

RSU No. 5 Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday, April 30, 2014 – 6:30 p.m.
Durham Community School - Cafeteria
Meeting Minutes

5:30 – 6:30 p.m. A Dine and Discuss was held

(NOTE: These Minutes are not official until approved by the Board of Directors. Such action, either to approve or amend and approve, is anticipated at the May 14, 2014 meeting).

CALLED TO ORDER:

Chairperson Larkins called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Kathryn Brown, Candace Decsipkes, Nelson Larkins, Naomi Ledbetter, John Morang, Peter Murray, Beth Parker, Michelle Ritcheson (arrived at 6:40 p.m.), Valeria Steverlynck, Karin VanNostrand

MEMBERS ABSENT: Brian Pike

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

4. CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES:

A. **VOTED:** (1) To approve the minutes of March 25, 2014, March 26, 2014, April 3, 2014 and April 9, 2014 as presented barring any errors or omissions. (Parker – Brown) (9 – 0)

5. ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA:

6. GOOD NEWS & RECOGNITION:

A. Durham Community School Student/Teacher Update - JMG Teacher Abby Green provided an update on how the program has been integrated into the school and some of the community service and activities taking place in the program. The JMG program provides a meaningful authentic learning experience for students.

7. REPORTS FROM ADMINISTRATORS:

8. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

9. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Arnold Cloutier from Durham suggested closing Pownal Elementary School and moving the students to Durham and Freeport schools to save money.

10. ORGANIZATIONAL BUSINESS

11. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

A. Budget FY'15 - Chair Larkins reported out on Dine and Discuss conversations at his table. Items discussed included: increases in proposed budget; built in costs in the budget; and communication regarding budget information to communities.

Kelly Wentworth reported the budget was presented to the Board and communities on March 25, 2014. The complete video of that presentation and all the budget handouts are available on the RSU5 website. Kelly provided an overview of the budget handout which included the following: budget priorities; an article by article comparison to last year with explanations; capital and fuel reserve funds; and the budget impact to towns. Two adjustments will need to be made to the budget document due to an increase in Region 10 and health insurance costs. Kelly also reviewed a handout that provided information on Administrative budget requests.

Dennis Ouellette, Director of Facilities and Maintenance reported the movement of a tractor purchase in Capital Budget FY'15 to FY'16 in order to do the repairs to the Tennis Courts in FY'15.

Board members asked questions about the following items: fundraising for a portion of the money to repair the tennis courts; NWEA testing vs. Smarter Balanced; .16 English teacher at FHS.

Public Comments on the Budget:

Karen Primavera from Durham asked about NWEA and Smarter Balanced testing.

John Primavera from Durham has concerns about the tax increases each year.

Kevin Nadeau from Durham noted citizens should talk to their legislators about school funding.

Jeff Wakeman from Durham mentioned the school budget is going up two to three times the rate of inflation.

12. NEW BUSINESS:

13. FINANCIAL REPORTS:

A. RSU No. 5 Financial Statement April 18, 2014

14. COMMUNICATIONS (Consent Agenda):

15. BOARD COMMENTS (Reports from Sub-Committees):

- A. Finance – John Morang reported the Finance Committee met on April 9th and reviewed the cost sharing section of the RSU5 Reorganization Plan. At the meeting Kelly Wentworth reviewed definitions of terms and explained how they are tied into the projected tax impact sheet that is distributed during the budget process.

The Finance Committee approved delaying the banking, audit and insurance request for proposals process until after the Town of Freeport vote on withdrawal.

- B. Withdrawal Working Group – Michelle Ritcheson reported on April 16th a joint meeting with the Freeport Withdrawal Committee was held. Two additional meetings have been scheduled for May 8th and May 21st. The next meeting of the Working Group is scheduled for May 5th, the group will meet from 6:00-6:30pm then the attorney will join us at 6:30pm

16. PERSONNEL:

A. Staff Resignations:

1. Ryan Gleason – Durham Community School Assistant Principal
2. Kim Saldana – Instructional Support Administrative Secretary

B. Staff Retirements:

1. Susan Goddard – Mast Landing School Classroom Teacher

17. POLICY REVIEW:

A. Policy Packet 14-5 was distributed.

B. Policy Packet 14-7 was distributed for review with plans for 1st Read on May 14, 2014 and 2nd Read/Final Adoption on June 11, 2014.

C. **VOTED: (2)** To adopt the Following Policies: Packet 14-6 (Parker – VanNostrand) (10 – 0)

1. DA- Fiscal Management Goals/Priority Objectives
2. DB - Annual Budget
3. DBG- Budget Adoption Process
4. DFF- Student Activities Funds
5. DI-Fiscal Reporting
6. DID-Inventories
7. DIE-Audits/Financial Monitoring
8. DJ-Bidding/Purchasing Requirements
9. DJC-Petty Cash Accounts
10. DLB- Tax Sheltered Annuities
11. DM-Cash in School Buildings
12. DN-School Properties Disposition
13. DO-Approval for New Programs

18. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

A. **VOTED (3):** To enter into Executive Session as outlined in 1 M.R.S.A § 405(6)(D) for the purpose of discussing Director contracts for RSU No. 5. (Parker – Brown) (10 – 0)

Time In: 8:05 p.m.

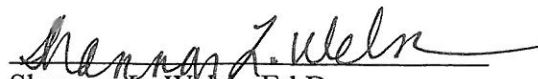
Time Out: 9:25 p.m.

19. ACTION AS A RESULT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION:

A. **VOTED: (4)** To authorize the Superintendent to issue contracts to Directors as discussed in Executive Session. (Parker – Brown) (10 – 0)

20. ADJOURNMENT:

VOTED: (5) To adjourn at 9:27 p.m. (Murray – VanNostrand) (10 – 0).


Shannon L. Welsh, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools