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I. Detachment and Attachment of Small Territory Initiated by Owner.

A. Application – Wis. Stat. § 117.12(1).

This section applies to transfer of a small territory. A territory is defined as small if *both*:

1. The assessed valuation of the territory proposed to be transferred, divided by its assessment ratio, is less than seven (7) percent of the equalized valuation of the school district from which it is proposed to be detached, and
2. Less than seven (7) percent of the enrollment of the school district from which the territory is proposed to be detached resides in the territory proposed to be transferred. (Enrollment is to be determined by student count on the 3rd Friday in September or the 2nd Friday in January, whichever is most recent.)

B. Initiation of Procedures – Wis. Stat. § 117.12(2).

Small territory transfers can be initiated by a petition filed by either:

1. A majority of the electors residing in the proposed territory to be transferred; or
2. The owners of fifty (50) percent or more of the territory proposed to be transferred, as measured by the territory's assessed valuation divided by its assessment ratio.

Petitions for detachment and attachment of small territory must be filed with the school district clerk where the territory is currently located before February 1 to be considered that year. Upon receipt of the petition, the school district clerk must send a certified copy of the petition to the school board of the school district to which the territory is proposed to be attached and to the Secretary of the School District Boundary Appeal Board.

The petition must include a description of the territory proposed for transfer. This description must be sufficiently accurate to determine its location in the school district in which it is located, as certified by the clerk of each city, town or village within which all or part of the territory is located. The petition must also state the number of pupils residing in the territory proposed to be detached who are enrolled in the district.

C. School Board Action - Wis. Stat. § 117.12(3).

In the first February following the receipt of petition to transfer small territory, the affected school boards may order the territory detached from the school district in which it is located and attached to the adjoining school district.

However, before adopting any resolution to grant or deny a transfer, each school board must give the electors and owners who signed the petition an opportunity to present their reasons for the proposed reorganization. After such an opportunity, each affected school board may vote. If all the school boards agree to the detachment and attachment, the territory shall be transferred effective July 1 of that year.

If any school board denies a transfer, electors and owners may bring an appeal to the School District Boundary Appeal Board. Note that a failure of a school board to adopt a resolution before March 1 either ordering or denying the reorganization constitutes a denial of the reorganization by the school board.

The school district clerk of each school board adopting a resolution must within five (5) days after the adoption of the resolution, send a certified copy of the resolution to the school board of the other affected school district and file a certified copy of the resolution with the School District Boundary Appeal Board.

D. Appeal of School Board's Order - Wis. Stat. §§ 117.12(4) and (5).

If the detachment and attachment of territory is denied by either school board, either a majority of the electors residing in the territory or the owners of at least 50 percent of the territory may appeal the school board's order. The appeal must be filed with the Secretary of the School District Boundary Appeal Board before the March 15 following the denial.

1. Appeal Panel

Most appeals are heard by a three-member Appeal Panel appointed by the State Superintendent. The panel members are also members of the School District Boundary Appeal Board (SDBAB). The panel must include one person from a district with small enrollment, one from a district with medium enrollment, and one from a district with large enrollment.

2. School District Boundary Appeal Board

Wis. Stat. § 117.12(5) provides that an appeal shall be heard by a seven-member School District Boundary Appeal Board, rather than an Appeal Panel, if any of the following apply:

- a. More than one appeal to detach small territory from a single district was filed by the March 15 date, and either:
 - i. The total assessed valuation of the total territory proposed to be detached under the appeals, divided by the assessment ratio, is seven (7) percent or more of the equalized valuation of the original school district; or
 - ii. The number of pupils enrolled in the school district who reside in the total territory proposed to be detached is seven (7) percent or more of that school district's enrollment.
- b. The assessed valuation of the territory proposed to be detached under the appeal, divided by the assessment ratio of the taxation district, when added to the total assessed valuation of all territory detached from that school district in the 2 years preceding the date on which the petition was filed under sub. (2), divided by the appropriate assessment ratios, is equal to or greater than 2% of the school district's equalized valuation.
- c. The number of pupils residing in the territory proposed to be detached under the appeal who are included in the enrollment of the school district from which the territory is proposed to be detached, when added to the number of pupils who resided in territory detached from that school district, and were included in previous enrollments of that school district, in the 2 years preceding the date on which the petition was filed under sub. (2) constitute 2% or more of the school district's enrollment.

Both the SDBAB review board and the Appeals Panel may affirm, deny, or modify the school board's denial of the reorganization of the territory described in the petition. In making their decision, both are obligated to consider the factors listed under Wis. Stat. § 117.15. The appeal order will be issued before the June 15 following the filing of the notice of appeal. The order shall be in writing and include a statement of reasons for the order. Any order of detachment and attachment is effective the following July 1.

II. Detachment and Attachment of Small Territory Initiated by School Board – Step by Step Process.

A. Application – Wis. Stat. § 117.13(1).

See I.A. above (same criteria for detachment initiated by owners)

B. Initiation of Procedures – Wis. Stat. § 117.13(2).

The school boards of two (2) adjoining school districts may order territory detached from one of the school districts and attached to the other school district by the adoption, by each of the school boards, of a resolution ordering the detachment and attachment.

The petition must include a description of the territory proposed for transfer. This description must be sufficiently accurate to determine its location in the school district in which it is located, as certified by the clerk of each city, town or village within which all or part of the territory is located. The petition must also state the number of pupils residing in the territory proposed to be detached who are enrolled in the district. (Enrollment is to be determined by student count on the 3rd Friday in September or the 2nd Friday in January, whichever is most recent.)

C. School Board Action - Wis. Stat. § 117.13(2).

Prior to adopting a transfer resolution, each school board must give the owners and resident electors of the territory notice of the proposed reorganization. In addition, each school board must provide an opportunity to present reasons for or against the proposed transfer.

The school district clerk of each school board adopting a resolution must within five (5) days after the adoption of the resolution, send a certified copy of the resolution to the school board of the other affected school district and file a certified copy of the resolution with the School District Boundary Appeal Board.

If the school board of each of the affected school districts adopts a resolution ordering the detachment and attachment, the reorganization shall take effect on the first July 1 after the March 1 following the adoption of the resolutions, unless an appeal is filed.

D. Appeal to Panel - Wis. Stat. § 117.13(3).

A majority of the electors residing in the territory or the owners of at least 50 percent of the territory may appeal the school board's resolution to transfer a small territory. The appeal must be filed with the Secretary of the School District Boundary Appeal Board before the March 15 following the denial.

The appeal panel may affirm, deny, or modify the school board's denial of the reorganization of the territory described in the petition. The appeal order will be issued before the June 15 following the filing of the notice of appeal. The order shall be in writing and include a statement of reasons for the order, taking the factors listed under Wis. Stat. § 117.15 into consideration. Any order of detachment and attachment is effective the following July 1.

III. Detachment and Attachment of Large Territory.

A. Application – Wis. Stat. § 117.11(1).

This section applies to transfer of large territory. A territory is defined as large if *either*:

1. The assessed value of the territory proposed to be transferred to an adjoining school district, divided by the assessment ratio of the taxation district, is equal to or greater than seven (7) percent of the equalized valuation of the school district from which it is proposed to be detached, *or*
2. Seven (7) percent or more of the enrollment of the school district from which the territory is proposed to be detached resides in the territory proposed to be detached.

B. Initiation of Procedures – Wis. Stat. § 117.11(2).

Procedures for the detachment and attachment of a large territory may be initiated by the filing of a petition by either of the following:

1. A majority of the electors residing in the proposed territory to be transferred; or
2. The owners of fifty (50) percent or more of the territory proposed to be transferred, as measured by the territory's assessed valuation divided by its assessment ratio.

Unlike small territory transfers, large territory transfers cannot be initiated by school boards.

Petitions for detachment and attachment of a large territory must be filed with the school district clerk where the territory is currently located before July 1 to be considered that year. Upon receipt of the petition, the school district clerk must send a certified copy of the petition to the school board of the school district to which the territory is proposed to be attached and to the Secretary of the School District Boundary Appeal Board.

The petition must include a description of the territory proposed for transfer. This description must be sufficiently accurate to determine its location in the school district in which it is located, as certified by the clerk of each city, town or village within which all or part of the territory is located. The petition must also state the number of pupils residing in the territory proposed to be detached who are enrolled in the district.

C. School Board Action - Wis. Stat. § 117.11(3).

In the first July following the receipt of petition to transfer large territory, the affected school boards may order the territory detached from the school district in which it is located and attached to the adjoining school district.

If the school board of each affected school district adopts a resolution ordering the detachment and attachment, the reorganization shall take effect on the July 1 following the adoption of the resolutions, unless a referendum is required.

Note that a failure of a school board to adopt a resolution before August 1 either ordering or denying the reorganization constitutes a denial of the reorganization by the school board.

The school district clerk of each school board adopting a resolution must within five (5) days after the adoption of the resolution, send a certified copy of the resolution to the school board of the other affected school district and file a certified copy of the resolution with the School District Boundary Appeal Board.

D. Referendum - Wis. Stat. § 117.11(4).

Regardless of whether the detachment and attachment is ordered or denied by the school boards, a binding referendum will be held if before the 2nd Tuesday of September following the adoption of the resolution either of the following occurs:

1. The school board of any affected school district directs the holding of a referendum.

2. A petition requesting a referendum, signed by at least ten percent of the electors who reside in any affected school district is filed with the clerk of the school district from which the territory is proposed to be detached.

If a referendum is directed, or a petition requesting a referendum is filed, the school district clerk of the school board adopting the resolution or receiving the petition must immediately notify the other affected school boards, the Secretary of the School District Boundary Appeal Board, and the clerk of each city, village or town contained within an affected school district.

A referendum is held on the Tuesday following the first Monday in November. The transfer of the large territory must be supported by a majority of the votes cast in each affected school district in order to be approved. Whatever the outcome of the referendum vote, the results are binding. Therefore, there is no statutory provision for an appeal to the School District Boundary Appeal Board or Appeal Panel. If a majority of the votes cast in each affected school district is in favor of the reorganization, the reorganization shall take effect on the following July.

At the time of canvassing the returns, the school boards of the affected school districts must file an order of school district reorganization with the Secretary of the School District Boundary Appeal Board.

IV. Appeal to Circuit Court – Wis. Stat. § 117.14.

Any person aggrieved by an order of the School District Boundary Appeal Board or Appeal Panel may appeal the order to the circuit court within thirty (30) days after a copy of the order is filed with the Secretary of the School District Boundary Appeal Board. This only applies to small territory transfers since there are no SDBAB appeal rights in connection with large territory transfers.

Any person aggrieved by the granting of a detachment and attachment of a large territory may appeal the order to a circuit court within thirty (30) days after copies of the school boards' orders are filed with the Secretary of the School District Boundary Appeal Board.

To begin the appeal in the case of both large and small territory transfers, the aggrieved person must serve written notice, specifically stating the grounds for the appeal, upon the Secretary of the School District Boundary Appeal Board and file the notice with the clerk of circuit court of any county in which any territory proposed to be detached or attached is located.

V. **Assets, Liabilities, Employees – Wis. Stat. § 117.25(2).**

When territory is detached from one school district and attached to another school district the following apply:

A. Standard Procedure for Assets and Liabilities.

Unless school boards agree upon an alternative procedure, assets and liabilities are assigned to the school districts under Wis. Stat. § 66.0235, on the effective date of the reorganization, based on the ratio of the equalized valuation of the transferred territory to the equalized valuation of all taxable property in the school district from which the territory is detached. *See*, Wis. Stat. § 66.0235(2c)(a).

B. Alternative Procedure for Assets and Liabilities.

Wis. Stat. § 66.0235(2c)(b) provides for an alternate procedure to be used whereby the affected school boards adopt identical resolutions stating the alternative procedure or the agreed-upon division of assets and liabilities.

C. Laid Off Employees.

Any employee of the school district from which territory is detached who is laid off as a result of the reorganization has priority over other persons, except employees of the school district to which the territory is attached and former employees of that school district who were laid off from that school district. Such priority applies for three (3) years after the effective date of the reorganization for new positions and vacant positions for which the employee is qualified in the school district to which the territory is attached. Wis. Stat. § 117.25(2)(b)(1).

Any person who wishes to exercise priority must notify the school district to which the territory is attached, in writing, that he or she wishes to be considered for any new position or vacant position and shall include in the notice the address to be used by the school district to notify the person of such positions. Wis. Stat. § 117.25(2)(b)(2).

VI. School District Consolidation.

A. Initiation of Procedures - Wis. Stat. § 117.08(1).

The process of school district consolidation starts when the school boards of two or more school districts adopt resolutions stating that they will consider consolidating their school districts. Pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 117.08(1), the school district clerk of each school board adopting a resolution to consider consolidation must send a certified copy of the resolution to the school boards of each of the other affected school districts and to the Secretary of the School District Boundary Appeal Board.

B. School Board Action- Wis. Stat. § 117.08(2).

In the first July following the adoption of the initial resolutions to consider consolidation, the affected school boards may order consolidation. School districts are ordered consolidated by the adoption of a resolution ordering the consolidation by each of the school boards. Importantly, a consolidation may occur only if all of the affected school boards agree.

Note that a failure of a school board to adopt a resolution either ordering or denying the consolidation before August 1 constitutes a denial of the consolidation by that school board. Therefore, the school boards of the affected school districts wishing to consolidate must adopt a resolution before the August 1st following the adoption of the initial resolution.

The school district clerk of each school board adopting a consolidation resolution must within five (5) days after adoption, send a certified copy of the resolution to the school boards of each of the other affected school districts and file a certified copy of the resolution. A certified copy of any resolution or order granting, affirming or denying reorganization must also be filed, within 5 days after it is adopted or issued, with the Secretary of the School District Boundary Appeal Board.

If the school board of each affected school district adopts a resolution ordering the consolidation, the consolidation shall take effect on the next July 1, unless a referendum is required.

C. Factors To Be Considered - Wis. Stat. § 117.15.

In making any decision to consolidate, a school board must consider the following factors as they affect the educational welfare of all of the children residing in all of the affected school districts.

1. The geographical and topographical characteristics of the affected school districts, including the estimated travel time to and from school.
2. The educational needs of all of the children residing in the affected school districts, the educational programs currently offered by each affected school district and the ability and commitment of each school district to meet those needs and continue to offer those educational programs.
3. The testimony of and written statements filed by the residents of the affected school districts.
4. The estimated fiscal effect of the proposed reorganization on the affected school districts, including the effect of the apportionment of assets and liabilities.
5. Whether the proposed reorganization will make any part of a school district's territory noncontiguous.
6. The socioeconomic level and racial composition of the children in the school districts proposed to be consolidated, and the effect that will have on the present and future socioeconomic level and racial composition of the affected school districts. Also to be considered is the proportion of children that are “at risk.”

On review of a decision under Wis. Stat. § 117.15, the only issues to be considered are whether the reorganization authority acted within its jurisdiction and whether the determination was arbitrary and capricious. While an authority is bound to consider all the factors enumerated in this section, it may consider information from other sources, including matters within its knowledge and expertise. *School District of Waukesha v. School District Boundary Appeal Board*, 201 Wis. 2d 109, 548 N.W.2d 122 (Ct. App. 1996) (challenge to a detachment).

D. Referendum? – Wis. Stat. §§ 117.09(3) and (4).

Even if the affected school boards agree to consolidate, a referendum will be held if *either* of the following occurs:

1. At the time of adopting a resolution ordering the consolidation, the school board of any affected school district directs the holding of a referendum.
2. A petition requesting a referendum is filed before the 2nd Tuesday of September. The petition must be signed by at least ten percent of the electors who reside in any affected school district and be filed with the clerk of the school district that has the highest equalized valuation of the affected school district. Equalized valuation means the assessed valuation multiplied by an adjustment factor for each type of property in each taxing district.

If a referendum is directed, or a petition requesting a referendum is filed, the school district clerk of the school board adopting the resolution or receiving the petition must immediately notify the other affected school boards, the Secretary of the School District Boundary Appeal Board, and the clerk of each city, village or town contained within an affected school district.

A consolidation referendum is held on the Tuesday following the first Monday in November. The votes are counted separately for each affected school district, as the referendum has to pass in each school district. Whatever the outcome of the referendum vote, the results are binding. If consolidation is approved, then the school districts are consolidated effective as of the next July 1.

At the time of canvassing the returns, the school boards of the affected school districts must file an order of school district reorganization with the Secretary of the School District Boundary Appeal Board.

E. What Must Be Stated In The Consolidation Order? - Wis. Stat. § 117.17.

1. State the school districts which are dissolved.
2. Name the new school district.
3. State the type of school district and the grades to be taught by the new school district.

4. Designate the number of school board members.
5. Designate the terms of initial members of the school board.
6. Designate the method of election of school board members.
7. Direct the election of school board members.
8. Designate the date of the first election of school board members.
9. Fix the time and place for the first annual meeting of the new school district, if one is to be held.

F. School Board.

1. Joint Interim School Board

Wis. Stat. § 117.22(1) provides that the school boards of the consolidated school districts make up the joint interim school board of the school district until a school board is elected.

The joint interim board has all the powers and duties of an otherwise elected school board. Any action of the joint interim school board requires an affirmative vote of a majority of a quorum of the joint interim board.

If no referendum was required, the interim board constitutes the school board of the new school district beginning on the 2nd Tuesday of September following the adoption of the resolution for consolidation. However, if a referendum was required, the interim board is constituted on the 31st day following the date the order of reorganization is filed.

2. School Board Election

Wis. Stat. § 117.22(2) sets forth the procedures for the election of the school board for the newly consolidated school district.

VII. Union High School and K-8 District Consolidation.

A. Initiation of Procedures.

The school board of a union high school district and the school board of any of the underlying K-8 districts may adopt resolutions to consider the consolidation of the UHS and all of the underlying K-8 districts. The effect of the consolidation is to create a K-12 district.

Pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 117.08(1), the school district clerk of each school board adopting a resolution to consolidate must send a certified copy of the resolution to the school boards of each of the other affected school districts and to the Secretary of the School District Boundary Appeal Board.

B. School Board Action.

In the first July following the adoption of the initial resolutions to consider consolidation, the school districts may be consolidated to form a K-12 school district. There will be consolidation only if the consolidation is approved by both of the following.

1. The school board of the union high school district;
2. The school boards of one or more elementary districts that have in their combined territory at least 55 percent of the equalized valuation of the union high school district.

If the school boards of each affected school district described above adopts a resolution ordering consolidation, and there is no directive or request for a referendum, the decision of the school board is final and the union high school district and all K-8 school districts in the union high school district are consolidated.

Note that a failure of a school board to adopt a resolution before August 1 either ordering or denying the consolidation constitutes a denial of the consolidation.

C. Factors to be Considered - Wis. Stat. § 117.15.

See VI.C. above.

D. Referendum?

If the school boards agree to consolidate, a referendum will be held if *either* of the following occurs:

1. The school board of any affected school district directs the holding of a referendum.
2. A petition requesting a referendum is filed before the 2nd Tuesday of September. The petition must be signed by at least ten percent of the electors who reside in any affected school district and be filed with the clerk of the union high school district.

If a referendum is directed, or a petition requesting a referendum is filed, the school district clerk of the school board adopting the resolution or receiving the petition must immediately notify the other affected school boards, the Secretary of the School District Boundary Appeal Board, and the clerk of each city, village or town contained within an affected school district.

A consolidation referendum is held on the Tuesday following the first Monday in November. The votes are counted separately for each elementary school district, and also for the union high school district. There would only one vote, but it would be used to calculate both totals. The referendum has to pass in the union high school district and a majority of the underlying elementary districts. Whatever the outcome of the referendum vote, the results are binding. If consolidation is approved, then the school districts are consolidated effective as of the next July 1.

At the time of canvassing the returns, the school boards of the affected school districts must file an order of school district reorganization with the Secretary of the School District Boundary Appeal Board.

Special rules apply if an elementary school district has territory in more than one union high school district. In these cases, the elementary school district may consolidate only with the union high school in which contains more than fifty percent of its territory, measured by equalized valuation. Only the territory of the elementary school district that is located in that Union High School District shall be included in K-12 district.

E. What Must be Stated in the Consolidation Order? – Wis. Stat. § 117.17.

See VI.E. above.

F. School Board.

See VI.F. above.

VIII. Consolidation Incentives.

A. Equalization Aid Formula, Shared Costs & Guaranteed Valuation.

The 2009-11 biennial budget bill (2009 Wisconsin Act 28) increased from 10% to 15% the equalization aid formula factors applicable to newly-consolidated districts, starting in the 2009-10 school year.

Consolidating districts receive a 15% increase in the equalization aid formula's guaranteed valuations and cost ceilings. Equalization aid is provided to school districts to make up the difference between the district's actual tax base and the state guaranteed tax base. This form of aid is provided by the state through a formula known as the "equalization aid formula." There are five factors used in the computation of equalization aid: (a) membership; (b) shared cost; (c) equalized property valuation; (d) guaranteed valuation per member; and (e) the total amount of funding available for distribution.

In the calculation of this formula, both the shared cost and guaranteed valuation per member factors are subject to a 1.15 multiplier for the school year following effective date of consolidation, and for each subsequent year for four years. Thus for the first five years of consolidation, the shared cost and guaranteed valuation per member is increased by 15% for purposes of the school district's equalization aid formula. Wis. Stat. §§ 121.07(6)(e); Wis. Stat. § 121.07(7)(e).

B. Special Adjustment Aid.

Consolidated districts are guaranteed, for up to the first five years of consolidation, no less than the total amount of state aid received by the separate districts in the year prior to consolidation.

In general, Special Adjustment aid is meant to mitigate severe declines in aid by limiting the aid loss to 15% a year (ensuring the district gets at least 85% of the previous year's eligibility). Wis. Stat. § 121.105. "State aid" meaning equalization, special adjustment, and integration aids.

However, for consolidating school districts, the State Adjustment aid appears to be calculated under a different standard. For the year consolidation takes effect and for each subsequent year for four years, the consolidated aid will be an amount that is not less than the aggregate state aid received by the consolidating school district in the school year prior to the year in which the consolidation takes effect. Wis. Stat. § 121.105(3).

For example, if district A received \$500,000 in state aid in the year prior to consolidation and district B received \$500,000 in equalization aid in the year prior to consolidation, for the first five years of the consolidation, new district C would not receive less than \$1,000,000 in aid, regardless of the current equalization aid formula.

C. Spendable Revenue Outside State Revenue Controls.

School districts which consolidate are entitled to receive additional general school aid for a five year period. This additional aid is excluded from the general school aid definition, which places this additional aid outside of revenue limits. Wis. Stat. § 121.90(2)(a).

In the five years after the effective date of the consolidation, the aid guarantee under 121.105(3) for the newly consolidated district has already been determined. Each year, the consolidated district would run the equalization aid calculation with the 1.15 multiplier and then without the 1.15 multiplier. The difference between the consolidated aid calculation (without the 1.15 multiplier) and the greater amount of either, a) the combination of prior year's aid for each consolidating district (the aid guarantee under Wis. Stat. § 121.05(3)), or b) the consolidated aid payment with the 1.15 multiplier, is spendable outside the revenue limit.

For example, assume the guarantee is equal to \$1,000,000. If with the 1.15 multiplier, the equalization aid is \$1,200,000; without the multiplier it would be \$1,040,000. In this case, since the aid payment with the multiplier is greater than the guarantee, we take \$1,200,000 minus \$1,040,000 to get a total of \$160,000 outside the revenue limit.

For another example, assume the guarantee is equal to \$1,000,000. If with the 1.15 multiplier, the equalization aid is \$920,000; without the multiplier it would be \$800,000. Here, since the guarantee is greater than the multiplier, we take \$1,000,000 minus \$800,000 to get a total of \$200,000 outside the revenue limit.

D. Revenue Limit Calculation for Consolidated School District.

Another provision of the 2009-11 biennial budget bill (2009 Wisconsin Act 28) placed a revenue limit on consolidated school districts. Under the new law, "if two or more schools are consolidated, and excess revenue has been approved for one or more of the affected school districts for the school years beginning on or after the effective date of the consolidation, the approval for those school years expires on the effective date of the consolidation." Wis. Stat. § 121.91(2m)(t). This provision first applies to a school district consolidation that takes effect on July 1, 2009.

IX. Appeal to Circuit Court.

Any person aggrieved by the denial of the consolidation by school boards may appeal the order to a circuit court. To begin the appeal, the aggrieved person must serve written notice, specifically stating the grounds for the appeal, upon the Secretary of the School District Boundary Appeal Board and file the notice with the clerk of circuit court of any county in which any territory of any affected school district is located. The appeal must be initiated within thirty (30) days after copies of the school boards' orders are filed with the Secretary of the School District Boundary Appeal Board.

X. Assets, Liabilities, Employees – Wis. Stat. § 117.25.

A. On the effective consolidation date of two or more districts the following apply:

1. The school districts that were consolidated cease to exist.
Wis. Stat. § 117.25(1)(a).
2. Title to all property and the assets of the school districts become vested in the new consolidated school district.
Wis. Stat. § 117.25(1)(b).
3. Claims, obligations and contracts of the school districts become claims, obligations and contracts of the new consolidated school district. Wis. Stat. § 117.25(1)(c).
4. Employees of the school districts become employees of the new consolidated school district. Wis. Stat. § 117.25(1)(d)1.
5. The new consolidated school district assumes the rights and obligations of the school districts under the provisions of any collective bargaining agreement that applies to these employees.
Wis. Stat. § 117.25(1)(d)2.
6. The collective bargaining agreement remains in effect until the expiration date of the agreement or until a new collective bargaining agreement between the school district and representatives of these employees is effective, whichever occurs first.
Wis. Stat. § 117.25(1)(d)3.

B. Consolidation Agreements.

A written agreement between two or more school districts considering consolidation to continue to operate a program or facility at a specific location for a specified period after consolidation shall be binding on the new joint interim school board or elected school board. Such an agreement shall not exceed five years.