

RSU No. 5 Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday, February 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 February 24, 2010 meeting).

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: Elizabeth Peters

CALLED TO ORDER:

Chairperson Larkins called the meeting to order at 6:32 P.M.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

4. ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA:

None

5. WORKSHOPS:

- A. Strategic Framework: Superintendent Welsh reported no additional feedback has been received on the revised framework. The teachers, administrators and others will work on the academic indicators between now and April. The Finance sub-committee will work on the financial indicators between now and March. The Finance sub-committee will invite three others to join a task force to work on the indicators. If anyone else is interested in participating on the task force please e-mail Superintendent Welsh at welshs@rsu5.org. Board adoption on the framework is scheduled for February 24th.
- B. Transportation Analysis: Eric Dube, Chair of the Finance sub-committee reported the transportation analysis was presented to the Board and public at the January 27th Board of Directors meeting. The analysis was posted on the website along with the video clip of the presentation. The public was invited to provide feedback via e-mail and the public hearing was scheduled for tonight. Mr. Dube stated no decisions have been made only preliminary work with some contractors has been done to obtain the numbers for the analysis. The subject of providing a transportation analysis was brought up last year when the Board voted to extend the Durham bus contract with BoMar.

Chair Larkins informed the audience that a vote is tentatively set for the February 24th Board meeting, but the agenda has not yet been finalized. The Board will be setting budget priorities and an initial draft budget will be presented on March 9th.

Public comments were made by the following people:

Durham: Rose Boyden, Ted Foss, Betty Keith, Jeremy Arsenault, Lisa Arsenault, John Sloan (BoMar Transportation)

Freeport: Tim Doughty, Terry Agnese, Addie Morang, Elizabeth Wiest, Allison Anderson, Izzy Qualls, Sue Curry, Madeline Baker, Rachel Poulin, Fred Prescott, Brian Berkemeyer, Tina Snow, Tim Ryan, Angela Ingerson, Tom Edwards, Gerry Kennedy, Joe Migliaccio, Maureen Qualls, Hank Ogilby, Angie Sclar, Lynn Hennings, Holly Goldrup, Paul Lowe, Rick White, Tom Hudak, Shaina Curry, Rich DeGrandpre

Pownal: Tracy Borden, Rhonda O'Shea

- C. Use of Time Report Out: Sarah Simmonds, Curriculum Director presented the Use of Time Advisory Committee Final Report. The committee met five times since November 19th with Heidi McGinley from the Department of Education as the facilitator. The committee analyzed the current RSU No. 5 calendar and the allocation of professional development time in each town; researched various aspects of professional development time; and looked at calendars from districts both in surrounding communities and districts deemed "high performing." Focus groups were convened and electronic surveys were provide to staff, families and community members to gather feedback. The committee reached consensus on common full in-service days for teachers in the 2010-2011 RSU No. 5 calendar: maintain the legal requirements of 175 student days and 180 teacher days; allocate professional compensation time for teachers in one full day and two half days. This allocation of professional compensation time would result in four full in-service days across all schools and towns. There is also significant majority support in the committee to allocate the two professional compensation days as four half days. Doing so will yield five full in-service days during the school year with no economic impact; schedule all full in-service days on the same dates in all schools and towns. The committee did not reach full agreement on the inclusion of early release time or late arrival in the 2010-2011 calendar.

Draft calendar options will be developed in mid-February and will go through a feedback process, which will result in calendar options being presented to the Board for a 1st read at the March 24th meeting, followed by time for public comment, and with anticipated 2nd read/adoption by the Board on April 28th.

- D. Mast Landing Report Out: Superintendent Welsh reported this year was a pilot year at Mast Landing School with a one principal model instead of the teaching-principal model as in the past. Parents, staff and administrators were asked to provide us with their thoughts regarding the effectiveness of the one-principal model as compared to the teaching-principal model in place last year. The results of the feedback received indicate strong support for the one-principal model. Tonight's report was for informational purposes. Action will be taken at the February 24th Board meeting on the one-principal model.

6. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Sally Martin, Freeport resident and Mast Landing School staff member, commented on the Mast Landing administrative structure report out.

Liza Moore, Freeport resident and Mast Landing School staff member, commented on the Mast Landing administrative structure report out.

Mary Lehmer, Freeport resident, commented on the value in late start at the high school.

7. ADJOURNMENT:

Voted: (4) To adjourn at 9:41 P.M. (Poissonnier – Holt) (10 – 0)

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