

RSU No. 5 Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday, March 10, 2010 – 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 March 24, 2010 meeting).

CALLED TO ORDER:

Chairperson Larkins called the meeting to order at 6:33 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jonathan Dawson, Kristen Dorsey, Eric Dube, Cori Holt, Brenda Kielty, Nelson Larkins, Melinda McKechnie, John Morang, Beth Parker, Elizabeth Peters, Laurie Poissonnier

MEMBERS ABSENT:

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

4. ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA:

Resignation of Board member Melinda McKechnie, effective at the end of tonight's meeting.

5. WORKSHOP: PRESENTATION OF RSU NO. 5 FY'11 BUDGET:

Superintendent Welsh reported this will be a continuation of last evening's presentation on the Superintendent's Recommended 2010-2011 RSU No. 5 budget. 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 restructuring, reallocating, and reducing the budget with the goal of continuing to provide a high quality education to our students and retaining staff positions.

There is a budget *decrease* of (\$596,965) or -2.7%. This results in a projected tax impact (due to offsetting local revenues) as follows:

- Durham – a reduction of – \$21,825
- Freeport – an increase of \$12,738
- Pownal – a reduction of – \$4,730

A lengthy discussion took place on the recommendation in the budget is to replace Pownal's current middle school program with the choice of attending either Durham or Freeport middle schools. This recommendation provides for a reduction of three teaching positions and a restructured administrative position for a budget reduction of approximately \$180,000.

Continued budget deliberations will occur over the next two months ending May 26th with a three-town Annual Budget Meeting followed by a Budget Validation Referendum on June 8th. All citizens are encouraged to participate in the process.

6. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

- A. Legislative Update: Superintendent Welsh reported on a Resolution Seeking Fair, Equitable, and Transparent Funding of Education in Maine adopted by area Boards. The Resolution outlines the lack of state funding for education, cuts during the school year on an emergency basis, and the lack of clear information from the Department of Education.

VOTED: (1) To adopt the Resolution as presented. (Dube – Parker) (11 – 0)

- B. Strategic Framework Indicators: Superintendent Welsh reported the Financial Indicator Task Force met last week and again this evening. The Performance Indicators Task Force will meet tomorrow. Dr. Welsh has been in contact with David Silvernail, Director of the Center for Education Policy, Applied Research, and Evaluation at USM to discuss his research on how high performing schools spend their money and the direct impact on student performance. The report will be released after David Silvernail reports out to the Education Committee. His research ties directly into the work we are doing.

7. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Durham: Lois Kilby-Chesley

Freeport: Hank Ogilby, Stephanie Paine

Pownal: Jane Humpfrey, Steve Russell, Jonathan Morris

8. 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 the Durham Educational Support Personnel side letter of agreement. (Poissonnier – Morang) (11 – 0)

Time In: 9:25 P.M.

Time Out: 9:32 P.M.

9. ACTION AS A RESULT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION:

- A. **VOTED (3):** To ratify the Durham Educational Support Personnel side letter of agreement. (Poissonnier – Peters) (11 - 0)

10. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

- A. **VOTED (4):** To enter into Executive Session as outlined in 1 M.R.S.A § 405(6)(D) for the purpose of discussing administrator, support staff and teacher negotiations for RSU No. 5.

Time In: 9:33 P.M.

Time Out: 10:20 P.M.

11. ACTION AS A RESULT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION:

None

12. ADJOURNMENT:

Voted: (5) To adjourn at 10:21 P.M. (Parker – Morang) (11 – 0)

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