

RSU No. 5 Board of Directors Meeting  
Wednesday, January 22, 2014 – 6:30 p.m.  
Freeport High School - Library  
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 February 26, 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, John Ricker, Michelle Ritcheson, Valeria Steverlynck

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Karin VanNostrand

**3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

**4. CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES:**

- A. **VOTED: (1)** To approve the minutes of November 20, 2013, December 18, 2013 and January 8, 2014 (Brown – Parker) (10 – 0)

**5. ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA:**

**6. GOOD NEWS & RECOGNITION:**

- A. Report from Student Government: Members of Student Government reported on the following: Interact and JMG will participate in a wellness walk-a-thon in April; self defense class; volunteer activities students are participating in; Poetry Out Loud competition; MLTI will use art work from a FHS senior as their screen saver; and mid terms are currently taking place.
- B. Mast Landing School Student/Teacher Update: Gayle Wolotsky and two of her students showcased how they won \$1,000 in the S.W. Cole Digging into Science contest. The class made a video demonstrating what they learned about renewable energy and taking care of the planet. The video provided an interview with the president of Ocean Renewable Power Company and showed how they use the ocean for energy.

**7. REPORTS FROM ADMINISTRATORS:**

- A. Update on Pownal 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Options – Lisa Demick reported the past two years all of Pownal's 6<sup>th</sup> graders attended FMS. This year all students will attend FMS unless she hears otherwise from parents. Ten of the thirteen current 5<sup>th</sup> graders have a sibling at FMS.

**8. REPORTS FROM SUPERINTENDENT:**

- A. Update on Professional Growth and Evaluation System – Superintendent Welsh reported the committee has been working for the past three years on the set of evaluation requirements from the state. We have a teacher evaluation system in place using a rubric and this year we are looking at a deeper level. The committee has set aside the student growth piece until we have direction from the state. We have piloted student surveys at FHS with information going directly

to the teacher to help set goals. The committee is also considering a three-year cycle instead of goal setting every other year.

- B. Withdrawal Update – Superintendent Welsh reported the Freeport Withdrawal Committee members are Rich DeGrandpre, Kate Werner, Peter Murray, and Dennis King. The Committee will meet on January 29, 2014 at 6:30pm in the Town Council Chambers.

The Board's Working Group has held several meetings. Meetings also took place with Durham and Pownal Selectmen to establish Advisory Committees to advise the Working Group. The Working Group will be holding public information meetings on January 28<sup>th</sup> in Pownal and February 3<sup>rd</sup> in Durham.

**9. PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

**10. ORGANIZATIONAL BUSINESS**

**11. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**12. NEW BUSINESS:**

**13. FINANCIAL REPORTS:**

- A. RSU No. 5 Financial Statement January 16, 2014

**14. COMMUNICATIONS (Consent Agenda):**

- A. FY '15 Budget Schedule

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

- A. Finance – John Morang reported the committee met on December 18, 2013. At that meeting the Finance Director explained the process of competitive bidding for property and casualty, school board legal liability, boiler and auto insurance coverages. This is required every five years and the RSU would need to complete this in the spring. We are asking the DOE for a waiver due to the current withdrawal process taking place. The bond representative discussion was tabled. The committee did not meet on January 8, 2014.
- B. Region Ten Technical High School Cooperative Board – John Morang reported a meeting was held on December 16, 2013. The Board looked at the audit, hired a custodian, reported on the Open House, and entered into Executive Session.
- C. Strategic Communications – Candy Decsipkes reported the committee met on January 16, 2014. The preliminary date for the State of the Schools report was reviewed. Both 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade students matched or exceeded the regional average in math. Grade 8 students performed well against the state average, but somewhat below the regional average in math. On MHSA, students continue to score well above the state averages in all subjects, and somewhat below the regional average. The number of low-income students at RSU5 increased slightly in 2013. The High School teachers are preparing to offer their new program of studies that outlines standards in core courses. Families of students entering 9<sup>th</sup> grade next year will be given information

about the changes involved in a standards-based system, where graduation is based on proficiency rather than credits.

The committee decided to propose three "Dine and Discuss" dates, April 9, 30 and May 7.

## **16. PERSONNEL:**

### **A. Staff Retirements:**

1. Shannon Welsh, Superintendent of Schools
2. Amos Woodward – Durham Community School Science Teacher
3. Karen Massey – Freeport High School Social Studies Teacher
4. Laura Girr – Freeport High School Technology Teacher
5. Martha King – Freeport High School Educational Technician
6. Nan Pummill – Freeport High School Administrative Secretary
7. Deb Purinton – Durham Community School Administrative Secretary
8. Phyllis Gorey – Durham Community School Educational Technician

### **B. Staff Resignations:**

1. Brenda Engel – Morse Street School Educational Technician

## **17. POLICY REVIEW:**

A. Policy Packet 14-2 was be distributed.

B. Policy Packet 14-5 was distributed for review with plans for 1<sup>st</sup> Read on February 26, 2014 and 2<sup>nd</sup> Read/Final Adoption on March 26, 2014.

### **C. 1<sup>st</sup> Read on the Following Policies: Packet 14-4**

1. BEDC – Quorum
2. BEDD – Rules of Order
3. BEDF – Voting Method
4. BEDFA – Abstentions
5. BEDG – Minutes
6. BEDH – Public Participation at Board of Directors Meetings
7. BEDI – Board of Directors Relations with the Media
8. BEDJ - Broadcasting/Taping of Board of Directors Meetings By the Public
9. BEDL – Adjournment of Board Meetings
10. BG – Board of Directors Policy Process
11. BG-R – Policy Adoption Procedure
12. BHC – Board of Directors Communications with Staff
13. KDB – Public's Right to Know/Freedom of Access

### **D. VOTED: (2) To adopt the Following Policies: Packet 14-3 (Parker – Steverlynck) (10 – 0)**

1. BDA – Board of Directors Organizational Meeting
2. BDB – Board of Directors Officers
3. BDD – Board of Directors – Superintendent Relationship
4. BDE – Board of Directors Standing Committees
5. BDF – Board of Directors Advisory Committees
6. BDG – School Attorney/Legal Services

7. BE – Board of Directors Meetings
8. BEA – Board of Directors Use of Electronic Mail
9. BEC – Executive Session
10. BEC-E – Executive Session Law
11. BEDA – Notification of Board of Directors Meetings
12. BEDB – Agenda
13. BEDBA – Agenda Format

**18. EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

**VOTED (3):** To enter into Executive Session as outlined in 1 M.R.S.A § 405(6)(A) for the purpose of discussing the Superintendent's evaluation; as outlined in 1 M.R.S.A § 405(6)(D) for the purpose of discussing Administrator, Educator and Support Staff Negotiations for RSU No. 5; and as outlined in 1 M.R.S.A § 405(6)(E) for the purpose of consultation between school unit and its attorney. (Murray – Parker) (10 – 0)

Time In: 7:30 p.m.

Time Out: 9:10 p.m.

**19. ACTION AS A RESULT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

**VOTED (4):** To authorize the School Attorney to appeal the Arbitrators decision in CEA, MEA/NEA and RSU5, AAA Case No. 11 390 00615 13 on the 10 Minute Grievance decided 12/14/13 (Brown – Ledbetter) (10 – 0)

The Board discussed and supports that teachers need to be in the classroom at the beginning of the school day to the benefit of the students and that this is an educational policy decision within the Board's authority.

**20. EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

**VOTED (5):** To enter into Executive Session as outlined in 1 M.R.S.A § 405(6)(A) for the purpose of discussing the Superintendent's evaluation, as outlined in 1 M.R.S.A § 405(6)(D) for the purpose of discussing Administrator, Educator and Support Staff Negotiations for RSU No. 5 and as outlined in 1 M.R.S.A § 405(6)(E) for the purpose of consultation between school unit and its attorney. (Parker – Murray) (10 – 0)

Time In: 9:12 p.m.

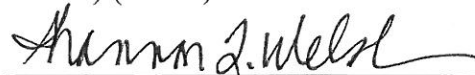
Time Out: 9:25 p.m.

**21. ACTION AS A RESULT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

None taken

**22. ADJOURNMENT:**

**VOTED: (6)** To adjourn at 9:26 p.m. (Parker – Brown) (10 – 0).



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