

# **David vs. Goliath**

## **Case Study Module Standard Four Superintendent**

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### **Scenario**

You are the superintendent of East School District, which is one of three K-8 districts, the other two districts being North and South, that have historically sent your high school students to the Central School District. In April the superintendent of Central School District (K-12 district) informs you that the tuition for your students will be increased from \$5,000 to \$6,000 per pupil. Following a review of your district's financial situation, you realize that your budget will not be able to support the increase.

### **Questions**

1. What steps would you take to collaborate with other sending districts?
2. What action would you take in dealing with the receiving school?
3. What data/information do you anticipate your board of education will need to make an informed decision?
4. What possible alternatives would you present to your community and your board of education regarding budget and educational impact?
5. What actions would you take to inform your community and students of the possible changes of their 9-12 educational options?

### **Directions**

1. Students will review the current legal issues of K-8 sending districts.
2. Students will create possible alternatives that can be presented to the board of education, the community and students.
3. Students will develop an agenda for the initial meeting of the K-8 superintendents.
4. Students will develop an agenda for the initial meeting of the K-8 superintendents and the Central School District superintendent.

### **Standard Four:**

A school administrator is an educational leader who promotes the success of all students by **collaborating with families and community members, responding**

**to diverse community interests and needs, and mobilizing community resources.**

### **Standard Two Performance Expectations:**

- There is collaboration and communication with the community, students, and administrations, and boards of education.
- Involvement of community and other stakeholders in school decision making processes.
- Information about community, students, and board of education concerns, expectations, and needs are considered in decision making processes.

### **Extended Learning**

1. Identify negotiation points to be explored with the receiving school.
2. Prepare budgetary impact statement for your board of education.
3. Consult with a Missouri K-8 district to discuss transportation issues of sending schools. Be prepared to discuss findings.
4. Consult with Missouri K-8 districts as to their possibility of forming a K-12 school district and/or future consolidation/annexation.

### **Key Terms**

- K-8 School Districts
- Collaboration
- Communication
- Public Relations
- Resources
- Consolidation/Annexation

### **Recommended Resources/Support Materials**

- Missouri Association of K-8 School Districts
- Missouri School Public Relations Association – <http://info.csd.org/mospra/mosprahome/html>
- Department of Elementary and Secondary Education – School Finance Section – School Laws and Legislation Section - [www.dese.mo.gov/](http://www.dese.mo.gov/)
- School and Community Relations, Bagin, Gallagher, and Kindred. Allyn and Bacon (2002)
- Missouri Association of School Administrators – [www.mcsa.org/masa](http://www.mcsa.org/masa)
- Missouri School Boards Association – [www.msbanet.org/](http://www.msbanet.org/)
- Regional Professional Development Centers

## Notes to the Instructor

1. This case is one that can be used to determine students' entry level skills in:
  - Communication
  - Collaboration
  - Community relations
  - Working with diverse populations
  - Presentations
2. Students will increase their knowledge of K-8 districts and the unique problems they face through their reviews and data collection.
3. Students will write a reflection of their findings, conclusions, and recommendations.
4. With the lack of knowledge of most students, concerning K-8 education, this case would be better suited as a group activity.

## Scoring Guide

- 2 Response specifically addresses two of the three issues below.
  - There is collaboration and communication with the community, students, and administrations, and boards of education.
  - Involvement of community and other stakeholders in school decision making processes.
  - Information about community, students, and board of education concerns, expectations, and needs are considered in decision making processes.
- 1 Response specifically cites one of the two listed above.
- 0 Response omits reference to any of the essential facts.

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Dr.'s Kern, Arnold and Hutchinson each teach educational administration courses and have used case studies, vignettes and problem-based learning modules in their classrooms. Each has written for the Missouri Professors of Educational Administration (MPEA) web site for instructional material and have served on the executive board for MPEA.