

**RSU No. 5 Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday, February 25, 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 March 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, Lois Kilby-Chesley, Michelle Ritcheson, Christopher Savaiano, Kelly Sink, Valerie Williams, Stephanie Worth (arrived at 6:31). Moon Tussing, Student Representative (left at 9:00 p.m.)

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

4. CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES:

- A. **VOTED:** To approve the Minutes of February 4, 2026 and February 11, 2026.
(Sink – Breer) (11 - 0) The Student Representative voted with the majority.

5. ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA:

Add Item# 13.3.

6. GOOD NEWS AND RECOGNITION:

- A. Report from Board's Student Representative

7. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Pownal - Lindsay Hahn, Heather Liimakka, Taylor Steer, Rich Brereton, Meghan Metger, Nicholas Cyr, Matt Altieri, Andy Seymour, Bret Vicary, Brandon Perry, Jesse Fisk, Meaghan Arena, Julie Baird, Kate Martens, Mark Dohle, Bill Bogart, Ian Nichols

8. REPORTS FROM SUPERINTENDENT:

- A. Superintendent's Report
B. Resignations - Meredith Hooke - MSS/PES Librarian
Jeremy Arsenault - Director of Transportation

9. ADMINISTRATOR REPORTS:

- A. Region Ten Technical High School Budget Update - Shawn Chabot
B. Finance - Kelly Wentworth

10. BOARD COMMENTS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- A. Board Information Exchange and Agenda Requests
- Anna Child shared that the Curriculum and Program Development Committee has been meeting at least monthly and has learned about Next Gen Science and Math. Request to learn more about the Reading curriculum.
- B. Finance Committee

- C. Facilities and Operations Committee
- D. Policy Committee

11. POLICY REVIEW:

- A. **VOTED:** To approve 2nd Read of the following policies:
 - 1. JICK - Bullying
 - 2. JICK - R - Bullying Administrative Procedure
(Sink - Worth) (11 - 0) The Student Representative voted with the majority.
- B. **VOTED:** To approve 1st Read of the following policies:
 - 1. JIC - Student Code of Conduct
 - 2. JEA - Compulsory Attendance
(Kaikini - Savaiano) (11 - 0) The Student Representative voted with the majority.

12. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- A. District Reconfiguration Process
- B. FY27 Budget Review: Superintendent's 2026-2027 Proposed Budget

13. NEW BUSINESS:

- 1. **VOTED:** To create the position of Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE) Assistant Director. (Farlow - Kaikini) (10 - 1 Kilby-Chesley)

VOTED: To continue the meeting past 10:00 p.m. (Sink - Kaikini) (11 - 0)

- 2. **VOTED:** To expend up to \$100,000 from Capital Reserves for a facilities study.
(Savaiano - Cheney) (11 - 0)
- 3. **VOTED:** To change the March 13, 2026 .5 Professional Learning Day to a .5 student day (morning) and a .5 Professional Learning Day (afternoon) on the 2025-2026 calendar.
(Sink - Worth) (11 - 0)

14. PERSONNEL:

- A. **VOTED:** To hire Kate Hillman Harrison as Principal at Durham Community School for the 2026-2027 school year, effective July 1, 2026. (Cheney - Child) (11 - 0)

15. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Pownal - Brandon Perry, Mark Dolley

16. ADJOURNMENT:

VOTED: To adjourn at 10:24 p.m. (Sink - Kaikini) (11 - 0)



Tom Gray, Superintendent of Schools