

RSU No. 5 Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday, March 23, 2011 – 6:30 p.m.
Freeport High School Cafeteria
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 April 27, 2011 meeting).

CALLED TO ORDER:

Chairperson Larkins called the meeting to order at 6:40 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jane Blais, Eric Dube, John Green (arrived at 6:41 p.m.), Cori Holt, Nelson Larkins, John Morang, Peter Murray, Beth Parker, Karin VanNostrand, Greg Wilson

MEMBERS ABSENT: Brenda Kielty

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

4. CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES:

A. VOTED: (1) To approve the Minutes of February 16, 2011 and March 9, 2011.
(Murray – Parker) (10 – 0)

5. ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA:

6. GOOD NEWS & RECOGNITION:

A. Report from Student Government: Evan Goodwin reported on the following taking place at Freeport High School: registration for fall classes has gone paperless; seniors are getting ready to leave for senior projects; spring sports will be starting up; YAAP will be holding a spring fair; Ms. Whitmore's French class has been corresponding with a class in Paris; Project Graduation will be holding a fundraiser on April 1st in the FPAC; and parent conferences are being held this week.

7. REPORTS FROM ADMINISTRATORS:

A. Student Information System – Seth Thompson, Technology Director, reported on the findings of the SIS Selection Team. A student information system (SIS) is a program designed to manager student data. Currently RSU5 uses three different SISs. The goal of the SIS Selection Team was to select one SIS for district wide adoption. The team evaluated three different programs, Infinite Campus, PowerSchool, and Web2School. Based on group discussions, webinars, information from surrounding school districts, and individual research, the team agreed that PowerSchool was the best choice for the RSU.

8. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

None

9. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Freeport: Nicky Knighton is a member of the parent led High School renovation project committee looking at safety and interior improvements. The committee recommends adding their suggested improvements, estimated at \$200,000 to the Campus Complex bond.

Joe Migliaccio voiced his support for the Campus Complex adding this is the best time for borrowing. If budgets are kept flat in the towns we can afford the bond.

Mary Lehmer noted her disappointment with late arrival being removed from the High School calendar for 2011-2012 and suggested ways to incorporate it into the schedule.

Spencer Egan stated his support for the sports fields and the importance of late arrival time at the High School.

Kristen Dorsey spoke of her hope that in the future more people would respond to surveys and provide feedback on important items like the calendar. Kristen also mentioned she would like more detail shown in the budget, a more thorough document. She would also like to hear from administrators what is needed, not just what is in the budget.

10. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- A. Budget FY'12 – Superintendent Welsh reported tonight is an opportunity to further discuss the recommended FY'12 budget that was presented last evening. The Budget Goal is to continue to increase educational excellence while demonstrating a greater efficiency in the use of our resources. Staff and administration have spent months looking at revenues and programming to stay at a flat budget. All of the Board's priorities were added to this budget. We have benefited as an RSU by not paying tuition to other high schools and reinvesting that savings in programming.

The Board asked questions regarding class sizes, professional development days, and asked what items were not added.

Continued budget deliberations will occur over the next two months ending June 4th with a three-town Annual Budget Meeting followed by a Budget Validation Referendum on June 14th. All citizens are encouraged to participate in the process.

- B. Fields and Grounds Update – Craig Sickels, Athletic Director updated the Board on meetings with community groups that have taken place since the last Board meeting. He has also talked with Donna Larson, Town Planner regarding parking for the complex. Craig has also talked with companies regarding lighting and sound restrictions in an effort to gather preliminary information. The neighbors concerns include: traffic flow and safety; parking; lights and noise. Mr. Sickels spoke to the fundraising effort he and possibly members of the fields and grounds committee would take on to help with offsetting the bond payments.

Kelly Wentworth, Director of Finance discussed specifics to the \$2.9 million bond including a term of 15 years with the initial interest only payment of \$56,000 due the spring of 2011-2012 and \$299,377 the following year.

A motion was made by Morang, seconded by Parker to move that the Vote entitled, "Vote to Authorize a Referendum to be Held on the issuance of Athletic Facility Bonds" be approved in form presented to this meeting and that an attested copy of said Vote be included in the minutes of this meeting.

VOTED: (2) To amend the motion to delete the words "School Board Recommends a "YES" vote" on the "Vote to Authorize a Referendum to be Held on the issuance of Athletic Facility Bonds" (Dube – Parker) (10 – 0)

VOTED: (3) That the Vote entitled, "Vote to Authorize a Referendum to be Held on the issuance of Athletic Facility Bonds" be approved in form presented to this meeting as amended to delete the words "School Board Recommends a "YES" vote" and that an attested copy of said Vote be included in the minutes of this meeting. (Morang – Parker) (7 – 3 Blais, Green, Holt)

11. NEW BUSINESS:

A. 1st Read on the 2011-2012 School Calendar.

12. FINANCIAL REPORTS:

A. RSU No. 5 Financial Statements March 17, 2011

13. COMMUNICATIONS (Consent Agenda):

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

A. Policy – Cori Holt reported the committee met on March 11th and received a significant amount of feedback on policy packet 11-4. The committee reviewed the draft GCMA Instructional Staff Planning Time policy. The policy provides flexibility so the Board can respond to changing conditions without having to constantly change policies. This flexibility does not change the Board's intent to provide planning time, it simply reflects the fact that the amount of time is dependent upon the availability of staff and the budget. The committee and the Board as a whole understand the importance of planning time and how hard our staff works to provide a quality educational program. Policy packet 11-5 received no feedback and was finalized for 1st Read on March 23rd with 2nd Read/Adoption on April 27th. Packet 11-6 was prepared for distribution on March 23rd. 1st Read will take place on April 27th with 2nd Read/Final adoption on May 27, 2011.

B.& C. Communications and Strategic Planning – Jane Blais reported that the committees have met with Ken Templeton from Great Schools to continue work to review a draft of the information for our upcoming State of the Schools Report. The report was mailed to every household in the three communities. The committee also discussed the RSU5 Education Forum scheduled for March 29, 2011 at 6:30 p.m. in the FPAC. Academic and financial indicators outlined in the Strategic Framework will be used to provide an accounting of our performance at this point in time. The Forum will provide a community discussion of what's been accomplished, areas to celebrate, and what goals we should establish as we look to the future.

- D. Finance – Eric Dube reported the committee met two times. At the February 16th meeting an update on the Audit was provided, the State of Maine granted us an additional extension to March 15th. The committee reviewed the preliminary estimate for the 2011-2012 state subsidy. As expected there is a reduction in the amount of state funded debt service as the final payment on the Mast Landing School was made in 2010-2011. The funding level is close to the earlier estimates as our valuation remains flat. John Morang gave the committee a status update of the High School Athletic Field Complex and the Hunter Road complex. At the March 9th meeting it was reported work is being done on the final research projects with the Auditors. The updated Capital Plan document was presented to the committee. The Facilities Committee toured the buildings in mid-October. The goal of the plan has continued to be that \$400,000 per year be raised for capital improvements and enhancements. The committee reviewed the proposed 2011-2012 budget and handouts. The Board's budget priorities have been worked into the budget. New to the budget this year is the creation of the Capital and Fuel Reserve Accounts.
- E. Negotiations – Nelson Larkins reported support staff negotiations will be held tomorrow night and the first mediation session with the teachers is scheduled for March 31st. Administrators are working on a different structure.

15. PERSONNEL:

A. Staff Retirements:

1. Susan Smith – Special Education Teacher
2. Tamia Welch – First Grade Teacher

B. Staff Resignations:

1. Sue Phillips – Title 1 Teacher

C. VOTED: (4) To employ Angela Sclar as a .5 Time nurse for the remainder of the 2010-2011 school year. (Morang – Parker) (10 – 0)

16. POLICY REVIEW:

A. Policy Packet 11-3 was distributed for policy book update.

B. Policy Packet 11-6 was distributed for review with plans for 1st Read on April 27, 2011 and 2nd Read/Final Adoption on June 8, 2011.

C. 1st Read on the Following Policies: Packet 11-5

1. BEDJ - Broadcasting/Taping of Board of Directors Meetings By the Public
2. BEDL – Adjournment of Board Meetings
3. BG – School Board Policy
4. BG-R – Policy Adoption Procedure
5. BHC – Board of Directors Communications with Staff
6. BIA – New Board of Directors Member Orientation
7. BIB – Board of Directors Member Development Opportunities

8. GBCC – Employee Use of Cell Phones
9. IJOA – Field Trips and Other Student Travel

D. A motion was made by Dube, seconded by Holt to adopt the following policies: Packet 11-4

1. BEDB – Agenda
2. BEDBA – Agenda Format
3. BEDC – Quorum
4. BEDD – Rules of Order
5. BEDF – Voting Method
6. BEDFA – Abstentions
7. BEDG – Minutes
8. BEDH – Public Participation at Board of Directors Meetings
9. BEDI – Board of Directors Relations with the Media
10. GCMA – Instructional Staff Planning Time
11. GCRD – Private Tutoring for Pay

VOTED: (5) To amend the motion to move policy GCRD – Private Tutoring for Pay to Packet 11-5. (Parker – Murray) (10 – 0)

VOTED: (6) To further amend the motion to move policy BEDI – Board of Directors Relations with the Media to Packet 11-5. (Murray – Green) (10 – 0)

VOTED: (7) To adopt the following policies: Packet 11-4, as amended by moving policies GCRD – Private Tutoring for Pay and BEDI – Board of Directors Relations with the Media to Packet 11-5. (Dube – Holt) (10 – 0)

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17. ADJOURNMENT:

Voted: (8) To adjourn at 9:21 P.M. (Parker – Holt) (10 – 0).



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

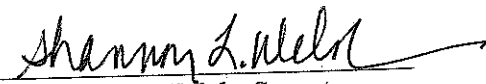
MOTION: I move that the Vote entitled, "Vote to Authorize a Referendum to be Held on the Issuance of Athletic Facility Bonds" be approved in form presented to this meeting and that an attested copy of said Vote be included in the minutes of this meeting.

**VOTE TO AUTHORIZE A REFERENDUM TO BE HELD ON THE ISSUANCE OF
ATHLETIC FACILITY BONDS**

Voted: That a Regional School Unit No. 5 ("Region 5") referendum be held on June 14, 2011 for the purpose of submitting a question substantially in the form set forth below to the Region 5 voters and that the Superintendent of Schools be directed to have legal counsel prepare the warrants, public hearing notices, ballot forms, specimen ballot forms and other materials necessary to call and conduct the referendum.

Question 1: Shall the School Board be authorized to issue bonds or notes in the name of Regional School Unit No. 5 for minor capital project purposes in an amount not to exceed \$2,978,324.00 for athletic facility and related infrastructure renovations and improvements at Freeport High School?

A true copy attest:


Shannon L. Welsh, Secretary