



Minuteman
School of Applied Arts & Sciences

cc: BOS
FINCOM
SCHOOL COMM.
ALG

March 26, 2003

RE ART. 29

PAM, PLS. NOTE

Subject: **Details for Towns Exploring
the Alternative of a Low-Figure
Assessment While Supporting Minuteman**

To:

Don Johnson
Town Manager
Acton

MAR 27 2003

4/7/03 (5)

As a final clarification, we are asking each town that is unable to use our official House-1-related assessment figure to consider this option based upon our DOR, legislation, and attorney conversations:

1. **Present this motion/proposal to Town Meeting as drafted by Ropes & Gray for Lexington and Minuteman - -**

Moved: Minuteman Regional School District assessment based on a Minuteman Regional School District Budget of \$15,443,465 as reduced by estimated fiscal 2004 state aid relating to such budget ... **Town Figure**

2. **Commit to the ethical intent of the alternative - -** Intention to support our \$15,443,465 budget but gambling that what we are now being told by the Legislators will happen. In other words, using a 20% aid cut estimate by legislators instead of the Governor's 70%+ aid cut.

Frankly, either way, we'll do our best to be true partners with member towns:

1. If the Governor's proposal did get endorsed, we WOULD cut our budget even more than we already have. **See section 8 of our new budget pamphlet.**
2. If you use the lower assessment figure based upon best current information from legislators but **being sure to state intent to support our budget AND** final aid figures become different than anything we can anticipate now, we assume you would work with us and vice versa to do our best for each other.

Clearly, the worst thing a town could do to Minuteman now is to propose some assessment figure that is neither House-1 based nor a budget-supporting gamble on legislator estimates of aid. That would be a budget turn-down and would leave the district in a chaotic situation.

Please call Tom Markham or myself if this is getting too confusing and you have questions. Thanks for your patience.

Sincerely,

Ron Fitzgerald
Ron Fitzgerald
Superintendent

C. Fincom Chairman
Charles Olmstead

Minuteman Regional High School

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March 26, 2003

Minuteman Region
Superintendent's Office

Motion Prepared by Ropes & Gray

Moved:

Minuteman Regional School
District assessment based on
a Minuteman Regional School
District Budget of \$15,443,465
as reduced by estimated fiscal
2004 state aid relating to such
budget

_____ (town figure)*

*For Acton = \$825,918

Ron Fitzgerald
Ron Fitzgerald, Supt.