

**RSU No. 5 Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday, September 23, 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 October 7, 2026 meeting).

1. CALLED TO ORDER:

Chair Michelle Ritcheson called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

2. MEMBERS PRESENT: Karen Breer, Colin Cheney, Anna Child, Melissa Jordan, Kara Kaikini, Michelle Ritcheson, Christopher Savaiano, Kelly Sink, Anne Ware, Valerie Williams, Stephanie Worth. Moon Tussing, Student Representative (left at 8:30 p.m.)

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

4. CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES:

A. **VOTED:** To approve the Minutes of September 9, 2026.

(Williams – Kaikini) (11 - 0) The Student Representative voted with the majority.

5. ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA:

None

6. GOOD NEWS AND RECOGNITION:

A. Report from Board's Student Representative

7. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Jonas Werner, Freeport; Kate McElligott, Freeport

8. REPORTS FROM SUPERINTENDENT:

A. Superintendent's Report

B. Support Staff Hires - Elizabeth Dalton - MSS Ed Tech

Resignations - Sarah Cartmell - FHS Ed Tech

Nick Weiss - Director of Transportation

9. ADMINISTRATOR REPORTS:

A. Finance - Kelly Wentworth

B. Overview of RSU5's Instructional Practices - Math, Literacy & Technology - Mandy Lewis

C. Update from Morse Street School and Goal Review - Julie Nickerson

10. BOARD COMMENTS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS:

A. Board Information Exchange and Agenda Requests

-Chris Savaiano asked about time limits for public comment/agenda items

-Colin Cheney asked about the Board's interest in an AI policy

B. Facilities and Operations Committee

C. Curriculum and Program Development Committee

D. Policy Committee

11. POLICY REVIEW:

- A. **VOTED:** To approve 1st Read of the following policies:
1. BEDB - Agenda
 2. BEDD - Rules of Order
 3. BEDH - Public Participation at Board of Directors Meetings
(Savaiano – Jordan) (11 – 0)

12. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

None

13. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. MSMA Fall Conference Information
- B. Discussion of the MSBA 2026 new and revised resolutions and proposed revisions to the MSBA Constitution
- C. **VOTED:** To change the Curriculum and Program Development Committee from an “Other” committee to a Board of Directors Standing Committee to be made up of three Board members with the following purpose and responsibilities:

Purpose

The overall purpose of the Curriculum and Program Development Committee is to align the Strategic plan with major curriculum and educational programming initiatives within the district, support transparency and communication regarding student learning priorities and outcomes, and recommend action to the Board of Directors.

Responsibilities

The Committee shall:

- Discuss district student learning priorities and outcomes with the goal of continuous improvement;
- Provide a forum for constituent engagement and diverse perspectives related to curriculum and educational programming;
- Support transparency and communication related to major curriculum and program initiatives;
- Provide periodic updates and reports to the Board of Directors;
- Recommend district-wide curriculum initiatives, assessments, and curriculum alignment efforts occurring across schools and grade levels to the Board of Directors.

(Sink – Kaikini) (11 – 0)

14. PERSONNEL:

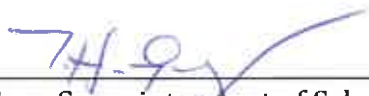
- A. **VOTED:** To approve Poleigh Driscoll as a Kindergarten Teacher at Morse Street School for the 2026-2027 school year. (Sink – Breer) (11 - 0)

15. PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

16. ADJOURNMENT:

VOTED: To adjourn at 9:51 p.m. (Sink – Savaiano) (11 – 0)



Tom Gray, Superintendent of Schools