

RSU No. 5 Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday, March 25, 2014 – 6:30 p.m.
Freeport High School - Cafeteria
Meeting Minutes

(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:

Vice-Chair Brown called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Kathryn Brown, Candace Decsipkes, Naomi Ledbetter, John Morang, Beth Parker, Michelle Ritcheson, Valeria Steverlynck, Karin VanNostrand

MEMBERS ABSENT: Nelson Larkins, Peter Murray, John Ricker

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

4. ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA:

5. GOOD NEWS & RECOGNITION:

A. Freeport High School Lip Dub – Sophomore Caiden Shea introduced the Lip Dub Video. Caiden filmed the video of the student body singing and performing to the song “Wake me up before you Go Go”

6. WORKSHOP: PRESENTATION OF RSU5 FY’15 BUDGET:

A. Superintendent Welsh presented the recommended 2014-2015 RSU5 budget to the Board and public. The purpose of this initial budget presentation is to educate the Board and public about what is contained in the recommended budget. The budget has been developed to help RSU5 realize the goal of educational excellence while demonstrating a greater efficiency in the use of our resources. Board budget priorities for FY’15 include the following: instructional programs/student supports; professional development time and training; technology investment; and capital investments. Superintendent Welsh noted educational choices for students have changed in the past two years due to charter schools and superintendent agreements, which are now more of a school choice option.

Kelly Wentworth, Director of Finance reviewed the budget specifics and tax impact to each town. There has been a change in the way state valuation is calculated. A blended average is now being used. The recommended budget reflects a net increase of 5.17% (\$1,337,243) with the following anticipated impact to each community:

Durham – an increase of – \$315,016 or a mil rate increase of \$0.95 (7.15%)

Freeport – an increase of – \$715,533 or a mil rate increase of \$0.52 (3.35%)

Pownal – an increase of – \$188,939 or a mil rate increase of \$2.04 (6.06%)

Continued budget deliberations will occur over the next two months ending May 28, 2014 with the three-town Annual Budget Meeting followed by a Budget Validation Referendum on June 10, 2014.

8. ADJOURNMENT:

VOTED: (1) To adjourn at 9:50 p.m. (Parker – Ritcheson) (8 – 0).

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

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