



How New Hampshire Provides Small Towns with Access to Schools



This report clarifies the school policies of small districts, with the goal of helping parents, lawmakers, and other stakeholders become better informed about their options. In local school choice circles, the common wisdom is that about 15 small towns in New Hampshire do not have schools with the full range of grades in their districts. Actually, of the 180 NH districts, there are at least 50 such districts (about 28 percent of the total). When you add the towns in cooperative school districts, the number jumps to 83 (46 percent of the total).



How do these small districts provide the missing grades? In New Hampshire most of the taxes that contribute to schools are collected by the towns through property taxes and distributed by the school district.¹ Some of those expenses are reimbursed by a state-level appropriation, termed “adequacy” funds.² While large towns and cities can afford to build schools for all grade levels, smaller towns may not have the capacity to build and maintain schools for every grade, even with additional state funds, so they use other methods to send all their children to school. The small town of Croydon is a case in point.



Croydon (population 764) has the longest continuously running one-room schoolhouse in the country. The school houses grades K-4, which currently has fewer than 30 students. The town allows the small remaining student body (fewer than 60 students in grades 5 through 12) to attend the school of their choice — public or private — with a capped amount of tuition dollars following the student. A handful of these students have chosen a nearby private Montessori school. The New Hampshire Department of Education (NHDOE) is currently challenging the town over this plan, which has been reported in the news regularly over the past year.³ The NHDOE believes that the town tuitioning dollars can only flow to public schools, and so it has threatened to withhold Croydon’s state aid for every child going to a private school using tax dollars. In addition, it has filed an injunction against the school district sending their students to private schools at all.

While the debate in Croydon may seem new, the method of tuitioning is not. Town tuitioning has been law in New Hampshire for over a century, as evidenced by the length of time many districts have been paying for students to attend schools in NH and in neighboring states. Of all the means of providing all grade levels for small towns, it is the oldest, simplest, most straightforward, and most easily tailored to the needs of students, parents, and towns.

1 Unless otherwise formally changed, each town in New Hampshire has its own school district.

2 In 1997, the New Hampshire Supreme Court heard a case from the Claremont school district involving the equitability of local taxes. Beyond its effect on funding, the Claremont case increased state scrutiny over districts in the name of assuring “educational adequacy”. This began state “adequacy” funding.

3 <http://www.unionleader.com/Give-Croydon-a-choice-Hassan-should-sign-education-bill>

History of Tuitioning

For more than a century, small New Hampshire towns have been using tuitioning to send students to private schools, schools in other states, and public academies. Of all the means of providing all grade levels for small towns, it is the oldest.



States like New Hampshire, Vermont, and Maine have a longstanding history of school funding decisions made at a very local level. Vermont’s first tuitioning statute⁴ was passed in 1869 and expanded in 1902 with Act 27 to cover tuition for out-of-state schools. In 1927, the Vermont Legislature affirmed Act 31, stating that town school boards could send students to schools inside or outside the district at the parent’s request – even if the grade was offered in the district. Maine’s practice of tuitioning⁵ was established in 1873, when the state said that towns without a high school must pay tuition at an approved secondary school, which could be public or private.

For New Hampshire, local control has been the standard since districts were initially established in 1885⁶. Monies for education are raised and appropriated at the town level.⁷ Contracts with specific schools, even those in other states, have been used as far back as 1874.⁸ It wasn’t until 1912 that districts were formally given the authority to accept students from other districts.⁹

Tuitioning in NH was formally established in 1901 for any district that did not offer all K-12 grades. Until 1949,¹⁰ districts could send their children to private schools. While a 1949 change to one statute limited the choice to public schools and public academies,¹¹ other statutes grant school districts the power to make contracts with “other literary institutions.” We can say, at the very least, that the statutes are inconsistent with respect to this issue.

Border towns in New Hampshire that tuition out of state have long benefited from choice in Vermont and Maine, being able to send their students to private schools in those states. But when other New Hampshire towns seek to do the same thing with private schools in New Hampshire, suddenly the NHDOE sees a problem.

Fast-forward to today’s debate over tuitioning, which has gained new relevance in the wake of Croydon’s dispute with NHDOE.

4 <http://www.cato.org/pubs/briefs/bp-067es.html>

5 http://jrre.vhost.psu.edu/wp-content/uploads/2014/02/8-1_3.pdf

6 Title XV Section 194:1

7 Title XV Section 189:50 & Title XV Section 194:5

8 Title XV Section 194:22

9 Title XV Section 194:14

10 Chapter 139, page 131 of the NH Senate Journal 1949 scanned by the University of New Hampshire <http://www.library.unh.edu/digital/object/lawsnh:0040>

11 A public academy is a type of school not strictly defined by NHDOE but examples include Coe-Brown Northwood Academy and Pinkerton Academy.

Croydon's tuitioning plan, which started in 2014, arose from the town's exit from an AREA agreement it had with the Newport school district. The New Hampshire Board of Education recommended against the withdrawal for reasons unrelated to the plan to send students to private schools. In its feedback on the plan, it said only that private schools need to be approved. All of the private schools to which Croydon allows students to be tuitioned are approved for attendance by NHDOE. But NHDOE claims that they must be approved for curriculum – a standard that, if met, would force them to effectively become public schools.

In the recent legislative session, advocates of school choice introduced HB 1637. This bill removed the inconsistency that was introduced in 1949 by making it clear that private schools are legal options in tuitioning agreements. It also removed the ambiguity around the word "approved" by making it clear that approval for attendance is sufficient. This bill was passed by both the House and the Senate, but vetoed by the governor.



A Review of Options Available in Small Towns

Today, there are three ways that small towns provide their students access to all grades: **cooperative districts**, **AREA agreements**, and **tuition agreements**. Having access to all the different types of agreements gives towns the flexibility to determine which is best for their particular situation.

COOPERATIVE DISTRICTS

One option for a small district is to become part of a cooperative district. A cooperative agreement applies only to a specified grade range, typically high school, rather than all grades. The districts remain distinct entities but may have joint finances for the applicable grades.

One example of a cooperative district is Governor Wentworth Regional School District, which provides all grades. Wentworth contains the towns of Brookfield, Effingham, New Durham, Ossipee, Tuftonboro and Wolfeboro. Only Effingham and Wolfeboro have all grades, and the other towns have access to their schools as part of the cooperative district.

A second example is the Exeter Region School District, which provides grades 6-12 to the towns of Kensington, Newfields, Stratham, Brentwood, East Kingston, and of course Exeter. Each district maintains a K-5 school. All these districts, including Exeter Regional, are part of SAU 16¹² and have their own school boards in addition to the SAU 16 joint school board. This allows each to pass its own budget, hear issues, and enter into agreements separately without intervention from another district.

¹² A School Administrative Unit (SAU) is a level of bureaucracy that allows districts to share administrative expenses such as management of accounts payable, facility maintenance, teacher payroll, and superintendent duties.



AREA AND TUITION AGREEMENTS

The most popular method of providing a missing grade level is to enter into either an AREA or a tuition agreement.¹³ They differ slightly; tuition agreements are more informal and may be orally agreed on, but they serve the same purpose. Several districts use tuition agreements to send students to public schools, private schools, or out-of-state schools. Tuition agreements can be set up to be renewed yearly, or can go for as long as the two districts decide. These agreements sometimes require the sending district to send a minimum number of its students to the receiving district, for example, 90% of the student body.

An AREA agreement is approved by the receiving and sending school districts and will last for a minimum of 10 years. The agreement can be modified after its third anniversary with the approval of all involved school districts; the process is described in RSA 195-A:14. AREA plans typically require all students in particular grades from the sending district to attend the receiving district schools, though the two districts can agree on fewer students.

AREA agreements have milestones at which the districts may re-evaluate the agreement to see if it is still productive. Dummer school district, for example, chose to withdraw from its agreement with Berlin in 2009. The two parties then entered into a tuition agreement. Dummer's school board may hold joint board meetings with other districts as necessary.



Sending districts may find it difficult to end an AREA agreement without an opt-out clause, and may face severe penalties for doing so. Auburn, Candia, and Hookset, for example, are in dramatic (and expensive) battles to withdraw from agreements each has with Manchester School District. These three districts comprised the Hookset SAU, but between them, they still could not offer high school grades. The districts had been sending students to Manchester School District but wished to end their contract early, citing a decline in the quality of education offered there. Auburn and Hookset have already withdrawn, with Hookset paying Manchester a penalty of \$800,000 for four years¹⁴, and Candia voters approved a move in March 2016.¹⁵ Pending any intervention by the state school board, the district will have a 10-year tuition agreement with Pinkerton Academy. This tuition agreement allows Hooksett students to choose to attend high school at Pinkerton, Pembroke Academy, Bow High School, Londonderry High School, or Manchester West or Central high schools.



In contrast, Croydon recently exited an AREA agreement with Newport with little fanfare. The process started in 2007 when the town residents were surveyed to see if they wanted to expand their educational choices. After following the many steps outlined in RSA 195-A:14. The town finally voted on the withdrawal in 2012, with school choice starting in the 2014-15 school year.

There has lately been a trend for districts to end AREA agreements and arrange more flexible tuition agreements.

13 AREA agreements are governed by Chapter 195A of the New Hampshire Statutes.

14 Discussed in phone interview.

15 <http://nutfieldnews.net/2016/03/candia-approves-20-year-tuition-contract-with-pinkerton-academy/>

SUMMARY: OPTIONS FOR TOWNS WITH MISSING GRADES

Cooperative District	A district composed of two or more school districts associated together under the provisions of RSA 195 and may include elementary schools, secondary schools, or both.
Authorized Regional Enrollment Area (AREA)	A contract between two or more districts that defines an assigned school or schools for all the resident pupils of the school districts in the agreement for specified grades, according to RSA 195-A.
Tuition Agreement	An agreement between districts or between a district and a school that establishes a tuition rate for accepting students, and may establish the percentage of students that will attend the school.

How We Found School Options for Towns

The focus of this study is to provide information about what districts are doing to ensure that students have access to a formal education at every grade level. The NHDOE keeps a list of AREA agreements¹⁶ and cooperative school districts¹⁷ but neither is up to date, nor could we find a list of towns with tuition agreements.¹⁸

To delve deeper, we used the directory of schools published by the NHDOE to create a list of every district and every school, arranged by town. We did further research for districts that did not offer classes at every grade. We did not simply assume that a district would automatically have access to other nearby schools; we clarified all cases. Of the 180 districts in the state, 50, or 28 percent, were identified as not having schools with every grade; these districts are listed in detail in the appendix. There may be even more than that, since most cooperative school districts are not included in the list. We started the next step of research by assuming that these districts would have an AREA or tuition agreement and sought out their details.

While we found 50 districts that lack some grades, the NHDOE identified only 33.¹⁹ One reason is that the DOE does not take tuition or AREA agreements into consideration when it makes its list. In some cases, the department lists a district as having grades K-12, even though some of those grades are provided through a AREA, tuition, or cooperative agreement and not directly by the district. This is why, for example, the department’s list says that Croydon has PS-12 while it only has K-4, that Albany has all grades despite having a tuition agreement with Conway for all grades, and that Amherst has grades P-8 while it is in the Souhegan Cooperative District for grades 9-12. This may be confusing for parents looking to move to the area.

If we could not readily find the details of an agreement through the district’s website, school board meeting minutes, or news reports, then we contacted the district directly. As a result, we placed over 100 calls to

16 <http://education.nh.gov/data/authorized.htm>

17 http://education.nh.gov/data/documents/coop_formulas15.pdf

18 Some oral and unrecorded tuition agreements simply state that the receiving district will bill the sending district for tuition costs. They sometimes also informally agree that once accepted, students will be able to continue attending a school until graduation. For towns with very few students or who provide school choice, this is a practical approach.

19 <http://my.doe.nh.gov/Profiles/PublicReports/PublicReports.aspx?ReportName=SchoolList>



districts that were marked as lacking at least one grade to confirm how it provided for every grade. We contacted a school board member, if possible, and failing that, the SAU finance administrator. If neither option was available, the district office administrative assistant spoke on behalf of the district.

It was necessary to use such a direct and intensive method of data collection because there is no comprehensive published record of the schools to which towns send their children, which means that parents do not readily have the information they need. Currently, they must do as we have done for this study, which is to call each district and ask. A parent may not even know what options are available within his or her own district without contacting the district directly.

What We Found: A Variety of Arrangements

New Hampshire school districts use a wide variety of means to provide for the education of children. When tuition or AREA agreements are involved, some districts allow parents a high degree of choice and pay full tuition to any high school covered by the agreement, while some set a cap for the tuition they will pay, usually based on the school of record.

The schools listed below illustrate the variety of arrangements:

- **Barrington School District** has a tuition agreement with Oyster River School District,²⁰ but it also gives parents the option of sending their students to Coe-Brown Northwood Academy or Dover High School.
- **Chatham** tuitions to Maine for grades K-8 and to Coe-Brown Academy for high school.
- **Jackson** lacks grades 7-12. This K-6 district tuitions to Josiah Bartlett for grades 7-8 and maintains an AREA agreement with Conway for high school. Jackson is required to pay toward a 20-year bond that has inflated its cost to about \$23,000 per student.²¹
- **Piermont** tuitions to St Johnsburry Academy for high school, a private school in Vermont.
- **Rollinsford** withdrew from an agreement with Somersworth and now tuitions out-of-state to Marshwood in Maine.



Under state law, parents have the right to submit a “manifest educational hardship” petition to send their children to a school outside their district. We have shown in this report that many districts are taking steps to give parents flexibility in schooling without making them go through this (potentially complex) petitioning process.

20 http://www.orcsd.org/images/documents/business_operations/WA_6_Barrington_Tuition_Agreement.pdf

21 Statement from Jackson School Board

While New Hampshire parents and districts enjoy some flexibility under current law, current political battles may bring it to an end. The NHDOE has taken steps to intervene in withdrawal cases, even, in one case, refusing to recognize it after voters and the local school board had approved the action. It did so in the name of protecting the districts (and children) involved. But its intervention defies the decision of parents and town residents who have democratically voted to withdraw. It also defies the law, which says that the town vote gets the *final say* in a withdrawal and that role of the state DOE is only to review the withdrawal plan. When the people in local districts do not know the law, they have little choice but to follow whatever state employees direct them to do.

Sound policy dictates that parents – rather than unelected bureaucrats – must be able to hold school officials accountable for the education that their children receive. Every level of government involved in education should answer directly to parents, who are the primary advocates for their children. It defies logic for the state DOE to intervene, as it has done in Croydon, and claim to advocate for children when its advocacy is in conflict with the advocacy of the parents and the town.



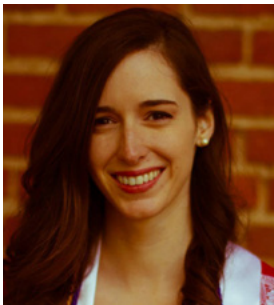
About the Authors



Jody S. Underwood, Ph.D., Education Fellow

Jody has served on the town of Croydon School Board since 2010. She was the chair for four years, until 2016 when she became the school board Secretary and School Choice Liaison. During that time, she completed the withdrawal from an AREA agreement and put into place a formal tuition agreement with the neighboring Newport school district, and met with superintendents and school board members from districts and private schools in the area about accepting Croydon students to their schools through informal tuition agreements.

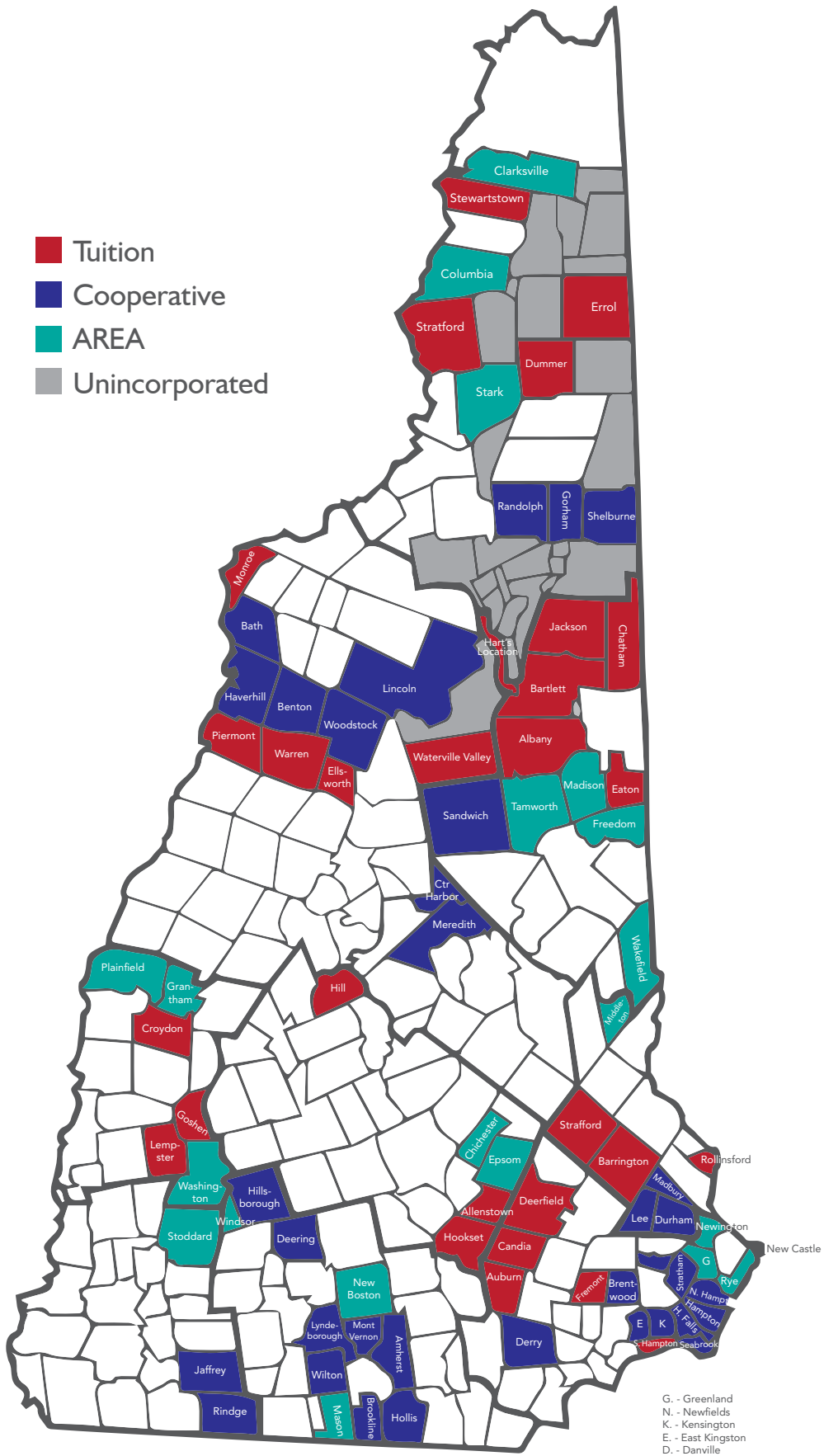
Dr. Underwood received her B.S. in computer science from Hofstra University, her M.S. in computer science with a focus on artificial intelligence from Rutgers University, and her Ph.D. in Education with a focus on cognitive science from The Technion-Israel Institute of Technology. She has conducted research and development around the use of technology in the classroom since 1987.



Catherine Konieczny, Research Associate

Prior to her work as a research associate with Granite Institute, Catherine worked for the John Locke Foundation in Raleigh, NC. There, she managed a long term research project to track economic development spending across the state that resulted in a new transparency requirement for counties to report their spending. She also helped write a line-item alternative version of the State Budget that impacted an amendment to the final Senate Budget.

Catherine received her bachelor's degree in economics from North Carolina State University in 2016. She will begin pursuit of her M.A. in economics at George Mason University this fall.





DISTRICT/TOWN	COUNTY	SAU	AGREEMENT TYPE	RECEIVING SCHOOL/DISTRICT	SCHOOL TYPE	NOTES
Albany	Carroll	Conway	Tuition	Conway	Public	Previously sent 2 students to Robert Frost Charter School, could tuition to PACE Career Academy Charter School
Allenstown	Merrimack	Pembroke	Tuition	PACE Career Academy Charter School	Charter	
Amherst	Hillsborough	Amherst	Cooperative	Souhegan Coop High School	Public	Grades 9-12 included in cooperative.
Auburn	Rockingham	Hookset	Tuition	Pinkerton Academy Manchester District	Academy Public	Under withdraw study due to lack of quality education provided under current agreement.
Barrington	Strafford	Barrington	Tuition	Coe-Brown Academy Dover High School Oyster River High School	Academy Public Public	Parents have some choice between the high schools
Bartlett	Carroll	Conway	Tuition	Jackson, Conway	Public	
Bath	Grafton	Haverhill Cooperative	Cooperative	Haverhill/Lisbon	Public	Parents have choice in sending to Lisbon or Haverhill. Haverhill agreement renewed through 2021.
Benton	Grafton	Haverhill Cooperative	Cooperative	Haverhill	Public	Renewed through 2021
Brentwood	Rockingham	Exeter	Cooperative	Exeter Region Cooperative	Public	Grades 6-12 included in cooperative.
Brookline	Hillsborough	Hollis-Brookline	Cooperative	Hollis-Brookline Cooperative	Public	Grades 7-12 included in cooperative.
Candia	Rockingham	Hookset	Tuition	Manchester Pinkerton Academy	Public Academy	Seeking withdraw and wishing to tuition to Pinkerton due to lack of quality education provided under current agreement.
Center Harbor	Belknap	Inter-Lakes Cooperative	Cooperative	Inter-Lakes Elementary School (P-4) Sandwich Central School (K-6) Inter-Lakes Middle Tier (5-8) Inter-Lakes High School (9-12)	Public	All grades included in cooperative.
Chatham	Carroll	Conway	Tuition	Fryeburg Academy Coe-Brown Academy	Private (Maine) Academy	Parents may request to send to Conway but would pay any tuition difference.
Chichester	Merrimack	Pembroke	AREA	Pembroke	Public	
Clarksville	Coos	Colebrook	AREA	Pittsburg	Public	
Columbia	Coos	Colebrook	AREA	Colebrook	Public	
Croydon	Sullivan	Croydon	Tuition	Various	Public/Private	Withdrew from AREA agreement with Newport.
Deerfield	Rockingham	Pembroke	Tuition	Concord	Public	
Deering	Hillsborough	Hillsboro-Deering	Cooperative	Hillsboro-Deering	Public	All grades included in cooperative.
Derry	Rockingham	Derry Cooperative	Cooperative	Derry Cooperative	Public	All grades included in cooperative.
Dummer	Coos	Gorham	Tuition	Berlin	Public	Revised AREA agreement with Berlin to a tuition agreement.
Durham	Strafford	Oyster River	Cooperative	Oyster River Middle School (5-8), Oyster River High School (9-12),	Public Public	Grades 5-12 included in cooperative.



DISTRICT/TOWN	COUNTY	SAU	AGREEMENT TYPE	RECEIVING SCHOOL/DISTRICT	SCHOOL TYPE	NOTES
East Kingston	Rockingham	Exeter	Cooperative	Exeter Region Cooperative	Public	Grades 6-12 included in cooperative.
Eaton	Carroll	Conway	Tuition	Conway	Public	Parents may choose options within Conway but would have to cover transportation costs.
Ellsworth	Grafton	Plymouth	Tuition	Campton Elementary Plymouth Elementary Plymouth High School	Public Public Public	Verbal tuition agreements for elementary schools (K-8), all students go to Plymouth High School.
Epsom	Merrimack	Pembroke	AREA	Pembroke	Public	
Errol	Coos	Gorham	Tuition	Berlin, Colebrook	Public	
Freedom	Carroll	Tamworth	AREA	Conway	Public	
Fremont	Rockingham	Fremont	Tuition	Sanborn Regional in Kingston	Public	
Gorham	Coos	Gorham	Cooperative	Gorham Randolph Shelburne Cooperative School District	Public	All grades included in cooperative.
Goshen	Sullivan	Goshen-Lempster	Tuition	Newport, Sunapee, Keene, Claremont, Fall Mountain, and Kearsarge	Public	Ended cooperative district with Lempster in 2014. Now tuitions to several districts.
Grantham	Sullivan	Grantham	AREA	Lebanon	Public	
Greenland	Rockingham	Greenland	AREA	Portsmouth	Public	
Hampton	Rockingham	Hampton	Cooperative	Winnacunnet HS	Public	Grades 9-12 included in cooperative.
Hampton Falls	Rockingham	Hampton	Cooperative	Winnacunnet HS	Public	Grades 9-12 included in cooperative.
Hart's Location	Carroll	Conway	Tuition	Bartlett, Conway	Public	
Haverhill	Grafton	Haverhill Cooperative	Cooperative	Woodsville Elementary School (K-3) Woodsville High School (9-12)	Public	Grades 4-8 utilized in cooperative.
Hill	Merrimack	Franklin	Tuition	Newfound Area	Public	Previously had AREA agreement with Franklin before 2004
Hillsborough	Coos	Hillsboro-Deering	Cooperative	Hillsboro-Deering	Public	All grades included in cooperative.
Hollis	Hillsborough	Hollis-Brookline	Cooperative	Hollis-Brookline Middle School Hollis-Brookline High School	Public Public	Grades 7-12 included in cooperative.
Hookset	Merrimack	Hookset	Tuition	Pinkerton Academy	Academy	Withdrew from Manchester agreement, Pinkerton is currently school of record.
Jackson	Carroll	Conway	Tuition	Bartlett, Conway	Public	Agreement mandates that Jackson must pay Conway whether or not student attends. 20 year bond inflates costs.
Jaffrey	Cheshire	Jaffrey-Rindge Cooperative	Cooperative	Jaffrey-Rindge Middle School (6-8)	Public	Grades 6-8 included in cooperative.
Kensington	Rockingham	Exeter	Cooperative	Exeter Region Cooperative	Public	Grades 6-12 included in cooperative.
Lee	Strafford	Oyster River	Cooperative	Oyster River Middle School (5-8) Oyster River High School	Public Public	Grades 5-12 included in cooperative.



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Lempster	Sullivan	Goshen-Lempster	Tuition	Newport, Sunapee, Keene, Claremont, Fall Mountain, and Kearsarge	Public	Ended cooperative district with Goshen in 2014 and maintains an elementary school while tuitioning for high school grades.
Lincoln	Grafton	Lincoln-Woodstock	Cooperative	Lin-Wood Public School	Public	All grades included in cooperative.
Lyndeborough	Hillsborough	Wilton	Cooperative	Wilton-Lyndeborough Cooperative	Public	All grades included in cooperative, previously its own district that dissolved in 2010.
Madbury	Strafford	Oyster River	Cooperative	Oyster River Middle School (5-8) Oyster River High School	Public Public	Grades 5-12 included in cooperative.
Madison	Carroll	Tamworth	AREA	Conway	Public	
Mason	Hillsborough	Mason	AREA	Milford Schools	Public	
Meredith	Belknap	Inter-Lakes Cooperative	Cooperative	Inter-Lakes Elementary School (P-4), Sandwich Central School (K-6), Inter-Lakes Middle Tier (5-8), Inter-Lakes High School (9-12),	Public	All grades included in cooperative.
Middleton	Strafford	Farmington	AREA	Farmington	Public	
Monroe	Grafton	Monroe	Tuition	St. Johnsbury Academy and area vocational school	Private (VT)	
Mont Vernon	Hillsborough	Amherst	Cooperative	Souhegan Coop High School	Public	Grades 9-12 included in cooperative.
New Boston	Hillsborough	Goffstown	AREA	Mountain View and Goffstown	Public	
New Castle	Rockingham	Greenland	Tuition	Rye	Public	Voting to give options between Portsmouth and Rye, previously had an AREA agreement with Portsmouth only.
Newfields	Rockingham	Exeter	Cooperative	Exeter Region Cooperative	Public	Grades 6-12 included in cooperative.
Newington	Rockingham	Greenland	AREA	Portsmouth	Public	
North Hampton	Rockingham	Hampton	Cooperative	Winnacunnet HS	Public	Grades 9-12 included in cooperative.
Piermont	Grafton	Haverhill Cooperative	Tuition	St. Johnsbury Academy	Private (VT)	
Plainfield	Sullivan	Plainfield	AREA	Lebanon	Public	Voted to withdraw from SAU 6 and form their own SAU based on cost and accountability concerns.
Randolph	Coos	Gorham	Cooperative	Gorham Randolph Shelburne Cooperative School District	Public	All grades included in cooperative.
Rindge	Cheshire	Jaffrey-Rindge Cooperative	Cooperative	Jaffrey-Rindge Middle School (6-8)	Public	Grades 6-8 included in cooperative.
Rollinsford	Strafford	Somersworth	Tuition	Marshwood in Maine	Public (Maine)	Withdrew from agreement with Somersworth to increase choice in schools.
Rye	Rockingham	Greenland	AREA	Portsmouth	Public	
Sandwich	Carroll	Inter-Lakes Cooperative	Cooperative	Inter-Lakes Elementary School (P-4), Inter-Lakes Middle Tier (5-8), Inter-Lakes High School (9-12),	Public	All grades included in cooperative.



DISTRICT/TOWN	COUNTY	SAU	AGREEMENT TYPE	RECEIVING SCHOOL/DISTRICT	SCHOOL TYPE	NOTES
Seabrook	Rockingham	Hampton	Cooperative	Winnacunnet HS	Public	Grades 9-12 included in cooperative.
Shelburne	Coos	Gorham	Cooperative	Gorham Randolph Shelburne Cooperative School District	Public	All grades included in cooperative.
South Hampton	Rockingham	Hampton	Tuition	Winnacunnet HS	Public	
Stark	Coos	Northumberland	AREA	Northumberland	Public	
Stewartstown	Coos	Colebrook	Tuition	Colebrook	Public	Several agreements directly with schools with a high amount of choice for parents.
Stoddard	Cheshire	Henniker	AREA	Keene	Public	
Strafford	Strafford	Northwood	Tuition	Coe-Brown Academy	Academy	
Stratford	Coos	Northumberland	Tuition	Groveton HS	Public	
Stratham	Rockingham	Exeter	Cooperative	Exeter Region Cooperative	Public	Grades 6-12 included in cooperative.
Tamworth	Carroll	Tamworth	AREA	Conway	Public	
Wakefield	Carroll	Milton & Wakefield	AREA	Rochester	Public	Wakefield will become their own SAU July 2017 but will remain in agreement with Rochester.
Warren	Grafton	Haverhill Cooperative	Tuition	Haverhill	Public	Renewed through 2021
Washington	Sullivan	Hillsboro-Deering	AREA	Hillsboro-Deering	Public	
Waterville Valley	Grafton	Plymouth	Tuition	Plymouth	Public	Verbal tuition agreements
Wilton	Hillsborough	Wilton	Cooperative	Wilton-Lyndeborough Cooperative	Public	All grades included in cooperative, previously its own district that dissolved in 2010.
Windsor	Hillsborough	Hillsboro-Deering	AREA	Hillsboro-Deering	Public	
Woodstock	Grafton	Lincoln-Woodstock	Cooperative	Lin-Wood Public School	Public	All grades included in cooperative.



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