

RSU No. 5 Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday, January 11, 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 January 25, 2012 meeting).

CALLED TO ORDER:

Chairperson Larkins called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jane Blais, Candace Decsipkes, Eric Dube, Brenda Kielty, Nelson Larkins, John Morang, Peter Murray, Beth Parker, John Ricker, Karin VanNostrand

MEMBERS ABSENT: Kathryn Brown

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

4. ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA:

5. COMMUNICATIONS:

Brenda Kielty reported on her visit to a high school classroom and how beneficial it is to have time with teachers in their environment. It is an opportunity to see what it is like in the classroom, what the teacher's priorities are and bring that information back to the Board. Brenda encouraged other Board members to visit the classrooms.

Peter Murray and Nelson Larkins shared their experience when they participated in a potluck and book study with students from an American Studies class. Eleven students, teachers Mr. Dyhrberg and Mr. Mellon participated in the discussion. Peter and Nelson both agreed it was good to get to interact with students in an intellectual way and found it very valuable.

6. WORKSHOP:

Interim Report of the Freeport High School Facilities Committee: Lyndon Keck, Senior Principal Architect with Portland Design Team reported on where they are with the process and what they know so far. They are half-way done with the study and there are currently no cost estimates, no floor plans and the strategic master plan is not finished. A meeting was held with the High School Leadership team in December and all employees at the high school were surveyed. Four themes emerged, they were: need for a more robust new IT network; improved classroom technology; greater mix of classroom sizes and congestion in hallway to lower level of the school. The intermediate progress report included a campus site plan analysis. Changes would need to be made to the proposed athletic complex plan including moving the proposed track and softball field. Moving the alternative program (portable building) into the high school was suggested. Bus loading and unloading is unsafe and drop off and pick up by parents is congested and backs up Holbrook Street. The intermediate report also includes a space allocation program that outlines appropriate square footage needs per students. There is roughly a shortage of five classrooms at the high school. Building analysis and infrastructure systems were also part of the report which included congestion in narrow corridor serving cafeteria, gym and FPAC, the lower level rooms feel isolated, weight room is undersized, all toilet rooms need renovation.

Mr. Keck announced presentations will take place in each community starting on January 18th at the FPAC then Pownal on January 24th. A date for Durham is being worked on. The goal of the presentations is to inform the public and to gather feedback and input.

7. ADJOURNMENT:

Voted: (1) To adjourn at 8:12 p.m. (Blais – Parker) (10 – 0)



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