

RSU No. 5 Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday, October 10, 2012 – 6:30 p.m.
Pownal Elementary School - Cafeteria
Meeting Minutes
6:00 – 6:30 p.m. A Social Gathering 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 October 24, 2012 meeting).

CALLED TO ORDER:

Chairperson Larkins called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jane Blais, Kathryn Brown, Candace Decsipkes (arrived at 6:45 p.m.), Nelson Larkins, John Morang, Peter Murray, Beth Parker, John Ricker, Karin VanNostrand

MEMBERS ABSENT: Ruth Broene, Brenda Kielty

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

4. ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA:

5. GOOD NEWS & RECOGNITION:

- A. Pownal Update – Teachers Jim Donoghue, Kathi Hardy, Sarah Croft and Chake Higgison spoke about the positive happenings at the school including: a collaborative cooperative staff; strong community support; functional life skills students participating in Special Olympics; 5th graders learning casting skills and fly-tying with Geoff Dyhrberg's Fishing Club; swim program; work in the garden to include math, science, health studies.

Chake Higgison and students Jane Dawson, Emma Rankin, Malia Morin and Halorie Kivler provided a presentation on an Art lesson with hula-hoops aligned with art, math and physics. Students created a movie that demonstrated how the hula-hoops were made and how they are being used.

6. WORKSHOP:

- A. Energy Efficiencies and Capital Planning - Dennis Ouellette, Facilities and Transportation Director reviewed Capital Budget projects completed in 2012 including: Mast Landing and Pownal carpet replacement; Morse Street School paving; Pownal kitchen freezer; Pownal phone and intercom system; High School and Morse Street dishwashers; Freeport Middle School boiler replacement; Durham and High School Choices Program room renovations; improvements to Central Office and the Middle School. The district has seen a savings due to energy efficiencies from the conversion to natural gas in four of the schools and also by entering into a rate agreement with Maine Power Options to reduce our average rate for electricity.

Dennis Ouellette also reviewed the 2013-2014 anticipated Capital Budget. Each year Facilities Committee members tour the schools and review requests from the Principals to rebuild the Five Year Capital Plan and reprioritize. Items for 2013-2014 include: one handicapped equipped bus; pick-up truck for field work; Pownal trim repair; Morse Street carpet and roof in wing D; Freeport Middle school elevator upgrade; and Mast Landing dishwasher.

- B. Durham, Freeport, Pownal Municipal Leadership - Selectmen/Town Council and Budget Advisory members from our three towns were invited to the meeting with a goal of increasing communication and build relationships. Those in attendance broke out into small groups to discuss with Board members what their hopes, fears, questions, and needs for more information are as we prepare for development of the RSU's FY14 budget. Board members will report out on their groups feedback at the October 24th Board meeting.

7. ADJOURNMENT:

VOTED: (1) To adjourn at 8:42 p.m. (Blais – Decsipkes) (9 – 0).

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