

RSU No. 5 Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday, May 1, 2013 – 6:30 p.m.
Freeport High 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 8, 2013 meeting).

CALLED TO ORDER:

Chair Larkins called the meeting to order at 6:38 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Kathryn Brown, Candace Decsipkes, Brenda Kielty, Nelson Larkins, John Morang, Peter Murray, Beth Parker, John Ricker, Michelle Ritcheson, Karin VanNostrand

MEMBERS ABSENT: Ruth Broene

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

4. ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA:

5. B. Public Service Announcement

5. GOOD NEWS & RECOGNITION:

- A. Durham Community School Teachers – Principal Will Pidden and fourth grade teacher Tina Whalen provided a summary of learning that is taking place at the school with science and engineering. A video was presented showing the work of students in these areas.
- B. Student Travis Libsack presented the PSA created for the Freeport High School renovation project.

6. WORKSHOP:

- A. FY14 Budget Review – Opportunity for Town Leadership and Public to Comment

Chair Larkins thanked everyone for attending the Dine and Discuss. Tonight's meeting is an opportunity for the Board to hear from the Freeport Town Councilors on the proposed budget. Councilors Melanie Sachs and Sarah Tracy asked about the plan for the alternative education students at the high school, and charter school funds in the budget.

Public Comments on the Budget:

Freeport: Kristen Dorsey asked about the alternative education program, class sizes at the schools and capital projects.

Nancy Drolet spoke of concerns with the alternative education program changes.

Marie Gunning spoke of concerns with cuts to the budget and safety issues at Morse Street School.

Lindsay Sterling asked about the State grading system and staff being reclassified to different areas.

Jennifer Libsack asked about the MLTI computers and the AP position at the Freeport Middle school.

Phil Dirusso asked about the impact of the literacy strategist reduction and the AP position.

Melanie Sachs (on behalf of Allison Gray) asked that money be added for supplies for One Acts and Musical supplies.

Durham: Kevin Nadeau spoke of concerns with the tax impact of the budget.

Board members asked questions about the following: the Port Teen Center and their financial outlook; the literacy and math strategist positions; door locks and safety at the schools; bus replacement cycle; funding for the arts; and the Assistant Principal position for the Freeport Middle School.

A motion was made by Morang, seconded by Parker to reinstate the Literacy Strategist Position into the budget. Parker withdrew her second and Morang withdrew his motion

VOTED: (1) To add retirement funds, estimated to be \$188,336, to contingency (Parker – Murray) (9 – 1 Ricker). Motion Passes

VOTED: (2) To add a Literacy Strategist and a .5 Math .5 Assistant Principal (Morang – Parker) (3 – 7 Brown, Ritcheson, Decsipkes, VanNostrand, Murray, Larkins, Ricker). Motion Fails

VOTED: (3) To add a full time Math Strategist. (Brown – Murray) (7 – 2 Ritcheson, Ricker – 1 Morang) Motion Passes

VOTED: (4) To add a .5 Literacy Strategist .5 Assistant Principal (Parker – Morang) (7 – 3 Ritcheson, Decsipkes, Ricker) Motion Passes

VOTED: (5) To add \$5,000 to the High School supply line for Musicals and One Act supplies and reduce The Port Teen Center funds (Ritcheson – Brown) (4 – 6 VanNostrand, Murray, Larkins, Kielty, Morang, Parker) Motion Fails

VOTED: (6) To add \$4,000 to the High School supply line for Musicals and One Act supplies. (Ritcheson – Morang) (2 – 8 Brown, Decsipkes, VanNostrand, Murray, Larkins, Kielty, Parker, Ricker) Motion Fails

7. ADJOURNMENT:

VOTED: (7) To adjourn at 10:14 p.m. (Parker – Murray) (10 – 0).



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