

**RSU No. 5 Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday, January 28, 2026 – 6:30 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 February 11, 2026 meeting).

- 1. CALLED TO ORDER:**
Chair Michelle Ritcheson called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.
- 2. MEMBERS PRESENT:** Karen Breer, Anna Child, Colin Cheney, Malik Farlow, Kara Kaikini, Michelle Ritcheson, Christopher Savaiano, Kelly Sink, Valerie Williams, Stephanie Worth. Maria Abbatemarco, Student Representative (left at 8:55 p.m.)
MEMBERS ABSENT: There is an open Durham seat
- 3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**
- 4. CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES:**
A. **VOTED:** To approve the Minutes of January 14, 2026. (Williams – Kaikini) (10 – 0) The Student Representative did not vote.
- 5. ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA:**
Item 12.A. Tabled
- 6. GOOD NEWS AND RECOGNITION:**
A. Report from the Board's Student Representative - Maria Abbatemarco
- 7. PUBLIC COMMENT:**
None
- 8. REPORTS FROM SUPERINTENDENT:**
A. Superintendent's Report
B. Support Staff New Hires - Nate Walrath - FHS Ed Tech
- 9. ADMINISTRATOR REPORTS:**
A. Finance - Kelly Wentworth
- 10. BOARD COMMENTS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS:**
A. Board Information Exchange and Agenda Requests
 - Valerie Williams - Region Ten update has not heard back on three funding requests.
B. Finance Committee and Facilities and Operations Committee Joint Meeting
C. Facilities and Operations Committee
D. Policy Committee
- 11. POLICY REVIEW:**
A. **VOTED:** To approve 2nd Read of the following policies:
 1. JICJ - Student Use of Cell Phones and Other Personal Electronic Devices (New Policy)

2. EBCF - Automated External Defibrillators (AED's)
3. EBBB - Temperature Standards for Schools (New Policy)
(Worth – Sink) (10 – 0) The Student Representative voted with the majority.

B. **VOTED:** To approve 1st Read of the following policies:

1. JICK - Bullying
2. JICK - R - Bullying Administrative Procedure
(Savaiano – Child) (10 – 0) The Student Representative voted with the majority.

12. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- A. Consideration and approval to join Cohort 3 (2026-2027) of the Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE) Transition from Child Development Services (CDS) to RSU 5. ***This item was tabled***
- B. **VOTED:** To approve 2nd Read of the 2026-2027 School Calendar. (Breer – Worth) (10 – 0) The Student Representative voted with the majority.

13. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Presentation of the Superintendent's 2026-2027 Proposed Budget

14. PERSONNEL:

None

15. PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

16. ADJOURNMENT:

VOTED: To adjourn at 9:21 p.m. (Kaikini – Sink) (10 – 0)



Tom Gray, Superintendent of Schools