

RSU No. 5 Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday, January 25, 2012 – 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 29, 2012 meeting).

CALLED TO ORDER:

Vice -Chairperson Dube called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jane Blais, Kathryn Brown, Candace Decsipkes, Eric Dube, John Morang, Karin VanNostrand, Peter Murray, Beth Parker (arrived at 6:37 p.m.), John Ricker

MEMBERS ABSENT: Brenda Kielty, Nelson Larkins

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

4. CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES:

- A. VOTED: (1)** To approve the Minutes of December 14, 2011 and January 11, 2012.
(Morang – Blais) (8 – 0)

5. ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA:

6. GOOD NEWS & RECOGNITION:

- A. Report from Student Government – Charlie Baker and Gus MacDonald reported on the following: mid-term exams are finished and second semester has started; students will be visiting CMCC next week and SMCC in the spring; Mr. Smail is scheduling a trip to SkyVenture with AP Physics students and UMO Engineering School; and the One Acts are starting up.

7. REPORTS FROM ADMINISTRATORS:

- A. Use of Time Update – Joe Makley, Curriculum Director reported the committee has begun its work by reviewing reports on the 2011-2012 calendar, what worked, what didn't and what needs to be achieved next year. The absence of early release days provided more learning days for students. The committee has developed four calendar scenarios for 2012-2013. Options 1 and 2 have no budget impact, and simply have different dates. Version 3 has an additional flex day added to provide structured, recurring professional development sessions of 1.5 hours. Version 4 proposes a professional development summer institute using two additional days. The committee will meet again on February 1st to consider Board feedback and develop final options for presentation to the Board on February 8th. After this meeting, public feedback will be collected on final options until March 5th. A special effort will be made to ensure students have had the opportunity to make suggestions. First Read on the calendar is anticipated for April 11th and final adoption on April 25th.
- B. 3-5 Year Financial Analysis – Kelly Wentworth, Finance Director reported the Finance Committee has completed the updating of the 3-5 Year Financial Plan. Valuation and enrollments are two major factors in determining the level of funding received by the State.

Enrollments are projected to remain relatively stable in upcoming years and the towns are projected to have minimal changes to town valuations. As long as the State continues to fund education at current levels the RSU should continue to receive the same levels of state funding over the next few years. Next year's tuition numbers are based on polling of current Durham 8th graders, this is an increase but may change if they decide to attend FHS. Tuition dollars were in the Jobs Bill for 2011-2012 and before that AARA as one-time monies. Next year tuition is in the local budget. There is an increase next year in Capital Improvements to get to the targeted \$400,000. The real drivers of future increases in the budget will be the length of the school year, professional development, and educational programming.

- C. Special Education December 1 Count – Dominic DePatsy, Director of Instructional Support reported the December 1st Childcount in Special Education is used for the benchmark for EPS (Essential Program and Services) to calculate subsidy for special education for all school districts. RSU5 is at 15% identification rate which is the Department of Education's benchmark for the targeted identification rate. The Special Education count is at 281 which does not include students from the eight private schools or the six Brunswick High School Students. There are 49 total 504 students. This is a broad disability law, typically medical disorders. RSU5 has 18 English Language Learners and 104 Gifted and Talented Students. The Gifted and Talented application and budget were recently accepted by the DOE and we are at 5% enrollment for gifted and talented students, which is also the Department of Education's benchmark. The GT Advisory Committee is working on the revision to the academic and visual arts plan for the district.

8. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

- A. Board Goals Update - Superintendent Welsh provided a mid-year update on the Board's goals for 2011-2012. We have met our goal area of effective communication to include the following: Board representatives have attended/are planning to attend parent group and municipal officers' meetings to establish communication relationships to keep people informed; the Superintendent has scheduled meetings with parent groups in March as an open discussion regarding education and the budget; and, the Board held informal socials in each of the three towns to provide an opportunity for the public to speak with members of the Board. A second round of meetings in each town has been scheduled for April budget discussions. Goal two, to provide Board training and opportunities for members to develop and reinforce the skills required for effective policy-making, budget planning, and communication has been accomplished as follows: new Board members participated in orientation meetings and assigned a mentor; and, several Board members attended the MSMA annual conference in October. Eric Dube reported that the Board will step back from approaching each municipality on moving to a common election date for RSU elections. In researching this issue it was determined each town would also have to change their municipal elections dates. More research will be conducted. Goal three is to provide leadership for securing support for the district budget with a specific plan for explaining and defending the budget to the public. Progress on this goal is ongoing with workshops being held that focused on programs and needs that may impact the 2012-2013 budget. Budget Priorities will be established in February and meetings with municipality governance boards will take place later this winter/spring.

- 9. **PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Geoff Dyhrberg, FHS American Studies teacher attended tonight to thank the Board members who came to visit classrooms and attend an evening book discussion with students. Your participation is appreciated and has made an impact on students and teachers. Geoff read comments from the students and invited other Board members into the schools.

10. ORGANIZATIONAL BUSINESS:

11. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

12. NEW BUSINESS:

13. FINANCIAL REPORTS:

- A. RSU No. 5 Financial Statement January 19, 2012

14. COMMUNICATIONS (Consent Agenda):

- A. Education Evolving: Maine's Plan for Putting Learners First

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

- A. Finance – Eric Dube reported the committee met on December 14, 2011 to discuss the updates to the 3-5 Year Financial Plan. The committee felt that the percentage of increase between the years could be reduced from 3% each year to 1%, 1.5% and 1.5%. Revisions were made to the plan. Warrants were signed. The committee met again on January 11, 2012 to discuss the 3-5 Year Financial Plan. Discussion focused on the following key points: valuations and enrollments are expected to remain relatively flat over the next three years which allows State subsidy amounts to remain relatively flat as long as the State continues to fund education at current levels. Once the funding level for Capital Projects is raised to the targeted \$400,000 and high school choice expires both in 2012-2013 the budget should remain stable. Any other increases would be program changes. Warrants were also signed.
- B. Negotiations – Peter Murray reported the group continues to meet but had a respite from meetings the past two weeks due to mid-terms. Meetings continue tomorrow night and starting next week two meetings a week for the next several weeks.
- C. Facilities – Peter Murray reported the FHS Facilities Committee has been undertaking a study of the building, fields, parking – the entire high school facility. The Committee has been working with Portland Design Team and has been gathering data on the school. The committee is moving through the process of holding public meetings with the three communities and town leaders. A website has been established with up-to-date information including a video presentation of the architects preliminary report. We encourage people to provide input and ask questions about the project.

16. PERSONNEL:

- A. Staff Retirements:
 - 1. Doug Daggett – Middle/High School Social Worker
 - 2. Sussan Gosselin – Freeport Middle School Art Teacher
 - 3. Kathleen Leggett – Middle/High School gifted and Talented Teacher

17. POLICY REVIEW:

- A. Policy Packet 12-2 was distributed for policy book update.

B. Policy Packet 12-5 was distributed for review with plans for 1st Read on February 29, 2012 and 2nd Read/Final Adoption on March 28, 2012.

C. 1st Read on the Following Policies: Packet 12-4

1. GAB – Job Descriptions
2. GBEBB – Staff Conduct with Students
3. GBGAA – Bloodborne Pathogens
4. GBGAA-E1 – Hepatitis B Vaccine Declination Form
5. GBGAA-E2 – Consent to be Tested for Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) Antibodies
6. GBGE – Return to Work and Light-Duty Assignments
7. GBJ – Personnel Records and Files
8. GBJC – Retention of Application Materials
9. GBN – Family and Medical Leave
10. GBO – Family Care Leave

D. **VOTED: (2)** To adopt the following policies: Packet 12-3 (Blais – Brown) (10 – 0)

1. EEAECE – Student Conduct on School Buses
2. EEAEF - Video Cameras on Transportation Vehicles
3. EEBA – Van Use
4. EEBB – Use of Private Vehicles on School Business
5. EFBA – Menu Development/Options-Offer vs. Serve Lunch Concept
6. EFC – Free and Reduced Price Food Services
7. EFE – Competitive Food Sales-Sales of Foods in Competition with the School Food Service Program
8. EGAD – Copyright Compliance
9. EGAD-R-Copyright Compliance Administrative Procedure
10. FF – Naming Facilities

18. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

A. **VOTED (3):** To enter into Executive Session as outlined in 1 M.R.S.A § 405(6)(D) for the purpose of discussing teacher negotiations for RSU No. 5. (Blais – Decsipkes)

Time In: 7:25 p.m.

Time Out: 8:20 p.m.

19. ACTION AS A RESULT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION:

None

20. ADJOURNMENT:

VOTED: (4) To adjourn at 8:21 p.m. (Blais – Morang) (9 – 0).



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