

**RSU No. 5 Board of Directors Meeting  
Wednesday, March 23, 2022 – 6:30 p.m.  
Freeport High School – Cafeteria  
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 April 13, 2022 meeting).

**1. CALLED TO ORDER:**

Chair Michelle Ritcheson called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m.

**2. MEMBERS PRESENT:** Colin Cheney, Candace deCsipkes, Jennifer Galletta, Susana Hancock, Elisabeth Munsen, Dung Nguyen, Jill Piker, Maura Pillsbury, Michelle Ritcheson, Valeria Steverlynck, Madelyn Vertenten, and Piper Williams, Student Representative

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** None

**3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

**4. CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES:**

**A. VOTED:** To approve the minutes of March 9, 2022. (Cheney – Hancock) (11 – 0) The Student Representative voted with the majority.

**5. ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA:**

Move Item#15.A. after Item#8.A.

**6. GOOD NEWS AND RECOGNITION:**

**A.** Report from Board's Student Representative – Piper Williams

**7. PUBLIC COMMENT:**

None

**8. REPORTS FROM SUPERINTENDENT:**

**A.** Items for Information

1. District Happenings
2. Resignations/Retirements (effective at the end of the 2021-2022 school year)
  - Heidi Miller - FMS Math Teacher (resignation)
  - Bonnie Violette - Director of Instructional Support (retirement)
  - Tom McKibben - MLS Classroom Teacher (resignation)
3. Update on the FY23 Budget

**15. PERSONNEL:**

**A. VOTED:** To employ Holly Johnson as the Principal of Pownal Elementary School for the 2022-2023 school year. (Munsen – Galletta) (11 – 0) The Student Representative voted with the majority.

**9. PUBLIC INPUT:**

**A.** Public Input on the FY23 Budget

**10. ADMINISTRATOR REPORTS:**

**A.** Finance - Peggy Brown

**11. BOARD COMMENTS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**A. Board Information Exchange and Agenda Requests:**

1. Maura Pillsbury - Recent MSBA Regional Meeting. E-mail to Board about testifying and parliamentary procedures (video made by MSBA). Couple of legislative bills and discussion about Covid masking.
2. Michelle Ritcheson - Public frustration at Board meetings, what is our role about answering questions. Asked the Board if they should hold a workshop on Boardsmanship and related policies.

Thoughts from Board members:

- Video clips on the website describing the communication process;
- A link at the bottom of the board chair's email;
- Chain of command should be outlined;
- Should be respectful. Concerns about how staff/teachers are treated by public;
- The Board answers to the DOE, not the public; and
- Involve the Strategic Communications Committee.

**B. Finance Committee**

**C. Policy Committee**

**12. POLICY REVIEW:**

- A. VOTED:** To approve 2<sup>nd</sup> Read of policy JL - Student Wellness  
(Vertenten – Hancock) (11 – 0) The Student Representative voted with the majority.
- B. VOTED:** To approve 1<sup>st</sup> Read of policy GBGB - Workplace Bullying  
(Hancock – Cheney) (11 – 0) The Student Representative voted with the majority.
- C. VOTED:** To approve 1<sup>st</sup> Read of policy FFA - Memorials and Remembrances.  
(Steverlynck – Pillsbury) (11 – 0) The Student Representative voted with the majority.

**13. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

- A. VOTED:** To approve the FY23 Superintendent's Recommended Budget.  
(Hancock – Munsen) (11 – 0) The Student Representative voted with the majority.

**14. NEW BUSINESS:**

None

**16. PUBLIC COMMENT:**

None

**17. ADJOURNMENT:**

**VOTED:** To adjourn at 8:44 p.m. (Hancock – Vertenten) (11 – 0) The Student Representative voted with the majority.

  
Becky J. Foley, Superintendent of Schools