

RSU No. 5 Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday, April 9, 2014 – 6:30 p.m.
Pownal Elementary 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 April 30, 2014 meeting).

CALLED TO ORDER:

Chairperson Larkins called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: Peter Murray

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

4. ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA:

5. GOOD NEWS & RECOGNITION:

- A. Pownal Elementary School Student/Teacher Update: Music Teacher Allie Edwards, and student Allison Brown spoke about Pownal's musical "Tales of the American Revolution". The musical revolves around Betsy Ross as she tells her grandkids how the colonies became a nation. A clip of the musical was shown.

6. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

- A. Board members report out on "Dine and Discuss" conversations – Chair Larkins thanked all those in attendance tonight. Nelson and Candy Decsipkes reported out on conversations at their tables which included positives of the RSU such as: professional development; sharing of services; culture of the school community; and gifted and talented. More immediate concerns included: athletics and the track; increase volunteerism; withdrawal; and communication on how to get state funding information out to the public.
- B. Withdrawal Update – Michelle Ritcheson reported the Working Group continues to work through the draft plan from the Freeport Withdrawal Committee. Another joint meeting will be held on April 16, 2014. Discussions with other districts regarding Central Office services and tuition students are ongoing. A meeting with MSAD 51 is scheduled for April 14, 2014

7. ORGANIZATIONAL BUSINESS:

- A. **VOTED: (1)** To appoint Michelle Ritchson to the Finance Committee as the Durham representative. (Decsipkes – Pike) (10 – 0)

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- A. **VOTED: (2)** To approve the 2014-2015 school calendar. (Parker – Brown) (10 – 0)

- B. VOTED: (3)** To hold the Annual Budget Meeting on May 28, 2014.
(Steverlynck – Morang) (8 – 2 Brown, Decsipkes)

9. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. VOTED: (4)** To approve a High School Boy's Cooperative Agreement with South Portland and Waynflete. (Steverlynck - Decsipkes) (10 – 0)

10. WORKSHOP:

- A. Transition to a Proficiency-Based Diploma Grades 9-12 – Joe Makley, Curriculum Director presented the third in a series of workshops to provide an overview of Proficiency-Based Diplomas. Joe reviewed the work that has taken place starting with the 2011-2012 school year including: professional development in curriculum design for standards; identification of standards; development of courses/curriculum; piloting cross curricular standards; continued professional development; development of assessments for power standards and beginning the revision process for policy IKF and IKE. Community outreach has taken place through such avenues as the State of the Schools Report, parent public presentation, online discussions, student meetings with guidance counselors, and 8th grade parent night. The work will continue in 2014-2015.
- B. FY '15 Budget Review – Kelly Wentworth, Finance Director reviewed the two documents handed out at the Budget presentation on March 25, 2014. The video of that meeting is available online. Kelly pointed out we will be looking at declining enrollments with additional students attending Charter Schools. 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 new handout that provided information on Administrative budget requests and an Educational Technician comparison chart.

Board members asked questions about the following: floating custodian; NWEA testing; and professional development.

Public Comments on the Budget:

Kevin Nadeau from Durham asked that the annual budget meeting be held on May 28, 2014.

Marcia Bowen from Pownal asked about Gifted and Talented teachers.

Tom Hall from Pownal commented that he is happy with the schools.

11. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

- A. VOTED (5):** To enter into Executive Session as outlined in 1 M.R.S.A § 405(6)(A) for the purpose of discussing Interim Superintendent candidates' qualifications and as outlined in 1 M.R.S.A § 405(6)(D) for the purpose of discussing Support Staff Negotiations for RSU No. 5. (Morang – Ledbetter) (10 – 0)

Time In: 9:15 p.m.

Time Out: 9:47 p.m.

12. ACTION AS A RESULT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION:

VOTED (6): To ratify the Coastal Education Association for Educational Support Professional Unit Bargaining Agreement 2014-2015. (Decsipkes – Morang) (10 – 0)

13. ADJOURNMENT:

VOTED: (7) To adjourn at 9:48 p.m. (Ledbetter – Parker) (10 – 0).

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Shannon L. Welsh", written over a horizontal line.

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