

RSU No. 5 Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday, April 24, 2013 – 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 8, 2013 meeting).

CALLED TO ORDER:

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

MEMBERS PRESENT: Ruth Broene, Kathryn Brown, Candace Decsipkes, Nelson Larkins, John Morang, Peter Murray, Beth Parker, John Ricker, Michelle Ritcheson

MEMBERS ABSENT: Brenda Kielty, Karin VanNostrand

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

4. CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES:

A. VOTED: (1) To approve the Minutes of March 26, 2013, March 27, 2013 and April 10, 2013 (Morang – Parker) (9 – 0)

5. ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA:

6. GOOD NEWS & RECOGNITION:

A. Durham Community School Teachers – Update: Due to technical issues the presentation was postponed.

7. REPORTS FROM ADMINISTRATORS:

8. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

9. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

10. ORGANIZATIONAL BUSINESS:

11. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

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

Chair Larkins reviewed the budget process schedule for the next two months. Tonight's meeting is an opportunity for the Board to hear from the Durham Selectmen and Budget Committee members on the proposed budget. Selectmen Hall, Larrabee, Wakeman and Budget Committee members Kevin Nadeau and Ben Love were at the meeting.

Selectman and Budget members asked questions about the percentage increase to the budget, how valuations effect the local contribution, enrollments and upgrades to the Central Office.

Kelly Wentworth, Director of Finance reviewed the tax impact to each town (pages 12, 13 and 14 of the budget handout). The recommended budget reflects a net increase of 2.58% (\$644,847) with the following anticipated impact to each community:

Durham – an increase of – \$343,593 or a mil rate increase of \$1.04 (7.81%)
Freeport – an increase of – \$355,664 or a mil rate increase of \$0.26 (1.69%)
Pownal – an increase of – \$161,820 or a mil rate increase of \$2.09 (6.20%)

It was also important to note that the state assessed valuation of each of our three towns has changed and that has impacted our state subsidy. This would have changed what each town would pay for education regardless of whether we are a consolidated system or separate individual systems.

Public Comments on the Budget:

Durham:

Richard Johnson spoke about the increase in taxes and recommends a decrease by 5%. Also encouraged residents to attend the Annual Budget meeting and to vote.

Alice McPeak had questions about enrollments, new special education positions and what a flat budget would look like.

Arnold Cloutier suggested closing Pownal Elementary School and moving the students to Durham Community School.

Tim Kegan asked if the RPC agreement should be looked at and asked a question about fields.

John Primevara spoke about voting and changing the formula.

Kevin Nadeau stated it would not be in the best interest of Durham to change the RPC agreement

Freeport:

Joe Migliaccio stated he is in favor of the school budget and fields project.

Pownal:

Alan Bradstreet noted his taxes will go up and will vote against the budget and bond. He also encouraged residents to vote.

Chair Larkins was asked that the Board consider changing the Annual Budget meeting to a Saturday and moving it to Durham. This was a request from the Durham Selectmen for next year, not this year.

B. VOTED: (2) To adopt the 2013-2014 School Calendar (Parker – Murray) (9 – 0)

12. NEW BUSINESS:

13. FINANCIAL REPORTS:

A. RSU No. 5 Financial Statements April 11, 2013

14. COMMUNICATIONS (Consent Agenda):

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

- A. Finance – John Morang reported the committee met on April 10th. Kelly Wentworth reported no adjustments need to be made. Kelly and Superintendent Welsh continue to monitor what is happening with the Legislature and Department of Education and will keep the Finance Committee and Board informed. There was a discussion regarding in district travel expenses for staff shared between buildings as well as the reduction of a district level strategist position. Kelly presented transfer warrant #3 to move \$50,000 from the Contingency account in Article 6 to the Professional Services account of the High School also within Article 6 to cover the cost of the FHS Renovation Concept Design work as well as advertising and promotion. The 2011-2012 financial audit was presented. The plan to address the recommendations of the Auditor were reviewed.
- B. Facilities Committee Update- Peter Murray reported the committee is actively reaching out to groups. If anyone would like the committee to present to a group, just visit the renovateFHS.org to contact the committee. May 15th is the public hearing at 6:30p.m. at the FHS cafeteria

16. PERSONNEL:

- A. Staff Resignations:
 - 1. Jennifer Thibeault – Classroom Teacher
 - 2. Trevor Seaman – Educational Technician
 - 3. Michele LaForge – Math Teacher
 - 4. Jon Amory – STEM Teacher
 - 5. Peter Tilton – Social Studies Teacher

17. POLICY REVIEW:

- A. Policy Packet 13-5 was distributed for policy book update.
- B. **VOTED: (3)** To adopt the Following Policies: Packet 13-6 (Broene – Parker) (9 – 0)
 - A. IHBA – Referral/Pre-Referral of Students with Disabilities
 - B. IHBAC – Child Find
 - C. KDA – Public Information Program
 - D. KE – Public Concerns and Complaints
 - E. KEB – Complaints About School Personnel
 - F. KF – Community Use of School Facilities
 - G. KHB – Advertising in the Schools
 - H. KI – Visitors to the Schools
 - I. KLG – Relations with Law Enforcement Authorities
 - J. KLG-R – Relations with Law Enforcement Authorities Administrative Procedure
 - K. LDA – Student Teaching and Internships

18. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

- A. VOTED (4):** To enter into Executive Session as outlined in 1 M.R.S.A § 405(6)(A) for the purpose of discussing principal contracts for RSU No. 5. (Murray – Parker) (9 – 0)

Time In: 8:35 p.m.

Time Out: 9:23 p.m.

19. ACTION AS A RESULT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION:

VOTED: (5) To authorize the Superintendent to issue principal contracts as discussed in Executive Session. (Murray – Morang) (9 – 0)

20. ADJOURNMENT:

VOTED: (6) To adjourn at 9:27 p.m. (Murray – Morang) (9 – 0).

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

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