

RSU No. 5 Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday, February 13, 2013 – 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 27, 2013 meeting).

CALLED TO ORDER:

Chair Larkins called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jane Blais, Ruth Broene, Kathryn Brown, Brenda Kielty, Nelson Larkins, John Morang, Peter Murray, Beth Parker, John Ricker, Karin VanNostrand

MEMBERS ABSENT: Candace Decsipkes

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

4. ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA:

5. SUPERINTENDENT’S UPDATE:

Superintendent Welsh report leadership from the Board and Freeport Town Council met last evening to have an initial conversation about the Pownal Road fields. The Town Council is looking at a couple of different options including offering the fields to the RSU or working with the DEP on permitting issues. The fields are currently used and maintained by the RSU.

6. WORKSHOP:

- A. Use of Time Update – Joe Makley, Curriculum Director reported the committee met on January 2nd and 30th, 2013 to develop initial recommendations for the 2013-2014 school calendar. The committee discussed the following: the urgent need for concentrated professional development time to support improvement initiatives; a specific request from educators to reconsider starting in August; an interest in eliminating the short week after the New Year holiday; an interest in considering a switch from the current one flex day to a scheduled Professional Learning Day; requests to avoid the months of December, May and June for Professional Learning Days; and a new state initiative requiring formal cooperation with the CTE Region. Mr. Makley stressed the need for professional learning time cannot be overstated. The RSU Strategic Framework outlines a number of significant changes including a transition to a standards-based system and school-based improvement plans.

Four calendar options were presented, all are cost neutral. Option 1 provides an after Labor Day start, with two PLD’s in August, one in October, one in January, and one in March. Option 2 provides an August start, and two PLD’s in August, one in October, one in January and one in March. Option 3 is similar to option 2, but changes the current flex-day to a scheduled PLD in January. Option 4 is similar to option 1, but changes the current flex-day to a scheduled PLD in January. Lisa Demick, Principal of Pownal Elementary School and a member of the committee, explained a few of the reasons teachers are asking for a before Labor Day start including: additional

time for AP classes; the attention span of children is better in August than June; the Jewish calendar; easing back into the school year with a 3 day, 4 day then 5 day week; and sports start in the middle of August.

Mr. Makley reviewed the timeline for the process including an online survey for the public, parents, teachers, and students. First read on the calendar is scheduled for March 13th and second read/adoption on March 27th.

- B. Board Goals Update – Superintendent Welsh provided a mid-year update on the Board’s goals for 2012-2013. Goal one, Effective Communication: In October the Board hosted a meeting with governance members from the three communities along with members of the public; a social gather was held in each town to provide an opportunity for the public to speak with members of the Board; a second round of meetings will be held in each town during budget season; Dine and Discuss the State of the Schools sessions will be held prior to each of the second round of meetings in each town; and meetings with parent groups for February and March have been scheduled for open discussions regarding education and the budget. Goal two, Freeport High School Facility: the Board approved the expenditure of \$40,000 for development of a Concept Design for improvements to the high school facility; in January, the Board held a workshop on the committee’s recommendations and voted to send the project to a referendum vote; and the Board authorized \$10,000 to fund educational programs and materials to ensure the citizens are informed in advance of the June vote. Goal three, Financial: workshops were held over the past several months that focus on programs and needs that will impact the 2013-2014 budget; budget priorities were established in January; the Board budget meeting schedule has been structure to clearly communicate opportunities for public comment and deliberations; and efforts are being made to encourage public participation at the Annual Budget Meeting.

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- A. **VOTED: (1)** That the vote, entitled “Vote to Call a Referendum to consider Issuing Bonds or Notes for a School Construction Project,” be approved in the form presented to this meeting and the Secretary file an attested copy of said vote with the minutes of this meeting.
(Murray – Morang) (10 – 0)

8. PERSONNEL:

- A. Staff Retirements:
1. Christine Carter – Special Education Teacher

9. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

- A. **VOTED (2):** To enter into Executive Session as outlined in 1 M.R.S.A § 405(6)(D) for the purpose of discussing administrator negotiations for RSU No. 5. (Blais – Murray) (10 – 0)

Time In: 7:10 p.m.

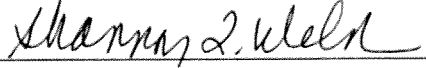
Time Out: 7:38 p.m.

10. ACTION AS A RESULT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION:

No action taken

11. ADJOURNMENT:

VOTED: (3) To adjourn at 7:39 p.m. (Parker – VanNostrand) (10 – 0).



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

VOTE TO BE ADOPTED BY THE
SCHOOL BOARD OF
REGIONAL SCHOOL UNIT NO. 5
AT MEETING ON FEBRUARY 13, 2013

Motion: I move that the vote, entitled "Vote to Call a Referendum to consider Issuing Bonds or Notes for a School Construction Project," be approved in the form presented to this meeting and the Secretary file an attested copy of said vote with the minutes of this meeting.

VOTE TO CALL A REFERENDUM TO CONSIDER ISSUING BONDS OR NOTES FOR A
SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION PROJECT

1. That the Warrant and Notice of Election of Regional School Unit No. 5 (the "RSU") presented to the meeting be and is hereby approved and that a referendum election for the RSU be and is hereby called for June 11, 2013 for the purpose of considering issuing bonds or notes for a school construction project as described therein.
2. That the Notice of Public Hearing presented to the meeting be and is hereby approved and that a public hearing on issuing bonds or notes for a school construction project will be held on May 15, 2013 at 6:30 P.M. as provided therein.

A true copy, attest:

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

Shannon Welsh, Secretary

Regional School Unit No. 5