

## FORMATION OF REGIONAL EDUCATIONAL DISTRICTS

### Appointment of School Directors

I. Statutory Mandate: “Consistent with the proportional representation requirements of the equal protection clause of the Constitution of the United States, the method of apportioning the representation that each proposed member district shall have on the union school board. The union school board shall have no more than 18 members, and each member district shall be entitled to at least one representative”. 16.VSA§706b

II. Methods to Apportion School Directors:

A. Proportional Representation. Allocation of school directors is based on principles of one person-one vote. School directors are allocated to each member district based on its percentage of the total population of the proposed RED. Each member district has a minimum of 1 school director; maximum number of directors is 18. Allocation is determined based upon the most recent U.S. Census.

Based on 2010 Census:

Braintree	1,246
Brookfield	1,292
Randolph	4,778
Total	7,316

Braintree	17.03%
Brookfield	17.65%
Randolph	65.30%

B. Weighted Voting. School directors may be allocated in equal number or some other allocation that does not provide for direct proportional representation but requires weighted voting at meetings of the school directors for the RED. Weighted voting applies the U.S. Census calculations noted in IA to the “weight of the vote” of each individual school director. For example with a seven member board, the weighted votes would be approximately the following:

Braintree	8.51
Braintree	8.51
Brookfield	8.82
Brookfield	8.82
Randolph	21.76
Randolph	21.76
Randolph	21.76
Total	99.94

Members of the school board holding a majority of the total number of weighted votes constitute a quorum; a majority of the weighted votes cast is necessary for board action.

C. At Large Voting. Title 16 does not define a specific methodology for at large voting. There are at two basic approaches:

1. Allocation of school directors according to member district. A planning committee determines the allocation of school directors among the member districts. School directors are then nominated in the member district of residence and all voters within the RED vote on the election of all school directors.

2. The planning committee determines the total number of school directors and all directors are both nominated and elected at large without regard to district of residence. All voters within the RED vote on the election of all school directors.