

**RSU No. 5 Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday, April 8, 2026 – 6:30 p.m.
Durham Community School - Cafeteria
Meeting Minutes
6:00-6:30 p.m. Q&A on the FY27 Adopted Budget**

(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 April 29, 2026 meeting).

1. CALLED TO ORDER:

Chair Michelle Ritcheson called the meeting to order at 6:43 p.m.

- 2. MEMBERS PRESENT:** Karen Breer, Colin Cheney, Anna Child, Kara Kaikini, Lois Kilby-Chesley, Michelle Ritcheson, Christopher Savaiano, Kelly Sink, Valerie Williams, Stephanie Worth. Moon Tussing, Student Representative
MEMBERS ABSENT: Malik Farlow

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

4. CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES:

- A. **VOTED:** To approve the Minutes of March 18, 2026 and March 25, 2026.
(Sink – Lois Kilby-Chesley) (10 – 0) The Student Representative voted with the majority.

5. ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA:

Item #8 Additional resignation and a new support staff hire.
Item # 9.B. Tabled

6. GOOD NEWS AND RECOGNITION:

- A. Report from Board's Student Representative - Moon Tussing

7. PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

8. REPORTS FROM SUPERINTENDENT:

- A. Resignations - Mike Lallemand, Maintenance Specialist
Izabelle Holbrook, DCS Ed Tech
Support Staff New Hire - Samuel Ngoma, FMS Custodian
B. Migration of Students

9. ADMINISTRATOR REPORTS:

- A. Update from Durham Community School - Will Pidden
B. Chapter 104 "Gifted & Talented Education" and MTSS - *This item was Tabled*

10. BOARD COMMENTS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- A. Strategic Communications Committee
B. Curriculum and Program Development Committee

11. POLICY REVIEW:

None

12. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

A. VOTED: That the Vote entitled, "Vote to Call and Approve the Warrants for the Budget Meeting and the Budget Validation Referendum and to Authorize the Notice of Amounts Adopted," be approved in form presented to this meeting and that a copy of said Vote be included with the minutes of this meeting.

(Child – Williams) (9 – 0) (*Member Savaiano stepped away*) The Student Representative voted with the majority.

13. NEW BUSINESS:

None

14. PERSONNEL:

A. VOTED: To employ Donna Casavant as the Early Childhood Special Education Assistant Director for the 2026-2027 school year. (Kilby-Chesley – Worth) (10 – 0) The Student Representative voted with the majority.

B. VOTED: To convert a Bus Driver/Custodian full time year round position to a full time year round Custodian position.

(Kaikini – Sink) (10 – 0) The Student Representative voted with the majority.

C. VOTED: To create a full time year round Van Driver/Custodian position using money from budgeted Van substitute funds.

(Child – Williams) (10 – 0) The Student Representative voted with the majority.

15. PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

16. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

VOTED: To enter into Executive Session as outlined in 1 M.R.S.A § 405(6)(A) for the purpose of discussing the Superintendent's evaluation. (Sink – Breer) (10 – 0) The Student Representative voted with the majority.

Time In: 7:43 p.m.

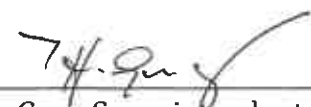
Time Out: 8:32 p.m.

17. ACTION AS A RESULT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION:

None

18. ADJOURNMENT:

VOTED: To adjourn at 8:33 p.m. (Kaikini – Kilby-Chesley) (10 – 0)



Tom Gray, Superintendent of Schools

April 8, 2026

Motion: I move that the Vote entitled, "Vote to Call and Approve the Warrants for the Budget Meeting and the Budget Validation Referendum and to Authorize the Notice of Amounts Adopted," be approved in form presented to this meeting and that a copy of said Vote be included with the minutes of this meeting.

VOTE TO CALL AND APPROVE THE WARRANTS FOR THE BUDGET MEETING
AND THE BUDGET VALIDATION REFERENDUM
AND TO AUTHORIZE THE NOTICE OF AMOUNTS ADOPTED

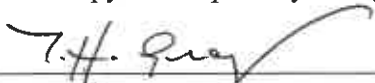
VOTED: That the warrant for the Regional School Unit No. 5 (the "Regional School Unit") Budget Meeting presented to the meeting be approved and that a Regional School Unit budget meeting be called for May 13, 2026 for the purpose of voting on the annual budget for the Regional School Unit for the 2026-2027 fiscal year;

That the Warrant and Notice of Election for the Regional School Unit Budget Validation Referendum presented to the meeting be approved, and that a Regional School Unit budget validation referendum be called for June 9, 2026 for the purpose of approving the budget adopted at the Regional School Unit budget meeting for the 2026-2027 fiscal year;

That the form of Notice of Amounts Adopted at Budget Meeting presented to this meeting be approved, and that the Superintendent of Schools of the Regional School Unit be authorized and directed to complete said Notice in accordance with the Regional School Unit budget meeting on May 13, 2026, and to cause copies of said Notice, as completed, to be delivered to the municipal clerks of each municipality of the Regional School Unit for posting at the polling places for the June 9, 2026 Regional School Unit budget validation referendum; and

That the Budget Meeting Warrant, the Warrant and Notice of Election, and the Notice of Amounts Adopted at Budget Meeting shall each be signed by a majority of the School Board, and that such signatures may be made by execution of counterparts, or in person at the convenience of the members of the School Board.

A true copy as adopted by a majority of the School Board, attest:



Thomas Gray, Secretary