

RSU No. 5 Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday, May 13, 2009 – 6:30 P.M.
Freeport High School Cafeteria
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 May 27, 2009 meeting).

MEMBERS PRESENT: Kristen Dorsey, Cori Holt, Jennifer Kaplan, Nelson Larkins,
Melinda McKechnie, John Morang, Beth Parker, Elizabeth Peters,
Laurie Poissonnier

MEMBERS ABSENT: Eric Dube, Brenda Kielty

CALLED TO ORDER:

Chairperson Poissonnier called the meeting to order at 6:35 P.M.

3. CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES:

A. VOTED: (1) To approve the Minutes of the April 29, 2009 and May 6, 2009 meeting of the Board of Directors as presented. (Morang – Parker) (9 – 0)

4. ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA:

Chairperson Poissonnier noted the following two items on the agenda will be tabled due to the anticipated length of the meeting and Commissioner Gendron being in attendance at the meeting.

8. B. Consideration of action to approve job descriptions for the following positions:

1. Director of Finance and Human Resources
2. Accounts Payable Coordinator
3. Payroll/Bookkeeper
4. Human Resources Coordinator
5. Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent of Schools

9. C. Consideration of action to approve job descriptions for the following positions:

1. Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction
2. Director of Facilities & Transportation
3. Custodial/Maintenance & Transportation Assistant Manager
4. Director of Food Service
5. Director of Recreation and Community Education
6. Director of Student Services
7. Director of Technology

5. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT:

None

6. FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR INTERIM BUDGET:

A. RSU No. 5 Financial Statement May 5, 2009

7. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Board members and citizens questioned the Commissioner about a variety of possible solutions including alternate budgeting and cost-sharing agreements, delaying the implementation date of the RSU, changing the debt-sharing agreement, and legislative action that would provide relief. There was also one comment on the 2009-2010 School Calendar.

Durham residents: Lois Kilby-Chesley, Jane Rice

Freeport residents: Joe Migliaccio, Michael Healy, Peter Murray, Kristen Bailey, Rich DeGrandpre, Jay Perrotta, Gerry Kennedy

Pownal residents: Donna Brown, Scott Kaplan, Rodney Richard, Cliff Ruprecht, Mike Carter, Paul Schumann

Legislative representative David Van Wie

8. OLD BUSINESS:

A. Review Budget FY'10

Commissioner of Education Susan Gendron was in attendance at the meeting to explain the circumstances prompting her withdrawal of a recent grant proposal. The Commissioner explained she had recently offered a grant to M.S.A.D. #62 (Pownal) in the amount of \$190,000. The grant had been intended to study the longer-term financial impact(s) and potential educational benefits of consolidation. The Legislative Education Committee expressed concerns about providing funds to one system to study the impact of consolidation when other systems did not have that same opportunity. These concerns prompted the Commissioner to withdraw the grant offer.

The Commissioner stated that she does not have authorization to delay the implementation date of the RSU. Current law requires systems to be operational by July 1, 2009. Systems found not to be in compliance face consequences that may include the loss of state subsidy. Commissioner Gendron offered to facilitate a meeting to search for a resolution to the current challenges facing the RSU. The meeting was scheduled for May 18, 2008 at 7:00 P.M. in the high school cafeteria

The Board discussed the high school's participation in the State's laptop program. Grant funds, funds from the current year's budget and from the 09-10 budget will be used for the first year of the program. Funding for following years may come from the reallocation of budget items such as tuition funds as more of Durham's students attend the high school.

Voted: (2) To authorize the Superintendent to enter into agreements to commit to the 9-12 MLTI program (Larkins – Peters) (8 – 0 – 1 Kaplan)

B. The following job descriptions were tabled under 4. Adjustments to the Agenda:

1. Director of Finance and Human Resources
2. Accounts Payable Coordinator
3. Payroll/Bookkeeper
4. Human Resources Coordinator
5. Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent of Schools

9. NEW BUSINESS:

A. 1st Read on the 2009-2010 School Calendar.

B. Nomination of Teachers for the 2009-2010 School Year.

1) Nomination of Teachers for 2nd Year Probationary Contracts:

Kirsten Adami
Charles Andreson
Diane Atwood
Pamela Crane
Eliza Damone
Sheri Gonye
Dorothy Hall-Riddle
Krista Hill
Mary Hogan
Michele Lee
Lorissa Lemay
Tracy Libby
Gillian Lobkowitz
Elizabeth Milligan
Peter Morrison
Jessica Sturges

Voted: (3) To accept the nomination of the above personnel, with Jennifer Jones removed, and to authorize the Superintendent of Schools to issue a contract for the 2009-2010 school year.
(Morang – Parker) (9 – 0)

2) Nomination of Teachers for 1st Year Continuing Contracts:

Tiffany Alden
Erika Dupont
Danielle Hiltz
Karin Kurry
Bobbie Maunsell
Kristi Sarchi
Margaret Sparrow
Nicholas Witte

Voted: (4) To accept the nomination of the above personnel and to authorize the Superintendent of Schools to issue a contract for the 2009-2010 school year. (Morang – Parker) (9 – 0)

C. The following job descriptions were tabled under 4. Adjustments to the Agenda:

1. Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction
2. Director of Facilities & Transportation
3. Custodial/Maintenance & Transportation Assistant Manager
4. Director of Food Service
5. Director of Recreation and Community Education
6. Director of Student Services
7. Director of Technology

10. COMMUNICATIONS (Consent Agenda)

A. FY'10 Revised Budget Schedule

Elizabeth Peters made the following motion and Jennifer Kaplan seconded it: If we haven't come out of the May 18, 2009 meeting with the Commissioner with an improved scenario we defer and pause for one year and move to a due process hearing. After a discussion by the Board, Jennifer Kaplan withdrew her second and Elizabeth Peters tabled the motion.

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

A. Communications: Betsy Peters reported the committee met on May 4th and has decided to postpone the Future Search Conference due to the current situation.

The conference would now have been held between the Annual Budget Meeting and the Referendum vote.

B. Finance: John Morang reported the committee met on May 7th to continue discussions on the budget. A warrant was signed requesting expenditures of \$10,163.90 which was mostly legal fees for negotiations. There is \$59,140.29 remaining in the interim budget. Bank RFP's were received from Bath Savings and Key Bank. Deeds were also discussed and there is a small issue with the Freeport Middle School property.

C. Negotiations: The committee has been meeting and discussing how to move forward. Meetings have been scheduled this week with Durham support staff, Teachers and Administrators.

12. ADJOURNMENT:

Voted: (5) To adjourn at 10:37 P.M. (Parker – McKechnie) (9 – 0)

Shannon L. Welsh
Superintendent of Schools