Memo, from William A. Mueller, Jr. to Committee of Ten regarding next meeting, 4 Oct 1995.
- 1.8.12 Letter from Bill Mueller to Mark Dunn re petition and Committee of Ten, 4 Oct 1995.
- 1.8.13 Fax from Gretchen Monti to Bill Mueller with handwritten notes, 11 Oct 1995.
- 1.8.14 Memo from Robert Meeker to Dr. Sens, re fund balances as of June 30, 1995, 12 Oct 1995.
- 1.8.15 Press release: School consolidation campaign leaders announced, 18 Oct 1995.
- 1.8.16 Memo rom Bob Malito to Gene Jontry re merger issues – facilities redistricting scenario, 9 Nov 1995.
- 1.8.17 Memo from Robert Meeker to Dr. Richard Sens, re financial information, 10 Nov 1995.
- 1.8.18 Letter from John Penn to Bill Mueller, re absence from meetings, 13 Nov 1995
- 1.8.19 Letter from Bill Mueller to Eugene Jontry, re thanks for work on meetings, 17 Nov 1995.
- 1.8.20 Letter from William A. Mueller, Jr. to Charles Hurliman, Farnsworth and Wylie regarding invoice for services, 17 Nov 1995
- 1.8.21 Letter from William A. Mueller, Jr. to Joe Warner, Heritage Enterprises regarding use of Community Room, 20 Nov 1995.
- 1.8.22 Fax transmission from Mark T. Dunn to Bill Mueller, re revisions to petition, 20 Nov 1995.
- 1.8.23 Memo from Becky to Bill (Mueller?) re call from Janella Cooley re recent hearing, 14 Dec 1995.
- 1.8.24 Memo from Steve Wannemacher to Merger campaign committee, re brainstorming session, 20 Dec 1995.
- 1.8.25 Letter from Roy G. Davis to Richard Sens re legal opinion re use of school funds to promote merger, 26 Dec 1995.

**Folder 9: Correspondence 1996**

- 1.9.1 Memo from Gretchen Monti to Bill Mueller re debate at Young Men's Club, 4 Jan 1996.
- 1.9.2 Memo from Robert Meeker to Dr. Richard Sens, re Operating expenses per pupil, 4 Jan 1996.
- 1.9.3 Letter from Chuck Steen to Doug Reeves and Bill Mueller re discussion at Young Men's Club, 6 Jan 1996.
- 1.9.4 Memo from Gretchen Monti to 5+87 Excellence for our Children steering committee, re request to Unit 5 administration for appearances at open houses, 8 Jan 1996.
- 1.9.5 Memo from Gretchen Monti to Steve Wannemacher, et al re speaker bureau meeting, 10 Jan 1996.
- 1.9.6 Memo from Citizens for Cooperation to Committee of Ten re meeting dates, 16 Jan 1996.
- 1.9.7 Fax transmission to William Mueller regarding talking points, 18 Jan 1996.
- 1.9.8 Letter from Peggy Abernathy, Guilford County Schools, NC, to Janella Conley giving statistics from NC school merger, 24 Jan 1996.
- 1.9.9 Letter from Robert Eckley to Twila Eickhorst re joint meetings, Jan 25, 1996.
- 1.9.10 Agenda, 26 Jan 1996
- 1.9.11 Letter from Twila Eickhorst, Citizens for Cooperation, to Robert S. Eckley regarding joint public meetings, 30 Jan 1996.
- 1.9.12 Handwritten notes, R. Berg, 31 Jan 1996.
- 1.9.13 Memo from William A. Mueller to Robert Eckley, et al, regarding phone bank questions, 2 Feb 1996.
- 1.9.14 Memo from Dorothy Witte to Committee for Excellence regarding phone bank and forum respondents, 2 Feb 1996.
- 1.9.15 Letter from Robert Eckley to Committee members regarding final days of campaign, 19 Feb 1996.
- 1.9.16 Letter from William A. Mueller, Jr. to Dick Stivers re letter to editor suggestions, 28 Feb 1996.

**Folder 10: Unit 5 Public Meetings**

- 1.10.1 Schedule of McLean County Unit District 5 Town Meetings on Merger Issue and Materials on finances of each school, taxes, and proposed ballot, Jan 16, 1996 through March 12, 1996.
- 1.10.2 Agenda for Unit 5 Town Meetings with materials, Oct. 19, 1995 through Nov. 1, 1995.
- 1.10.3 Agenda for Unit 5 town meeting with materials, 1 Nov 1995.

**Folder 11: Position papers**

- 1.11.1 Table of likely outcomes of increased school district size on variables affecting curriculum and instruction, undated.
- 1.11.2 Issues, undated.
- 1.11.3 "Frequently asked questions about commonly considered reorganization options," author unknown, pp. 77 – 82.
- 1.11.4 Quality and characteristics of District 87 Schools
- 1.11.5 Consolidation Information Data, prepared by Dr. Robert R. Malito, Unit 5.
- 1.11.6 5+87 Excellence for our Children Speakers Manual

- 1.11.7 Report to the Community from the Committee of Ten: Jane Beal, Darrell Hatweg, Roger Joslin, John Libert, Rose Marsaglia, Gretchen Monti, William A. Mueller, Jr. Stanley R. Ommen, John Renn, Steve Wannemacher, and Kathy Winn, undated.
- 1.11.8 Agenda, 5+87 Excellence for Our Children Speaker Training, Saturday Jan 20 19??.
- 1.11.9 Position paper packet with handwritten notes, undated.

**Folder 12: Organizing committees/ planning documents for merger**

- 1.12.1 Memo from D. Hartweg to Bill Mueller re Merger campaign personnel
- 1.12.2 List of candidates with handwritten notes, 2 pages, undated.
- 1.12.3 Names for campaign, handwritten, undated.
- 1.12.4 Name and address list for Committee of Ten
- 1.12.5 Handwritten notes on Committee of Ten, 4 pages, undated.
- 1.12.6 List of candidates by interest areas/areas of expertise, undated (2 versions).
- 1.12.7 Memo with list of candidates marked by school district, author unknown, 16 Aug 1993 (2 versions).
- 1.12.8 Action list for referendum, 19 Mar 1996. (2 versions)
- 1.12.9 Notice of meeting, 26 Oct 1994
- 1.12.10 Meeting agenda with handwritten notes, 21 Apr 1995.
- 1.12.11 Meeting agenda with handwritten notes, 17 May 1995.
- 1.12.12 Memo from Bill Mueller to D. Hartweg and S. Wannemacher re packet for meeting, 17 May 1995.
- 1.12.13 Meeting agenda with handwritten notes, 22 May 1995.
- 1.12.14 Meeting agenda with handwritten notes, 1 Jun 1995.
- 1.12.15 Meeting agenda with handwritten notes, 7 Aug 1995.
- 1.12.16 Meeting agenda with handwritten notes, 15 Aug 1995.
- 1.12.17 Memo from Bill Mueller to Committee of Ten re meeting, 25 Aug 1995.
- 1.12.18 Meeting agenda with handwritten notes, 30 Aug 1995.
- 1.12.19 Memo from Bill Mueller re last meeting, 31 Aug 1995.
- 1.12.20 Meeting agenda with handwritten notes, 5 Sep 1995.
- 1.12.21 Memo from Bill Mueller re next meeting, 6 Sep 1995.
- 1.12.22 Meeting agenda with handwritten notes, 13 Sep 1995.
- 1.12.23 Meeting agenda with handwritten notes, 20 Sep 1995.
- 1.12.24 Meeting agenda with handwritten notes, 26 Sep 1995.
- 1.12.25 Memo from Bill Mueller re issues for next meeting, 4 Oct 1995.
- 1.12.26 Meeting agenda with handwritten notes, 11 Oct 1995.
- 1.12.27 Memo from Bill Mueller re next meeting and next public hearing date, 12 Oct 1995.
- 1.12.28 Meeting agenda with handwritten notes, 17 Oct 1995 (2 versions).
- 1.12.29 Meeting agenda with handwritten notes, 8 Nov 1995.
- 1.12.30 Meeting agenda with handwritten notes, 29 Nov 1995.
- 1.12.31 Meeting agenda with handwritten notes, 8 Dec 1995.
- 1.12.32 Meeting agenda with handwritten notes, 26 Jan 1996.
- 1.12.33 Meeting agenda, 2 Feb 1996.
- 1.12.34 Meeting agenda with handwritten notes, 1 Mar 1996.
- 1.12.35 Meeting agenda with handwritten notes, 8 Mar 1996.
- 1.12.36 "Why do-op won't work," handwritten notes, undated.

- 1.12.37 Memo from Bill Mueller to Board members, Len and Dick re Juen 14, 1994 hearing, undated.
- 1.12.38 Calculations of registered voters by school district, undated.
- 1.12.39 Handwritten notes, "improvement of the overall quality of the education systems," undated.
- 1.12.40 Suggested guiding principles, undated.
- 1.12.41 Possible advisory for merger petition, undated.
- 1.12.42 Handwritten memo to Roger, Darrell and Steve re tax rate, undated.
- 1.12.43 Xerox copy of handwritten notes re finance, undated.
- 1.12.44 Notes for January news conference, undated.
- 1.12.45 School board member districts, 27 Sep 1995.
- 1.12.46 Memo to Janella from Dick re class sizes, 29 Jan 1996.
- 1.12.47 Sample ballots for merger, 9 Jan 1996 (3 versions).
- 1.12.48 Possible advisory for merger petition, undated.

**Folder 13: First public meeting, March 1994**

- 1.13.1 Memo from B. Mueller to Dr. Roberts regarding Plan B, 19 Jan 1994
- 1.13.2 Planning notes for Bigness hearing, 21 Feb 1994.
- 1.13.3 Agenda, Informational meeting, 14 Mar 1994, Participants, Dixie Axley and Darrell Hartweg.
- 1.13.4 Announcement of press conference, 8 Mar 1994, prepared statement.
- 1.13.5 Public Hearing, Merger Rational and Perspective, Outline, opening remarks, speaker summaries, 14 Mar 1994.

**Folder 14: Second public meeting, April, 1994**

- 1.14.1 Public hearing: Finances and tax rates, April 5, 1994, opening remarks and potential questions attached.
- 1.14.2 Public hearing: Finances and tax rates, outline, 5 Apr 1994.
- 1.14.3 Public hearing #2, slide presentation, 5 Apr 1994
- 1.14.4 Public hearing #2, outline and opening statement by James Fernstrom (Unit 5), 5 April 1994.
- 1.14.5 Group of notes and documents for 5 Apr 1994 Public Hearing (attached with acco)
  - a) Possible questions – Bill Barry
  - b) Possible questions – Dr. Juday
  - c) Agenda for Public Hearing
  - d) Press release, 24 Mar 1994.
  - e) "Fiscal Gridlock," Pipho, Chris, *Phi Delta Kappan*, Feb 1993, p. 430-1.
  - f) Raw materials for upcoming meeting
  - g) McLean County District #5 Newsletter, Feb 1994

**Folder 15: Public meetings, 1994**

- 1.15.1 Agenda, Public hearing Curriculum/Communications, 9 May 1994.
- 1.15.2 Reports from visiting teams schedule, Site visit hearing, 9 May 1994.

- 1.15.3 Possible questions for Superintendent Hill, May 1994.
- 1.15.4 Opening remarks, Dr. Kathleen Hogan, Public hearing #3, 9 May 1994.
- 1.15.5 Public hearing #3, slide presentation, May 1994.
- 1.15.6 Fax transmission from Superintendent Roberts to William Mueller re 6 Jun 1994 public hearing, 9 May 1994.
- 1.15.7 Statement by Vern McGinnis for 6 Jun 1994 public hearing.
- 1.15.8 Agenda, Public Testimony on Merger, 6 Jun 1994.
- 1.15.9 Notes, handwritten, Steve Ford for presentation at BJHS, undated.
- 1.15.10 Schedule of Merger Forums, Feb and Mar 1994.
- 1.15.11 Transparencies for unknown presentation.
- 1.15.12 Notes, typewritten, Steve Wannemacher, undated.
- 1.15.13 Report of public hearing #2, undated.
- 1.15.14 Report of first public hearing, undated.

**Folder 16: Public meetings, 1995**

- 1.16.1 Memo from B. Mueller to Darrell Hartweg et al re invitations to Kernodle luncheon, 17 Feb 1995.
- 1.16.2 Notes for address to Chamber of Commerce by Superintendent \_\_\_\_\_, 10 Mar 1995.
- 1.16.3 Schedule update for 13 Mar 1994 merger hearing, 5 Mar 1995.
- 1.16.4 Memo from Bob Malito to McLean Co Chamber, re merger facts, 7 Mar 1995.
- 1.16.5 Position statement against merger, Unit 5.
- 1.16.6 Program, Welcome to "Experiencing a Merger," 13 Mar 1995.
- 1.16.7 Notes, Possible questions for Mr. Kernodle at "Experiencing a Merger," with two 1970 clippings regarding proposed merger, undated.
- 1.16.8 Brochures re Guilford County Merger, 1993 – 1994. (2)
- 1.16.9 Notes, Breakfast with Kernodle and Corgan, Mar 1995.
- 1.16.10 Breakfast invitation, 14 Mar 1995.
- 1.16.11 Pre hearing Conference Agenda, undated.
- 1.16.12 Press release, Petition for merger referendum filed today with regional superintendent, 3 Oct 1995.
- 1.16.13 Press release, School consolidation campaign leaders announced, 18 Oct 1995.
- 1.16.14 Press release, news conference re public education issues, 18 Oct 1995.
- 1.16.15 Memo from B. Mueller to Mark Dunn re suggested summary for hearing witnesses, 9 Nov 1995.
- 1.16.16 Merger hearings public information, Nov 14-16, 1995, submitted by McLean County Unit District #5.
- 1.16.17 Opening statement, public hearing on merger referendum, Gilbert L. Dorsey, at the Eureka Company, Nov. 16, 1995.

**Folder 17: Public hearings 1996**

- 1.17.1 Merger speech to Towanda Lions club, 11 Jan 1996, Lloyd Watkins.
- 1.17.2 Memo from Gretchen Monti to members of Speakers Bureau re activities, 4 Mar 1996 .

- 1.17.3 Memo from Gretchen Monti et al to Bob Eckley et al., re new graphics and handouts, 13 Feb 1996.
- 1.17.4 Communication plan draft, 2 Jan 1996.
- 1.17.5 Time schedule of Pre referendum activities.
- 1.17.6 Notes for speech, undated.
- 1.17.7 Speaker's Bureau (name list), Jan 31, 1996.
- 1.17.8 Issues (speaking points), undated.
- 1.17.9 Merger presentation notes, Steve Wannemacher, undated.
- 1.17.10 Presentation notes, Steve Ford (?), undated.
- 1.17.11 Presentation notes, no author, undated.
- 1.17.12 Presentation transparencies on tax rates, undated.
- 1.17.13 Notes for January news conference, undated.
- 1.17.14 Talking points at District 87 building meeting, 4 Mar 1996, author, Gretchen Monti.
- 1.17.15 Schedule of forums, 8 Feb (?) through 14 Mar (?).
- 1.17.16 Handwritten talking points, undated. Alan Chapman, talking points, undated.
- 1.17.17 Position papers, various subjects, 9 pages.
- 1.17.18 Pre Hearing Conference agenda
- 1.17.19 Charge 2 – Institutional sharing, undated

**Folder 18: School finance reports**

- 1.18.1 Financial projections for merger discussions, present to Board of Education, Jan. 26, 1994.
- 1.18.2 Bloomington Public Schools District #87, Financial Projections, 9 Feb 1994.
- 1.18.3 Bloomington Public Schools District #87, Financial Projections, 23 Feb 1994.
- 1.18.4 Financial projections, Bloomington Public Schools, District #87, 9 Mar 1994.
- 1.18.5 Memo from Robert B. Meeker on operating costs per pupil, Jun 29, 1995.
- 1.18.6 Tables comparing tax rates, undated.
- 1.18.7 Unit 5 and District 87 Consolidation Hearing Financial Analysis, Nov. 14, 1995, Robert B. Meeker, Treasurer for Bloomington Public Schools.
- 1.18.8 Miscellaneous financial information labeled "calculation for combined tax rate" by Mueller's office.
- 1.18.9 Bloomington Public Schools 1995 Levy and Levy Budget for 1996- 1997.
- 1.18.10 Memo from William Barry to Robert Meeker re state financial incentives for District 87- Unit 5 Merger, 24 Apr 1995.
- 1.18.11 BPS, Dist 87, Cost per student of various programs, 27 Apr 1995.
- 1.18.12 Bill Barry report on per pupil operating cost for District 87 and Unit 5.

**Folder 19: School finance data**

- 1.19.1 McLean County Clerk's signed statement of taxes collected for District #5, 1990 – 1995.
- 1.19.2 District 87 budget simulations, 1993 & 1995
- 1.19.3 Bloomington Public Schools History of EAV, projected out to 1999.
- 1.19.4 Base data comparing operations for Transportation, Maintenance, Staff and School Lunch Programs

- 1.19.5 District 87 Administrators Salary Scheduling, materials for executive committee, 20 Apr 1994.
- 1.19.6 Confidential memo regarding retirement benefits for administrators, from Carole Ringer to Board, 5 May 1994.
- 1.19.7 Memo, Rick Laleman to Dottie Mitchel et al. re administrator compensation, 29 Apr 1994.
- 1.19.8 District 87 table of salaries of school principals, 1994 – 1995.
- 1.19.9 Statewide administrator salary table with fringe benefit key, 1993 – 1994.
- 1.19.10 Alternate levy, combined 1994 levy for District 87 and Unit 5.
- 1.19.11 Table showing combined tax rates compared to current tax rates.
- 1.19.12 Table showing 1994 tax extensions and rates for District 87 and Unit 5 for consolidated district.
- 1.19.13 1994 Levy for District 87 and Unit 5, General Information.
- 1.19.14 1994 Tax extensions and rates for District 87 and Unit 5.
- 1.19.15 1994 Consolidated tax rate combining 1994 rates from District 87 and Unit 5.
- 1.19.16 1994 Tax rate projected for District 87 and Unit 5.
- 1.19.17 Unit 5 and District 87 comparison of EAV and tax rates from tax year 1989 – 1993.
- 1.19.18 Bloomington Public Schools, Comparison of EAV for city of Bloomington to Dist 87 vs. Unit 5 for 1990 – 1995.
- 1.19.19 Memo from William R. Barry to Robert B. Meeker re state financial incentives for District 87 Unit 5 merger, 24 Apr 1995.

**Folder 20: School labor contracts**

- 1.20.1 Unit 5 teacher's contract
- 1.20.2 Unit 5 Laborer's International Union contract
- 1.20.3 Unit 5 Teacher's assistants contract
- 1.20.4 Unit 5 Certified staff evaluation plan
- 1.20.5 District 87 teacher's contract
- 1.20.6 District 87 Program Assistant Contract

**Box 2**

**Folder 1: School data - Part 1**

- 2.1.1 K-12 Technology Proposals, Unit #5
- 2.1.2 1995- 96 Textbooks list, Grades 9-12
- 2.1.3 Text book lists, 1995-1996
- 2.1.4 Course descriptions, 1996- 1997, grades 9 – 12, District #5.
- 2.1.5 Bloomington Public Schools Elementary Basic Book List 1994- 1995
- 2.1.6 Bloomington High School Course Description Guide 1996- 1997.

**Folder 2: School data – Part 2**

- 2.2.1 Unit 5 Building Administrator salary chart.
- 2.2.2 District 87 organizational chart
- 2.2.3 Table of District 87 financial facts, student enrollment, etc.
- 2.2.4 Table of District 87 educational programs

- 2.2.5 District 87 facilities spreadsheet
- 2.2.6 District 87 Official map
- 2.2.7 Bloomington Public Schools Computer services staff and equipment
- 2.2.8 Narrative comparison of Dist 87 and Unit 5 mainframe computer
- 2.2.9 1994 School year report card district summary for Unit 5 and Dist 87
- 2.2.10 Dist. 87 Title 1 plan and Reading Improvement Program Grant
- 2.2.11 Curriculum Review Procedures, district unspecified, Aug 1987.
- 2.2.12 McLean County Unit 5 IBM contract, undated.

**Folder 3: Miscellaneous**

- 2.3.1 Unit 5 population by township as measured by registered voters.
- 2.3.2 Brochure, "Excellence for our children," 5+87.
- 2.3.3 Bloomington Public Schools Excel, informational brochure, Spring 1996.
- 2.3.4 "Excellence for our Children," Letterhead.
- 2.3.5 "Vote Consolidation," Xerox copy of bumpersticker.
- 2.3.6 Consolidation/ reorganization, outlines for planning reorganization, various authors.
- 2.3.7 Schedule of visits to other cities with names of participants, undated.
- 2.3.8 Campaign Committee contact information.
- 2.3.9 Key dates, deadlines and time frames associated with petitions under Articles 11A, 11B, 11D, and 7A.
- 2.3.10 Suggested names for merger committee
- 2.3.11 School merger – issues and positions
- 2.3.12 Volunteer/support response form
- 2.3.13 Form letter promoting consolidation
- 2.3.14 Form letter re referendum
- 2.3.15 List of names of petition passers.
- 2.3.16 Excellence for our children, staff and supporters list.
- 2.3.17 Excellence for our children, campaign committee contact information.
- 2.3.18 Contact list, Coalition for Excellence in Education, 22 Dec 1995
- 2.3.19 5+87 Merger Campaign Committee Organizational Chart
- 2.3.20 Potential additional finance committee members
- 2.3.21 Legal description and map of proposed school district, undated
- 2.3.22 List of members of Citizens Advisory Council (ANTI Merger group).
- 2.3.23 List of Geographical locations questioned for alignment with school district
- 2.3.24 List of school district divisions and number of voters in each division, from County Clerk's office, 9 Nov 1995.
- 2.3.25 List of media for press releases.

**Folder 4: Committee finance records**

- 2.4.1 Cash report, Jan. 19, 1996.
- 2.4.2 Cash report, March 1, 1996.
- 2.4.3 Cash report, March 8, 1996.
- 2.4.4 Dunn, Ulbrich handwritten invoice, undated
- 2.4.5 Dunn, Ulbrich invoice, Dec. 4, 1995.

#### **Folder 5: Public responses**

- 2.5.1 Steve Peterson, WJBC Forum, 22 Oct 1995.
- 2.5.2 Citizens for Cooperation flyer, undated.
- 2.5.3 Phone call report through 28 Feb (?)
- 2.5.4 Communications Committee Report, 1 Mar 1996
- 2.5.5 Phone bank report, 8 Mar 1996.
- 2.5.6 George Gordon, WJBC Forum, 18 Oct 1995.
- 2.5.7 Brenda W. Melcher.
- 2.5.8 Letter to editor, David Stuart
- 2.5.9 Letter to editor, Jodi Leary
- 2.5.10 WJBC Forum, Lloyd Watkins
- 2.5.11 John D. Wenum, written statement
- 2.5.12 William Semlak, Pantagraph guest commentary
- 2.5.13 Unit Five Education Association statements
- 2.5.14 Unit Five Education Association survey results
- 2.5.15 Cindi Pieper, letter requesting information at Hoose PTO meeting
- 2.5.16 George Stimeling, 3 page opinion also published in Pantagraph 1 May 1995

#### **Folder 6: Journal articles, publications**

- 2.6.1 “Establishing fair salaries for school administrators,” Terry B. Grier and M. Donald Thomas, *ERS Spectrum*, Fall 1993, pp. 13 – 15.
- 2.6.2 “Small schools, great expectations, Thomas J. Sergiovanni, *Educational Leadership*, Nov 1995, p. 48 – 54.
- 2.6.3 “Business helps Charlotte Mecklenburg win 1995 community award,” *Work America*, Apr 1995.
- 2.6.4 Press release, WJBC, regarding WJBC survey regarding merger, 21 Jun 1993
- 2.6.5 “North Chicago dissolution meets with constitutional challenge,” IASB Newsbulletin, 30 Jun 1993.
- 2.6.6 “School District Reorganization,” chapter from unidentified book.

#### **Folder 7: Guilford County**

- 2.7.1 Brochure, “Why School Consolidation is the Best Way to Improve Our Schools.”
- 2.7.2 Letter from Warren G. Corgan to Dr. Richard Sens re editorial by Corgan, 15 Mar 1995.
- 2.7.3 Memo from John Kernodle to Janella Cooley re visit to North Carolina and NC consolidation campaign, 16 May 1995.
- 2.7.4 Guildford School organizational chart.
- 2.7.5 Packet of consolidation materials from Guildford.
- 2.7.6 Letter from Warren G. Corgan re promotional items used for Guildford merger, 30 May 1995.
- 2.7.7 “Facts about our public school,” Guilford statement, undated.

- 2.7.8 “Fiscal aspects of the Guilford County school systems,” Coalition for better education in Guilford County.
- 2.7.9 “Merger in Perspective,” Coalition for better education in Guilford County.
- 2.7.10 “Merger bill – why shouldn’t the cities have their own school systems,” Coalition for better education in Guilford County.
- 2.7.11 Letter to state legislators, Coalition for better education in Guilford County, 10 Apr 1991.
- 2.7.12 Press release, Coalition for better education in Guilford County, 6 Apr 1991.
- 2.7.13 Rebuttal to opposition to merger in Guilford County.
- 2.7.14 Memo from John Kernodle to Janella Conley with CV, 17 Feb 1995.

**Folder 8:           Petition Signatures**

**Folder 9:           Newspaper clippings**

**Folder 10:         Xeroxed newspaper clippings**