

**RSU No. 5 Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday, February 4, 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 25, 2026 meeting).

1. CALLED TO ORDER:

Chair Michelle Ritcheson called the meeting to order at 6:31 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. Moon Tussing, Student Representative (left at 8:39 p.m.)

MEMBERS ABSENT: There is an open Durham seat

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

4. CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES:

None

5. ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA:

None

6. GOOD NEWS AND RECOGNITION:

A. Report from the Board's Student Representative - Maria Abbatemarco

7. PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

8. REPORTS FROM SUPERINTENDENT:

A. Support Staff New Hires - Jamie Gurshick - Instructions Support Administrative Assistant
Colby Best - Laugh & Learn Teacher
Maran Gardner - Laugh & Learn Teacher

9. ADMINISTRATOR REPORTS:

None

10. BOARD COMMENTS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS:

None

11. POLICY REVIEW:

None

12. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

A. FY27 Budget Review:

1. Community Programs - Peter Wagner
2. Nutrition - Erica Reilly
3. Superintendent's 2026-2027 Proposed Budget

B. VOTED: To join Cohort 3 (2026-2027) of the Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE) Transition from Child Development Services (CDS) to RSU 5. (Sink – Kaikini) (10 – 0)

13. NEW BUSINESS:

A. District Scorecard - Erica Mazzeo

14. PERSONNEL:

None

15. PUBLIC COMMENT:

John Jaques (Freeport), Sara Davis (FMS Staff Member), Chantelle Best (Pownal), Will Pidden (DCS Principal)

16. ADJOURNMENT:

VOTED: To adjourn at 9:37 p.m. (Kaikini – Worth) (10 – 0)



Tom Gray, Superintendent of Schools