The RSU 5 Board of Directors has adopted a Strategic Framework that outlines detailed academic program and financial goals. These were adopted in February 2010 with the intent of enhancing the quality of learning for our students. Indicators for each goal area were identified as well as a communication plan for keeping the public informed about our progress toward attaining these goals.

In addition to those district-level goals, the Board sets goals for its own development. Annually, the Board completes a self-evaluation based on dimensions of Board competency. The results are used to establish goals and planning for the year. The following goals were established for 2010-2011:

I. Goal Area: EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION

To effectively communicate with parents and the larger community so that they understand and engage in actively supporting the education of our students.

- Communications sub-committee members will contact parent groups at each school and municipal officers from each town on a regular basis throughout the year. *Communications sub-committee responsibility*
- The Board will hold a workshop meeting in each town on an annual basis. Members of the public will be invited to attend an informal social/coffee in each town prior to the workshop to provide an opportunity for the public to speak with members of the Board. That component of the Board meeting will not be videotaped for broadcast purposes. *Board Chair and administration responsibility*

II. Goal Area: BOARD DEVELOPMENT

To provide appropriate Board training and support opportunities for members to “develop and reinforce the skills required for effective policy-making, budget planning, and communications.” *Policy BIB*

- New Board members will be provided an orientation meeting and assigned a mentor for support and informational purposes. *Board, Chair, and administration responsibility*
- Board members will be encouraged to attend the Maine School Board Association annual conference. *Board and administration responsibility*
- Additional opportunities for Board development will be considered to share best practices and converse with members from other boards. *Board and administration responsibility*
III. Goal Area: FINANCIAL

To provide leadership for securing support for the district budget with a specific plan for explaining and defending the budget to the public.

- The Board will be informed about programs and needs through administrative reports and workshops during the months prior to beginning the public budget development process. Citizens will be invited and encouraged to attend these sessions. *(Board, administration, and public responsibility)*
- The Board will establish budget priorities prior to the public budget development process. These will be both proactive with a focus on implementation of the Strategic Framework and reactive to current conditions. Citizens will be invited to provide input to help the Board understand the public’s priorities. *(Board, administration, and public responsibility)*
- Board members will be knowledgeable about all areas of the budget but will become “expert” in one assigned Article. The “Budget Advocate” for each Article will take primary responsibility for responding to questions and explaining Board decision making regarding that area of the budget. *(Board and administration responsibility)*

Board of Directors Adopted: 9/22/10