The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m. Prior to roll call Mr. Gildea introduced new members Rich Bshara and Joshua Shuart.

**Roll Call**

**Ansonia members:**
- Steven Adamowski – Treasurer- present
- Joseph Jaumann present
- Christopher Phipps present
- Rich Bshara present
- Joshua Shuart present

**Derby Members:**
- Jim Gildea - Co Chair present
- George Kurtyska – Secretary present
- Tara Hyder present
- Ronald Luneau, Jr excused
- Barbara DeGennaro arrived at 7:08 pm

**Also Present:**
- Dr. Matthew Conway – Derby Superintendent of Schools
- Dr. Joseph DiBacco – Ansonia Superintendent of Schools
- John DiCarlo, NVCOG Director of Municipal Shared Services

**Public Portion**

No one came forward and public portion was closed.

**TRSSC Legislative Status**

The Derby Board of Alderman and Alderwoman has voted to extend the committee until February 6, 2022.

The Ansonia Board of Alderman has voted to extend the committee for two more years.
Approval of minutes
Motion by Joseph Jaumann and seconded by Steven Adamowski. Move to approve the minutes of November 25, 2019, as written. Motion carried with Rich Bshara and Joshua Shuart abstaining.

Motion by George Kurtyka and seconded by Christopher Phipps. Move to approve the minutes of December 9, 2019, as written. Motion carried with Rich Bshara and Joshua Shuart abstaining.

Treasurer’s Report
Dr. Adamowski advised that all previously approved invoices have been paid. He mentioned the invoice that was tabled at the last meeting. Members discussed what has been paid to date and what is remaining. An invoice to District Management Group (DMG) for phases 1.4 to 1.8 in the amount of $23,100.00 was tabled last month. Members determined that additional materials were needed from the consultant to satisfy the members understanding of that phase of the contract. It was determined that a partial payment of $13,600 was agreeable and the remaining $9,500 would remain open until the work is complete.

Motion by Steven Adamowski and seconded by Christopher Phipps. Move partial payment of the invoice in the amount of $13,600 to District Management Group. Motion carried unanimously.

2020 Annual Meeting Schedule
Members reviewed their calendars to determine availability. After discussion it was decided to maintain the approved dates with the change that the first Wednesday meeting would start at 7:30 PM and the fourth Monday would be at 7:00 PM. One exception is November 4th and it was agreed to move that date to November 5th. The locations will alternate between Ansonia and Derby.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>First Wednesday (unless stated) At 7:30 PM</th>
<th>Fourth Monday (unless stated) At 7:00 PM</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>February 5, 2020</td>
<td>February 24, 2020</td>
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<td>March 4, 2020</td>
<td>March 23, 2020</td>
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<td>April 1, 2020</td>
<td>April 27, 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 6, 2020</td>
<td>May 2020 (TBD)</td>
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<td>June 3, 2020</td>
<td>June 22, 2020</td>
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<td>July 1, 2020</td>
<td>July 27, 2020</td>
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<td>August 5, 2020</td>
<td>August 24, 2020</td>
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<td>September 2, 2020</td>
<td>September 28, 2020</td>
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<td>October 7, 2020</td>
<td>October 26, 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 5, 2020 Thursday</td>
<td>November 23, 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 2, 2020</td>
<td>December 28, 2020</td>
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</table>
Motion by Joseph Jaumann and seconded by George Kurtyka. Move to adopt the 2020 meeting schedule, as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

Review section 1 Regionalization in Connecticut, Consultant’s Report
Members suggested developing the plan of academics and programming to determine what level of regionalization would likely serve the preferred model that would be formulated during the discussion.

Review section 2 Academics and Programming, Consultant's Report
Members discussed the unique programs and curriculum in each city. Derby has recently developed an enrichment program (LEAP) for gifted and talented students in the elementary and middle schools. Ansonia and Derby curriculum have different offerings. Members discussed how courses could merge and how would that impact the staffing needs. Further, the two cities would have to review and determine the requirements for graduation. The total numbers of credits, the years of a certain course, etc. would have to be reviewed to make certain that it is attainable and that college entry requirements are met. Further, will regionalization not only address the necessity of need but will it also extend to enrich the overall educational experience. The desired goal is not simply studying the financial benefits but also the impacts on the quality of education. Members felt that the consultants may be able to offer a vision of a merged curriculum. They may provide models from other districts with similar characteristics to Derby and Ansonia. Mr. Gildea asked the two superintendents if it would be possible to present their vision of the curriculum over the next five years. The pathways to graduation should be clarified to determine if the structure not only provides advancement to college but also to other career opportunities and does it offer a diverse level of study. Looking at the central offices and the potential merge, that administrative structure was discussed. Administrative positions and specific directors are different in each of the cities.

Members weighed how the committee should move forward on defining the curriculum model verses how much would fall upon the new regional district if it was formed. It was discussed how much the committee should define so as to present a clearer picture when this would be presented for referendum. Members questioned if the potential cost projections are taking into account the merged curriculum and the impacts on staffing or are the numbers and costs simply reflective of the existing costs. Will there be expanded access to broader curriculum or will there be limited access and limited space resulting in a more confined result. It also seems that the mental health and stress of a merger is being understated. Students and staff would be entering a vastly different experience. It was noted that if the referendum did pass, it will then take possibly two years prior to the implementation. A point was raised as to the high suspension rate that was identified and it was suggested that during this process the issue should be studied so as to determine the appropriate direction to reduce or manage this rate.

Point of Good Order and Public Portion
Nothing was presented.

Adjourn
Motion by Joshua Shuart and seconded by George Kurtyka. Move to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 PM. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted;
Karen Kemmesies