

RSU No. 5 Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday, October 14, 2009 – 7:00 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 October 28, 2009 meeting).

MEMBERS PRESENT: Kristen Dorsey, Eric Dube, Cori Holt, Jennifer Kaplan, Brenda Kielty, Nelson Larkins, John Morang, Beth Parker, Elizabeth Peters

MEMBERS ABSENT: Melinda McKechnie, Laurie Poissonnier

CALLED TO ORDER:

Chairperson Larkins called the meeting to order at 7:03 P.M.

3. ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA:

None

4. WORKSHOP:

Great Schools Partnership presented a draft Strategic Plan to the Board. The Plan is divided into five sections and an Appendix. Sections include: Section I. District Vision and Mission Statement (does not exist at this time); Section II. Student Achievement; Section III. District Strategies; Section IV. Financial Efficiencies; Section V. Public Communication Commitments; and Appendix A. Glossary.

The next step in this important process is to gather input from the staff, students and citizens from the three communities. Survey Monkey will be used to gather this feedback. Great Schools will collect and review all feedback. The Plan will be revised based on feedback and draft targets (or a target range) will be established for each indicator.

At the November 4th Board Meeting, the Board of Directors will receive and discuss the revised draft Plan and targets, which will again be distributed for review. A Community Forum will be held as part of the November 18th Board Meeting for staff and citizens to respond to the newly revised Plan and targets. Formal adoption of the full Strategic Plan is anticipated for December 9th.

Following adoption, administrators and staff will work together to consider school-based strategies that support the District Plan. The 2009-2010 school year is a "base-line" year and status checks on our growth are set for June 2011, 2012, and 2013.

5. OLD BUSINESS:

A. Legislative Process and Agenda on Consolidation.

Superintendent Welsh reported she met with members of the Department of Education on October 13th to discuss the process following the November 3rd vote on consolidation. If the consolidation law is overturned the legislature has 45 days after entering session to take action. There are several actions they can take and it depends on the margin of vote. A large margin will send a clear message to the legislature and a close margin will be harder to figure out. One possibility would be to turn the RSU's into School Administrative Districts (S.A.D.'s). This will

result in the current RSU's being able to follow the law on disbanding a S.A.D. The Legislature could also create "bridge legislation" for a set period of time then start the process of disbanding the RUS's.

If the consolidation law is not repealed we would need to work with the Legislature on how to make improvements to the consolidation law. Three important improvements would be: creating an "out clause" a mechanism to opt out of consolidation; common date for Board elections; and the cost of Budget Validation Referendums.

6. COMMUNICATIONS:

A. Surplus Equipment

7. POLICY:

A. **VOTED (1):** To change the start time of Board meetings to 6:30 P.M.
(Dube – Peters) (8 – 1 Parker)

8. ADJOURNMENT:

Voted: (2) To adjourn at 9:40 P.M. (Dube – Peters) (9 – 0)

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