

REGULAR MEETING OF RSU NO. 5 BOARD OF DIRECTORS
WEDNESDAY– APRIL 28, 2021
FREEPORT HIGH SCHOOL - CAFETERIA
6:30 P.M. REGULAR SESSION
AGENDA

Due to the public health emergency, Board members may participate in this meeting on a hybrid basis, with members having the option to attend in person or via remote participation, as authorized by 1 M.R.S.A. § 403-A. Members of the public may participate in this meeting in person or remotely. <https://networkmaine.zoom.us/j/86542792729> Webinar ID: 865 4279 2729
Join by telephone: 1 312 626 6799

1. Call to Order:
The meeting was called to order at _____ p.m. by Chair Michelle Ritcheson
2. Attendance:

___ Jeremy Clough	___ Elisabeth Munsen
___ Candace deCsipkes	___ Maura Pillsbury
___ Lindsey Furtney	___ Michelle Ritcheson
___ Jennifer Galletta	___ Valeria Steverlynck
___ Susana Hancock	___ Madelyn Vertenten
___ Angela King-Horne	___ Liam Hornschild-Bear – Student Representative
	___ Brady Grogan – Student Representative
3. Pledge of Allegiance:
4. Consideration of Minutes:
A. Consideration and approval of the Minutes of April 14, 2021 as presented barring any errors or omissions.

Motion: _____ 2nd: _____ Vote: _____
5. Adjustments to the Agenda:
6. Good News & Recognition:
A. Report from Board's Student Representative
7. Public Comments: (10 Minutes)
Public comment will be taken in person and via Zoom (connection information below)
<https://networkmaine.zoom.us/j/86542792729> Webinar ID: 865 4279 2729
Join by telephone: 1 312 626 6799
8. Reports from Superintendent: (15 Minutes)
A. Items for Information
 1. District Happenings
 2. Resignations - Christina Fellman Small - MLS Special Education Teacher
9. Public Input:
A. Q & A on the FY22 Budget (30 Minutes)
Questions will be taken in person and via Zoom (connection information below)
<https://networkmaine.zoom.us/j/86542792729> Webinar ID: 865 4279 2729
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10. **Administrator Reports:**
A. Finance - Rick Kusturin (5 Minutes)
11. **Board Comments and Committee Reports:**
A. Board Information Exchange and Agenda Requests (10 Minutes)
B. Finance Committee (3 Minutes)
C. Strategic Communications (15 Minutes)
 • Migration of Students
D. Policy Committee (3 Minutes)
12. **Policy Review: (15 Minutes)**
A. Consideration and approval of the following policies (2nd Read).
 1. ACA - Gender Neutral Language
 2. ADC - Tobacco Use and Possession

 Motion: _____ 2nd: _____ Vote: _____

B. Consideration and approval of the following policies (1st Read).
 1. GBP - Earned Paid Leave
 2. JICC - Student Conduct on School Buses
 3. JKE - Expulsion of Students
 4. JKE-R-Expulsion Guidelines

 Motion: _____ 2nd: _____ Vote: _____
13. **Unfinished Business:**
14. **New Business:**
A. RSU5 Enrollment Study by NESDEC (45 Minutes)
B. Establishment of a FHS Scholarship - Fred Palmer & John Paterson (15 Minutes)
C. Consideration and approval of an arts education resolution (15 Minutes)

 Motion: _____ 2nd: _____ Vote: _____
15. **Personnel:**
A. Consideration and approval to employ a 7/8 Grade Math Teacher at Durham Community School for the 2021-2022 school year.

 Motion: _____ 2nd: _____ Vote: _____
16. **Public Comments: (10 Minutes)**
Public comment will be taken in person and via Zoom (connection information below)
<https://networkmaine.zoom.us/j/86542792729> Webinar ID: 865 4279 2729
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17. **Adjournment:**

 Motion: _____ 2nd: _____ Vote: _____ Time: _____

Item #4.A

**RSU No. 5 Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday, April 14, 2021 – 6:30 p.m.
Freeport High School - Cafeteria / Hybrid Remote Meeting
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 28, 2021 meeting).

1. CALLED TO ORDER:

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

2. MEMBERS PRESENT: Jeremy Clough, Candace deCsipkes, Lindsey Furtney, Jennifer Galletta, Susana Hancock, Angela King-Horne, Elisabeth Munsen, Maura Pillsbury, Michelle Ritcheson, Valeria Steverlynck, Madelyn Vertenten

MEMBERS ABSENT: There was no student representative in attendance.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Item #14 A. was moved here

14. A. Covid Q & A - Erika Penrod and Lizzie Garnatz from the Maine CDC

4. CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES:

A. VOTED: To approve the minutes of March 17, 2021 and March 24, 2021.
(Clough – Steverlynck) (11 – 0)

5. ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA:

Move Item #14.A. after Item #3

6. GOOD NEWS AND RECOGNITION:

A. Report from Board's Student Representative - No report

7. PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

8. REPORTS FROM SUPERINTENDENT:

A. Resignations (effective at the end of the school year)
-Taylor Marshall - DCS 1st Grade Teacher
-Jill Marsanskis - DCS .5 Literacy Specialist
-Matt Halpern - MSS Kindergarten Teacher
-Steven Moore - FHS Science Teacher and Ed Tech

9. PUBLIC INPUT:

A. Public Input on the FY22 Budget
None

10. ADMINISTRATOR REPORTS:

None

11. BOARD COMMENTS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS:

None

12. POLICY REVIEW:

None

13. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

A. VOTED: To amend the March 24, 2021 FY22 Board Adopted Budget by reducing Article 3 - Career and Technical Education by \$38,619.00. The revised total of Article 3 will be \$142,979.00. (Hancock – Munsen) (11 – 0)

B. VOTED That the Vote entitled, “Vote to Call a Regional School Unit Budget Referendum, Call a Public Hearing, Approve the Referendum Warrants, and Approve the Notice of Public Hearing,” be approved in form presented to this meeting and that a copy of said Vote be included with the minutes of this meeting. (Hancock – Munsen) (11 – 0)

14. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Covid Q & A - Erika Penrod and Lizzie Garnatz from the Maine CDC - This item was moved after Item #3

B. Board Discussion on Staff Appreciation

VOTED That the Board provide a gift for RSU5 employees as discussed at this meeting in the amount of \$300.00. (Steverlynck – Vertenten) (11 – 0)

15. PERSONNEL:

A. VOTED To employ Mary Beth Steinher as a second grade teacher at Durham Community School for the 2021-2022 school year. (Hancock – Furtney) (11 – 0)

B. VOTED To employ Stephanie Lewia as a school psychologist for the 2021-2022 school year. (Steverlynck – King-Horne) (11 – 0)

16. PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

17. ADJOURNMENT:

VOTED: To adjourn at 7:49 p.m. (Hancock – Munsen) (11 – 0)


Becky J. Foley, Superintendent of Schools

April 14th, 2021

Motion: I move that the Vote entitled, "Vote to Call a Regional School Unit Budget Referendum, Call a Public Hearing, Approve the Referendum Warrants, and Approve the Notice of Public Hearing," 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 A REGIONAL SCHOOL UNIT BUDGET REFERENDUM, CALL A PUBLIC HEARING, APPROVE THE REFERENDUM WARRANTS, AND APPROVE THE NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Whereas, pursuant to Governor's Executive Orders #8 & #8A FY20/21, the Regional School Unit budget meeting is suspended and replaced by a remote public hearing and the proposed budget submitted to referendum, and whereas the School Board has approved a proposed budget and other articles for submission to the voters of the Regional School Unit; now therefore be it

VOTED: That the Warrants and Notices of Election for the Regional School Unit Budget Referendum presented to this meeting be approved, and that a Regional School Unit Budget Referendum be called for June 8th, 2021 for the purpose of submitting the fiscal year 2021-2022 school budget and other fiscal matters to the voters of the Regional School Unit for approval, as set forth in the Warrants and Notices of Election;

That the Notice of Public Hearing presented to this meeting be approved, and that a public hearing consisting of, both, remote and in-person participants be called for May 26th, 2021 for consideration of and comment on the fiscal year 2021-2022 school budget and other fiscal matters to be submitted to the Regional School Unit voters at the June 8, 2021 Regional School Unit Budget Referendum; and

That the Warrants and Notices of Election and the Notice of Public Hearing shall each be signed by a majority of the School Board, and that such signatures may be made electronically, 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:


Becky Foley, Secretary

SECRETARY'S CERTIFICATION

I certify that the April 14th, 2021 meeting of the Regional School Unit No. 5 School Board was:
[check one box]

- ☒ conducted as a public meeting with no Board members participating remotely; or
- ☐ conducted through telephonic, video, electronic, or other similar means of remote and/or in-person participation, and that the Board's vote on the matter attested to above was taken by roll call as follows:



Item # 10A.

Budget Summary

	2021 Budget	2021 Budget Adj	March 2021 Expenses	2021 Expenses YTD	2021 Encumbrances YTD	Balances YTD	% Remaining
Art 1 - Regular Instruction Total	15,106,880.00	-1,000.00	1,104,372.08	8,309,665.68	5,133,196.37	1,664,017.95	11 %
Art 2 - Special Education Total	4,688,560.00	0	334,750.68	2,493,579.05	1,595,006.21	599,974.74	13 %
Art 3 - CTE	101,706.00	0	8,475.45	76,279.07	25,426.33	0.6	0 %
Art 4 - Other Instruction Total	858,926.00	0	31,338.79	448,845.53	67,066.58	343,013.89	40 %
Art 5 - Student Staff Support Total	3,161,872.00	1,000.00	212,226.93	1,745,983.92	907,379.00	508,509.08	16 %
Art 6 - System Admin Total	1,013,211.00	0	77,656.46	667,909.96	133,913.24	211,387.80	21 %
Art 7 - School Admin Total	1,727,711.00	0	128,420.10	1,206,271.75	432,634.60	88,804.65	5 %
Art 8 - Transportation Total	1,473,419.00	0	102,032.87	765,815.59	557,119.40	150,484.01	10 %
Art 9 - O&M Total	5,028,523.00	0	274,945.27	3,234,078.95	1,107,098.49	687,345.56	14 %
Art 10 - Debt Service Total	1,427,247.00	0	0	131,845.44	0	1,295,401.56	91 %
Art 11 - All Other Total	294,645.00	0	0	73,311.24	219,933.72	1,400.04	0 %
1000 - GENERAL FUND Totals:	34,882,700.00	0	2,274,218.63	19,153,586.18	10,178,773.94	5,550,339.88	16 %



Regional School Unit 5
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Item # 11.B.

"To inspire and support every learner by challenging minds, building character, sparking creativity, and nurturing passions."

Becky Foley, Ph.D., Superintendent of Schools
Rick Kusturin, Director of Finance & Human Resources

Cynthia Alexander, Assistant Superintendent of Schools
Bonnie Violette, Ph.D., Director of Instructional Support

Date: April 15, 2021

Committee: Finance

Chair: Jeremy Clough

In attendance: Michelle Ritcheson, Jeremy Clough, Beth Munsen, Becky Foley, Rick Kusturin

Absent: none

Meeting Date: April 14th, 2021, Freeport High School cafeteria.

The Chair of the Finance Committee opened the meeting at 5:15 pm.

The Committee was then briefed on the status of the FY21 Budget. No significant issues were reported upon.

The Committee was briefed on the progress of the FY22 budget work. No significant issues were discussed. The Committee was briefed upon and given a familiarization of the spreadsheet used to calculate the cost shares for the FY22 budget.

The Committee was given copies of *"Smarter Budgets, Smarter Schools: How to Survive and Thrive in Tight Times"* by Nathan Levenson for ideas of incorporating unconventional cost savings initiatives.

A discussion regarding budget warrant articles was conducted to give Committee Members some insight as to why the warrants are constructed as they are. The Committee was also given two PowerPoint presentations for information. The first gave information regarding the "3%" rule and the second provided information about account numbers.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:07 pm. The next scheduled meeting of the Finance Committee is May 12th, 2021 at 5:00 pm at the Freeport High School cafeteria.



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Item #11.C.

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Rick Kusturin, Director of Finance & Human Resources

Cynthia Alexander, Assistant Superintendent of Schools
Bonnie Violette, Ph.D., Director of Instructional Support

Strategic Communications Committee Report

Committee: Strategic Communications

Meeting date: April 9, 2021

Chair: Candy deCsipkes

Committee Members in attendance: Susana Hancock, Becky Foley, Valy Steverlynck, Candy deCsipkes

Guests: Ginny McManus

Agenda Items and Discussion:

Agenda

1. Data we want captured for Student Exit Surveys

Looked at the student exit surveys. Discussed what we want to add for data collected going forward. Will begin collecting grade level data beginning Oct. 1, 2021. Students who leave and then return will not be counted (for example, Semester at Sea)

2. Migration of Students

The committee reviewed the number of resident students who do not attend RSU5 schools. Homeschool students have increased by 89 this year.

3. Other

Discussed how to best communicate when there is a highly charged issue. With future communications concerning highly charged issues, when possible, Becky will provide a copy of her written communications to the Strategic Communications Committee members for feedback.

Migration of Students October 1st 2015 - 2020.

Year	Total Number of RSU5 Resident Students Attending Other Schools
2015	388
2016	398
2017	389
2018	379
2019	396
2020	439

RSU5 Resident Students Attending Schools as of October 1, 2020

School		Durham	Freeport	Pownal	Total
Acadia	Charter	0	0	0	0
Baxter Academy	Charter	3	6	1	10
Fiddlehead School of Arts & Science	Charter	10	0	0	10
Harpswell Coastal Academy	Charter	3	4	0	7
Maine Arts Academy	Charter	0	0	0	0
Maine Connections Academy	Charter	0	6	3	9
Maine Virtual Academy	Charter	1	1	0	2
Maine Academy of Natural Sciences	Charter	0	0	0	0
Homeschooled	Homeschooled	49	70	23	142
Chewonki School (Elementary School)	Private	0	0	0	0
Fryeburg Academy	Private	0	0	0	0
NYA	Private	1	23	8	32
Waynflete	Private	0	20	1	21
Maine Coast Waldorf (previously Merriconeag Waldorf)	Private	8	63	7	78
Friends School of Portland	Private	0	9	2	11
Breakwater School	Private	0	2	0	2
Chop Point School	Private	0	0	0	0
Royal Academy	Private	0	0	0	0
L'Ecole Francaise Du Maine	Private	3	17	0	20
Hyde School	Private	0	0	0	0
Lincoln Academy	Private	0	0	0	0
Wayfinder School	Private	0	2	0	2
Freedom Academy	Private	0	1	0	1
Calvary Christian Academy	Private/Religious	0	0	0	0
Greater Portland Christian School	Private/Religious	3	3	2	8
Central Maine Christian Academy	Private/Religious	1	0	0	1
Lisbon Falls Christian Academy	Private/Religious	2	0	1	3
Pine Tree Academy	Private/Religious	4	11	0	15
Open Door Christian Academy	Private/Religious	0	0	0	0
Cheverus	Private/Religious	1	8	0	9
St. John's Catholic School	Private/Religious	3	4	0	7
St. Doms Academy	Private/Religious	3	0	0	3
Wiscasset Christian Academy	Private/Religious	0	0	0	0
Auburn School Department	Public	1	0	0	1
Brunswick School Department	Public	2	0	0	2
Falmouth School Department	Public	2	6	0	8
Lewiston School Department	Public	1	0	0	1
Lisbon School Department	Public	4	0	0	4
MSAD 15 Gray-New Gloucester	Public	2	1	0	3
MSAD 16 Poland	Public	0	1	0	1
MSAD 51 Cumberland/No. Yarmouth	Public	2	3	4	9
Yarmouth School Department	Public	0	10	0	10
RSU 17 Oxford Hills	Public	0	1	0	1
Morse High School	Public	0	0	0	0
Maine School of Science & Math	Public	2	1	0	3
Portland Public Schools	Public	0	1	0	1
So. Portland	Public	0	2	0	2
Thornton Academy	Public	0	0	0	0
Total		111	276	52	439

*Information is from schools that are required to report in the DOE's Student Information System and private school notification per Title 20-A M.R.S.A 5001-A(3)(A)(2)

RSU5 Resident Students Attending Other Schools as of October 1, 2019

School		Durham	Freeport	Pownal	Total
Acadia	Charter	0	0	0	0
Baxter Academy	Charter	9	9	0	18
Fiddlehead School of Arts & Science	Charter	8	0	0	8
Harpwell Coastal Academy	Charter	5	6	0	11
Maine Arts Academy	Charter	1	0	0	1
Maine Connections Academy	Charter	0	1	0	1
Maine Virtual Academy	Charter	0	2	0	2
Maine Academy of Natural Sciences	Charter	0	0	0	0
Homeschooled (Includes Freedom Christian Academy)	Homeschooled	34	9	10	53
Chewonki School (Elementary School)	Private	0	1	0	1
Fryeburg Academy	Private	0	0	0	0
NYA	Private	1	21	9	31
Waynflete	Private	0	23	1	24
Maine Coast Waldorf (previously Merriconeag Waldorf)	Private	22	85	11	118
Friends School of Portland	Private	1	8	2	11
Breakwater School	Private	0	0	0	0
Chop Point School	Private	0	0	0	0
Royal Academy	Private	1	0	0	1
L'Ecole Francalse Du Maine	Private	3	12	2	17
Hyde School	Private	0	0	1	1
Lincoln Academy	Private	1	0	0	1
Wayfinder School	Private	0	2	0	2
Calvary Christian Academy	Private/Religious	0	0	0	0
Greater Portland Christian School	Private/Religious	3	2	2	7
Central Maine Christian Academy	Private/Religious	1	0	0	1
Lisbon Falls Christian Academy	Private/Religious	4	0	1	5
Pine Tree Academy	Private/Religious	2	16	0	18
Open Door Christian Academy	Private/Religious	2	0	0	2
Cheverus	Private/Religious	1	7	0	8
St. John's Catholic School	Private/Religious	4	3	0	7
St. Doms Academy	Private/Religious	3	0	0	3
Wiscasset Christian Academy	Private/Religious	0	1	0	1
Auburn School Department	Public	0	0	0	0
Brunswick School Department	Public	1	0	0	1
Falmouth School Department	Public	0	4	0	4
Lewiston School Department	Public	1	0	0	1
Lisbon School Department	Public	8	0	0	8
MSAD 15 Gray-New Gloucester	Public	4	0	0	4
MSAD 16 Poland	Public	1	0	0	1
MSAD 51 Cumberland/No. Yarmouth	Public	2	3	4	9
Yarmouth School Department	Public	0	12	0	12
RSU 17 Oxford Hills	Public	0	0	0	0
Morse High School	Public	0	0	0	0
Maine School of Science & Math	Public	1	1	0	2
Portland Public Schools	Public	0	1	0	1
Thornton Academy	Public	0	0	0	0
Total		124	229	43	396

*Information is from schools that are required to report in the DOE's Student Information System and private school notification per Title 20-A M.R.S.A 5001-A(3)(A)(2)

Date: January 29, 2021

To: RSU 5 Board of Directors

From: Strategic Communication Committee

Re: 2018-2019, 2019-2020 Student Exit Survey Summary

There were 24 total responses to the survey sent out between October 1 of 2018 and September 30 of 2019. There were 117 surveys sent to parents during this time. Our return rate was 21% of the surveys distributed. At a school level, the responses were as follows:

School	School Responses
MSS	2
MLS	2
FMS	11
FHS	3
DCS	1
PES	5

Of the total number who replied, eleven cited leaving for educational reasons and thirteen cited non-educational reasons. Further reasons cited included:

- Ten cited a lack of rigor
- Five cited educational programming
- Two cited communication issues
- One behavioral/safety issue
- One cited "other"

There were fifty-four total responses to the survey sent out between October 1 of 2019 and September 30 of 2020. There were 137 surveys sent to parents. There was a return rate of 39%. At a school level, the responses were as follows:

School	School Responses
MSS	23
MLS	2
FMS	9
FHS	6

DCS	4
PES	10

Of the total number who replied, thirty-two cited leaving for educational reasons and twenty-one cited non-educational reasons. Further reasons cited included:

- Twenty-three cited issues related to Covid/Hybrid
- Eleven cited communication issues
- Nine cited educational programming
- Two cited the district's focus on equity
- One cited behavioral/safety issues

Historical Information - Responses to Surveys

School	Survey Responses 2017-2020	Survey Responses 2018-2019	Survey Responses 2019-2020
MSS	11	2	23
MLS	4	2	2
FMS	12	11	9
FHS	5	3	6
DCS	12	1	4
PES	6	5	10
Total	50	24	54



Regional School Unit 5
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Policy Subcommittee Report

Committee: Policy

Zoom Meeting date: April 2, 2021

Chair: Candy deCsipkes

Committee Members in attendance: Candy deCsipkes, Maddy Vertenten, Lindsey Furtney,
Cynthia Alexander

Absent: N/A

Review/Revise Policies:

The following policy was revised per Board discussion and will be brought to the Board for 2nd read on April 28, 2021.

ADC Tobacco Use and Possession

The following policies were revised and will be brought to the Board for 1st read on April 28, 2021.

JICC Student Conduct of School Buses
JKE Expulsion of Students
JKE-R Expulsion Guidelines

The following newly required policy was brought to the Committee for review and will be brought to the Board for adoption as a 1st read on April 28, 2021.

GBP Earned Paid Leave

The next meeting will be held by Zoom on May 7, 2021 at 8:30 a.m.

Submitted by: Cynthia Alexander



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Item #12.A&B

"To inspire and support every learner by challenging minds, building character, sparking creativity, and nurturing passions."

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Rick Kusturin, Director of Finance & Human Resources

Cynthia Alexander, Assistant Superintendent of Schools
Bonnie Violette, Ph.D., Director of Instructional Support

TO: Jeremy Clough, Candace deCsipkes, Lindsey Furtney, Jennifer Galletta, Susana Hancock, Angela King-Horne, Elisabeth Munsen, Maura Pillsbury, Michelle Ritcheson, Valeria Steverlynck, Madelyn Vertenten, Liam Hornschild-Bear, Brady Grogan

CC: Julie Nickerson, Lisa Demick, Kelli Rogers, Ray Grogan, Erin Dow, Dennis Ouellette, Will Pidden, Craig Sickels, Peter Wagner, Jen Gulko, Bonnie Violette, Emily Grimm, Conor Walsh, Charlie Mellon, Rick Kusturin, Gayle Wolotsky, Anne-Marie Spizzuoco, Beth Daniels, Shawn McBean, Dorothy Curtis, Lisa Blier, Jennifer Winkler, Nancy Drolet, Nancy Dyer, Nancy Decker, Alicia DeRoche, Kristy Johnson, Deborah Koval, Linda Pritchard, Tim Grivois, Tom McKibben, Treavor Bean, Jen Winkler

FROM: Cynthia Alexander, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment

DATE: April 15, 2021

RE: Review/Update of Policies

At the April 28, 2021 Board of Directors Meeting, the following policies will be on the agenda for 1st Read and 2nd Read:

2nd Read

ACA - Gender Neutral Language (New title - Respectful Language)

ADC - Tobacco Use and Possession (New title - Tobacco-Free Schools: Use and Possession of Tobacco and Electronic Smoking Devices)

1st Read

GBP - Earned Paid Leave

JICC - Student Conduct on School Buses

JKE - Expulsion of Students

JKE-R - Expulsion Guidelines

GENDER NEUTRAL LANGUAGE RESPECTFUL LANGUAGE

~~The Board of Directors directs that all staff members be especially alert to and avoid the use of sexist or other discriminatory language in all communications, both oral and written.~~

RSU No. 5 supports a respectful and inclusive learning and working environment.

In written and verbal communications, all staff should:

- Avoid the use of gendered pronouns when unnecessary (i.e: 'they' instead of 'he/she')
- Utilize preferred pronouns to address students and colleagues, when known, and
- Refrain from the use of sexist and discriminatory language.

Cross Reference: AC - Nondiscrimination/Equal Opportunity

Adopted: May 27, 2009

Reviewed: December 8, 2010

Reviewed: November 20, 2013

TOBACCO-FREE SCHOOLS: USE AND POSSESSION OF TOBACCO AND ELECTRONIC SMOKING DEVICES

The Board recognizes that research shows that tobacco continues to be the leading cause of preventable disease and death in Maine and the United States, for both users and those exposed to second-hand smoke. The Board is also aware that a growing body of evidence suggests that the chemicals present in the aerosols ("vapor") produced by electronic smoking devices, may pose significant long-term risks to health, as well as the risk of addiction to nicotine.

The Board is committed to providing a safe and healthy environment for students, staff, and visitors to the schools, including members of the community who use school facilities for recreational and other purposes.

To that end, and in compliance with applicable state and federal laws, all persons are prohibited from smoking and tobacco use in school buildings, on any school grounds (including parking lots), on school buses and school-owned or leased vehicles, and at all school sponsored events at all times.

DEFINITIONS:

For the purpose of this policy:

"Tobacco use" means smoking or the carrying or possession of a tobacco product (22 MRSA §1578-B (1)(D)).

"Smoking" includes carrying or having in one's possession a lighted or heated cigarette, cigar or pipe or heated tobacco or plant product intended for human consumption through inhalation whether natural or synthetic in any manner or any form. "Smoking" includes the use of an electronic smoking device (22 MRSA § 1541(6)).

"Tobacco product" means any product that is made from or derived from tobacco, or that contains nicotine, that is intended for human consumption or is likely to be consumed, whether smoked, heated, chewed, absorbed, dissolved, inhaled or ingested by any other means, including but not limited to, a cigar, hookah, pipe tobacco, chewing tobacco, snuff or snus. "Tobacco product" also means an electronic smoking device and any component or accessory used in the consumption of a tobacco product such as filters, rolling papers, pipes and liquids used in electronic smoking devices whether or not they contain nicotine. (22 MRSA § 1551(3)).

“At all times” means 24 hours per day, 365 days a year, including all days when school is not in session and at all functions taking place on school grounds, including organized non-school-sponsored activities and events and casual recreational uses.

All persons are prohibited from selling, distributing, or dispensing tobacco products in school buildings, on school grounds or at school-sponsored events at all times.

CONSEQUENCES FOR VIOLATION

STUDENTS:

The Superintendent/designee(s) shall be responsible for developing age-appropriate disciplinary guidelines for students violating this policy and for employing strategies, as practicable, to address prevention, education, and information about community programs for cessation assistance.

“The Superintendent/designee may refer to a law enforcement agency any student reasonably suspected of selling, dispensing or distributing tobacco products or vaping devices/products.”

Parents/guardians will be notified of all violations involving their student and action taken by the school.

STAFF:

School unit employees who violate this policy will be subject to appropriate disciplinary measures up to and including dismissal.

Any school unit employee suspected of selling, distributing or in any way dispensing tobacco products or vaping devices/products to students shall be referred to a law enforcement agency.

OTHER PERSONS IN VIOLATION:

All other persons violating this policy, including parents, vendors/contractors, spectators at school events and other visitors shall be asked to refrain from use and reminded of the Board's policy. Persons who do not comply will be asked to leave school grounds. Failure to leave school grounds will be treated as trespassing and law enforcement personnel may be contacted.

Persons suspected of selling, distributing or in any way dispensing tobacco products or vaping devices/products to students shall be referred to an appropriate law enforcement agency.

RESPONSIBILITY FOR ENFORCEMENT

The building principal/designee will be responsible for enforcing this policy at the school level.

NOTICE

Notice of this policy and disciplinary consequences for violations will be posted on the school unit's website and included in the student code of conduct and/or student handbooks and in annual employee communications.

Parents/guardians shall also be notified in writing of the Board's policy at the beginning of the school year.

"Tobacco-free campus" signage will be posted in highly visible areas at entrances and on school grounds, including entrances to athletic facilities.

EDUCATION

Age-appropriate tobacco/"vaping" prevention and awareness instruction will be incorporated into the school unit's health curriculum, in alignment with Maine's system of Learning Results and in support of the school unit's wellness policy goals, to educate students about the dangers of tobacco and vapor products and to encourage a tobacco and "vape-free" lifestyle.

As feasible, information regarding treatment and cessation resources will be made available to students and school unit employees who want to quit.

ADVERTISING OF TOBACCO PRODUCTS

Advertising of tobacco products is prohibited in school buildings, on school property, and in school publications.

Legal Reference: 22 MRSA §§ 1541, 1551, 1578-B
 Me. PL Ch. 61 (2019) (*An Act to Prohibit the Possession and Use of*
 Electronic Smoking Devices on School Grounds)
 20 USC 6081-6084 (*Pro-Children Act of 1994*)

Cross Reference: JL – Student Wellness
 KF – Community Use of School Facilities
 KHB – Advertising in the Schools

Adopted: May 27, 2009
Revised: December 8, 2010
Revised: November 30, 2011
Reviewed: November 20, 2013
Revised: October 28, 2015

EARNED PAID LEAVE

RSU No. 5 will comply with all applicable provisions of Maine's Earned Paid Leave (EPL) law, which takes effect January 1, 2021, and with Maine Department of Labor rules governing EPL.

The Superintendent/designee shall be responsible for developing and implementing administrative procedures to implement use of EPL under this policy.

Notice of the EPL law will be posted in a visible location in each workplace.

Administrative procedures, including employee eligibility, use of leave, and employee notice requirements will be provided to employees in writing and/or through electronic communications, or other suitable means.

Legal Reference: 26 MRSA § 637
 Maine Dep't of Labor Bureau of Labor Standards Rule Ch. X

Cross-Reference: GBN-Family and Medical Leave
 GBO-Family Sick Leave

Adopted: _____

STUDENT CONDUCT ON SCHOOL BUSES

The law does not relieve parents/guardians of students from the responsibility of supervision before the child boards the bus in the morning and after the child leaves the bus at the end of the school day.

Once a child boards the bus—and only at that time—~~does he/she~~ do they become the responsibility of the school system. Such responsibility ~~shall end~~ when the child is delivered to an established bus stop at the close of the school day.

~~In view of the fact that a~~ The bus is considered an extension of the classroom, as such the Board requires children to conduct themselves ~~in~~ on the bus in a manner consistent with established standards for classroom behavior.

In cases when a child does not behave properly on a bus, such instances are to be brought to the attention of the building Principal by the bus driver. The building Principal will inform the parents/guardians immediately of the misconduct and request their cooperation in checking correcting the child's behavior.

Children who become a serious disciplinary problem on the school bus may have their riding privileges suspended by the Principal in consultation with the Director of Transportation. In such cases, the parents/guardians of the children involved become responsible for seeing that their children get to and from school safely. The Principal may put a plan in place with the parents/guardians to ensure the child's successful return to the bus.

Legal Reference: 20-A MRSA Section 5401

Cross Reference: EEA - Student Transportation Services

Adopted: April 28, 2010
Reviewed: January 25, 2012
Reviewed: April 12, 2017

EXPULSION OF STUDENTS

No student shall be expelled from school except by action of the Board. Following a proper investigation of a student's behavior and due process proceedings conducted in accordance with 20-A MRSA § 1001(8)(A), the Board shall expel the student, if found necessary for the "peace and usefulness of the school", as provided in 20-A MRSA § 1001(9) and (9A). The Board also has the authority to readmit an expelled student on satisfactory evidence that the behavior which was the cause of the student being expelled will not likely recur.

Notice of Expulsion Hearing

Before any expulsion hearing, the Superintendent shall:

- A. Attempt to communicate with the parents/guardians by phone.
- B. Provide written notice in the parent/guardian's first language, by regular and certified mail, and email to the parents/guardians and the student informing them of:
 - 1. The date, time and location of the hearing;
 - 2. A description of the incident(s) that resulted in the expulsion hearing;
 - 3. The student's and parents/guardians' right to review the school's records prior to the hearing;
 - 4. A description of the hearing process, including the student's right to present and cross-examine witnesses and his/her their right to an attorney or other representation; and
 - 5. An explanation of the consequences of an expulsion.
- C. Invite the parents/guardians and the student to a meeting prior to the expulsion hearing to discuss the procedures of the hearing.

Expulsion Hearing

The hearing shall be in a properly called executive session and may also be attended by persons designated by the Superintendent to present information in the case. The Board shall reference the Nondiscrimination policy throughout the hearing and while considering the case

Upon making a decision to expel a student, the Board may:

A. Expel the student for a specific period of time not to exceed the total number of instructional days approved by the Board for the current year; or

B. Expel the student for an unspecified period of time and authorize the Superintendent to provide the expelled student with a reentry plan, to be developed in accordance with 20-A MRSA § 1001(9-C), specifying the conditions that must be met in order for the student to be readmitted to school after the expulsion.

After the expulsion hearing, the Board shall provide written notice in the parent/guardian's first language of its decision to the parents/guardians and the student by certified mail.

Nothing in this policy shall prevent the Board from providing educational services in an alternative setting to a student who has been expelled.

Legal Reference: 20-A MRSA § 1001 (8-A), (9), (9A-9D)
1 MRSA § 405(6)(B)

Cross Reference: AC Nondiscrimination: Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action
JKE-R – Expulsion of Students - Guidelines
JICLA – Weapons, Violence, and School Safety
JK – Student Discipline
JKD – Suspension of Students
JKF – Disciplinary Removal of Students with Disabilities

Adopted: March 24, 2010
Revised: November 28, 2012
Reviewed: September 27, 2017

EXPULSION GUIDELINES-ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES

I. EXPULSION HEARING AND REENTRY GUIDELINES

The following steps constitute general guidelines for the conduct of an expulsion hearing. The guidelines may be adjusted to meet the flexible requirements of due process on a case-by-case basis, consistent with applicable laws.

A. Procedures for Conduct of Board Hearing to Expel

1. The Board shall reference the Nondiscrimination policy throughout the hearing and while considering the case.

1.2. Any discussion, consideration or hearing by the School Board of suspension or expulsion of a student shall be in executive session.

3. 3. The Board shall be in a public meeting and vote to enter into executive session. Executive session requires a 3/5 affirmative vote of the members present and voting, and the vote must be recorded.

3. 4 The parents/legal guardians the student and legal counsel or other representative (if any) must be present for the hearing, except that the hearing may go forward if the parents/guardians and student have been provided prior written notice and failed to appear for the hearing. When applicable, an interpreter will be provided for EL students/parents.

B. Executive Session

1. General Rules of Conduct

A. The hearing officer (Board Chair/designee or Board attorney) will conduct the hearing.

B. Witnesses shall be sequestered in response to a request by either party.

C. The hearing officer will state “no irrelevant or repetitious evidence will be allowed and no debate between the parties will be allowed.”

- D. The hearing officer will state that “all parties are expected to maintain the confidentiality of the proceeding.”
- E. The Board and student (at ~~his/her~~ their own expense) may be represented by legal counsel through each stage of the process.

II. PROCEDURES

- A. The hearing officer will state for the record:

- Date of this hearing;
- Place of hearing;
- Time of hearing;
- Name of student;
- Those in attendance for the administration;
- Those in attendance for the student; and
- Those in attendance for the School Board.

- B. The hearing officer will request from the Superintendent a copy of the hearing notice, read the hearing notice to the Board and include the notice in the record. If no person appears at the hearing on behalf of the parents/legal guardians or student, the hearing officer will request that the Superintendent confirm that the parents/guardians and student were provided notice of the hearing.

- C. The Superintendent/designee, hereafter called “the administration,” will make an opening statement that includes an overview of the evidence, ~~his/her~~ their recommendation, the reason(s) for the recommendation, and the legal basis for the recommended expulsion.

- D. The hearing officer will inform the student and parents/legal guardians of their rights:

- The hear the evidence;
- To cross examine witnesses; and
- To present witnesses and offer other relevant evidence.

E. The hearing officer will ask if any member of the Board finds ~~him/herself~~ themselves in a possible conflict of interest situation because ~~he/she~~ they know the student or parents/guardians to such an extent, or ~~has~~ have knowledge of the facts to such an extent, that they could not impartially hear the facts and decide the issue on its merits. **In such cases, the Board member should recuse themselves from the hearing entirely (or from participating in the deliberations and voting but remain present for the hearing.)**

F. All witnesses shall be sworn in by the hearing officer. Each witness raises ~~his/her~~ their right hand and is asked, "Do you solemnly affirm to tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth?"

G. The administration calls its witnesses.

H. After each witness has answered all questions put by the administration, then the student/designee (hereinafter, the student) may cross-examine. This should be limited to questions and not arguments with the witness.

I. The administration may ask rebuttal questions after the student finishes questioning.

J. Members of the Board may ask questions at the conclusion of the rebuttal.

K. The student may then call ~~his/her~~ their own witnesses to testify, and the student may testify. All witnesses will be sworn. The administration may cross-examine

witnesses. The student may ask rebuttal questions. After the rebuttal questions, the Board may ask questions.

L. When all the student's witnesses have completed testimony (including the student), the administration may call additional rebuttal witnesses who may be cross-examined.

M. At the end of the testimony, the administration shall make a statement which should include its recommendations. The same may then be done by/for the student.

N. The Board should then deliberate in executive session. The Superintendent, Board attorney, administration, the student charged, his/her their parents/legal guardians, and the student's legal counsel may remain for deliberations. If the student and representatives elect not to be present during deliberations, the administration will also be excluded from deliberations, except that the Superintendent may remain to provide guidance to the Board if he/she was not directly involved in the investigation/presentation of evidence.

O. The Board shall discuss whether the charges are more likely than not supported by the evidence presented. The Board may discuss and/or draft proposed finding of fact(s) concerning the charges prior to leaving the executive session.

P. If the charges are more likely than not supported, the Board shall discuss whether an expulsion shall be for a specified period of time or for an indefinite period.

Q. The Board shall then leave the executive session.

III. PUBLIC SESSIONS

A. In a public session, a member of the Board may make a motion to "expel a student and direct the Superintendent to provide the student and his/her their parents/guardians with the Board's findings of fact(s)." Following a second, the Board Chair should state the motion and the Board should vote. If no motion is made to expel, the student will return to school at the conclusion of the previously-imposed administrative suspension.

If the student is expelled, a member of the Board shall make a motion as to whether the expulsion shall be for a specified period of time or for an indefinite period. If the expulsion is for an indefinite period, the Board may authorize the Superintendent to develop a reentry plan for the student as described in Section IV below.

B. The Superintendent is responsible for notifying the parents/legal guardians (and the student) of the Board's decision.

IV. REENTRY PLAN GUIDELINES

If the Board expels a student for an indefinite period of time and authorizes the Superintendent to develop a reentry plan, the following steps are required by law.

- A. The Superintendent/designee shall develop the reentry plan in consultation with the student and ~~his/her~~ their parents/legal guardians to provide guidance that helps the student understand what he/she must do to establish satisfactory evidence that the behavior that resulted in the expulsion will not likely recur.
- B. The Superintendent/designee shall send a certified letter or hand-deliver a letter to the parents/legal guardians of the student, giving the date, time and location of a meeting to develop a reentry plan.
- C. If the student and the student's parents/legal guardians do not attend the meeting, the reentry plan must be developed by the Superintendent/ designee.
- D. The reentry plan may require the student to take reasonable measures determined by the Superintendent that will help establish the student's readiness to return to school. Professional services determined to be necessary by the Superintendent must be provided at the expense of the student's parent/legal guardians and/or the student. (See policy JKF for requirements related to students with disabilities.)
- E. The reentry plan must be provided to the parents/legal guardians and the student.
- F. The Superintendent shall designate an appropriate school employee to review the student's progress with the reentry plan at one month, three months and six months after the initial reentry plan meeting, and at other times as determined necessary by the designated employee, in consultation with the Superintendent.

Legal Reference: 20-A MRSA §§ 1001 (8A), (9C)

Cross Reference: JKF – Disciplinary Removals of Students With Disabilities

Adopted: March 24, 2010
Revised: November 28, 2012
Reviewed: September 27, 2017



New England School Development Council

RSU # 5

Freeport, ME

2020-21 Enrollment Projection Report



Historical Enrollment

School District:

RSU #5, ME - Consolidated

2/25/2021

Historical Enrollment By Grade																			
Birth Year	Births	School Year	PK	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	UNGR	K-12	PK-12
2005	132	2010-11	0	143	173	149	141	152	138	136	142	128	141	125	116	108	0	1792	1792
2006	116	2011-12	30	155	146	165	153	140	156	130	140	143	128	137	131	127	0	1851	1881
2007	154	2012-13	36	133	164	142	178	161	150	159	132	143	136	127	136	141	0	1902	1938
2008	131	2013-14	29	143	133	157	146	179	154	140	156	131	133	124	125	137	0	1858	1887
2009	143	2014-15	37	138	143	130	161	138	168	141	137	153	113	123	116	132	0	1793	1830
2010	142	2015-16	59	132	135	142	135	171	141	165	146	134	141	106	123	120	0	1791	1850
2011	113	2016-17	63	119	139	136	143	142	170	149	166	144	129	146	112	126	0	1821	1884
2012	118	2017-18	95	128	123	137	143	150	143	176	150	167	141	126	149	119	0	1852	1947
2013	125	2018-19	95	151	128	125	137	147	158	149	170	154	163	139	131	149	0	1901	1996
2014	121	2019-20	109	144	155	131	129	140	148	161	149	167	146	166	136	132	0	1904	2013
2015	124	2020-21	92	137	146	139	126	128	135	148	154	140	155	141	163	145	0	1857	1949

Historical Enrollment in Grade Combinations									
Year	PK-2	3-5	K-5	K-8	5-8	6-8	7-8	7-12	9-12
2010-11	465	431	896	1302	544	406	270	760	490
2011-12	496	449	915	1328	569	413	283	806	523
2012-13	475	489	928	1362	584	434	275	815	540
2013-14	462	479	912	1339	581	427	287	806	519
2014-15	448	467	878	1309	599	431	290	774	484
2015-16	468	447	856	1301	586	445	280	770	490
2016-17	457	455	849	1308	629	459	310	823	513
2017-18	483	436	824	1317	636	493	317	852	535
2018-19	499	442	846	1319	631	473	324	906	582
2019-20	539	417	847	1324	625	477	316	896	580
2020-21	514	389	811	1253	577	442	294	898	604

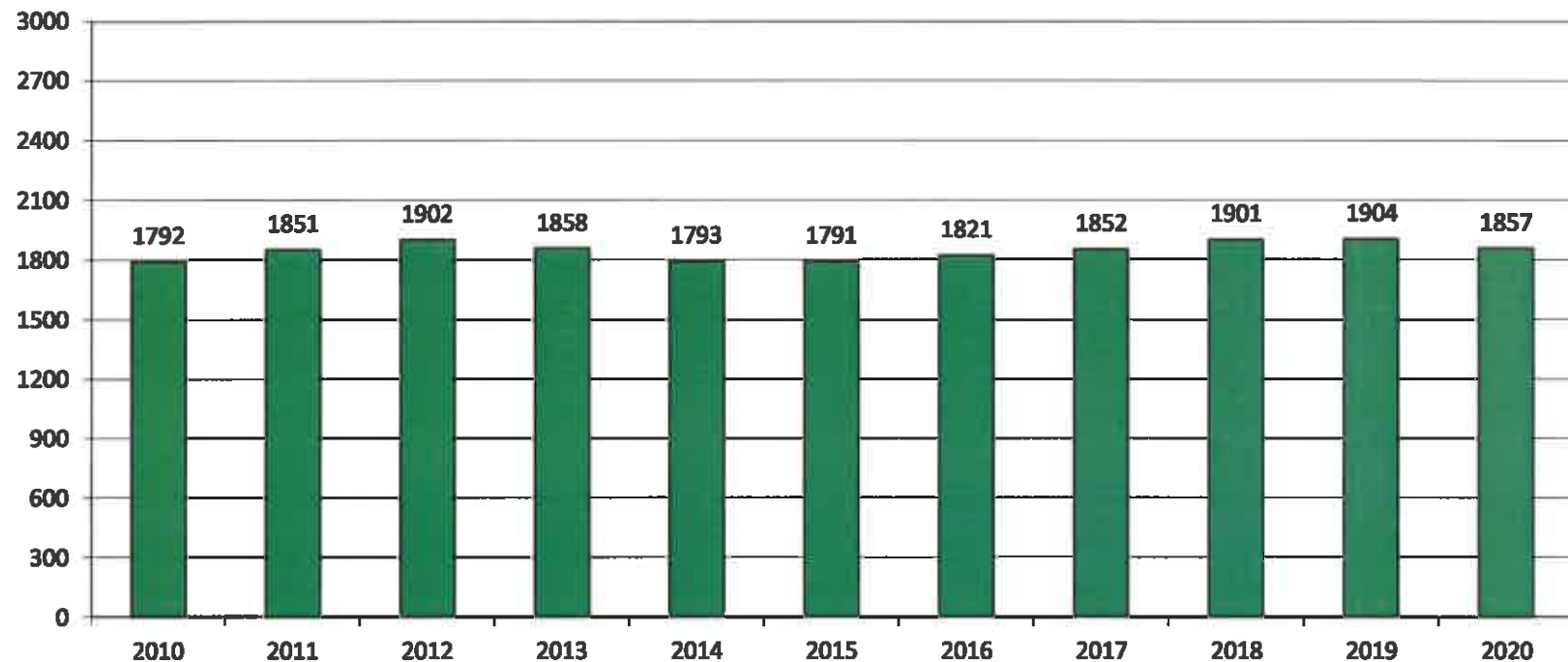
Historical Percentage Changes			
Year	K-12	Diff.	%
2010-11	1792	0	0.0%
2011-12	1851	59	3.3%
2012-13	1902	51	2.8%
2013-14	1858	-44	-2.3%
2014-15	1793	-65	-3.5%
2015-16	1791	-2	-0.1%
2016-17	1821	30	1.7%
2017-18	1852	31	1.7%
2018-19	1901	49	2.6%
2019-20	1904	3	0.2%
2020-21	1857	-47	-2.5%
Change		65	3.6%

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Historical Enrollment

K-12, 2010-2020



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Projected Enrollment

School District: RSU #5, ME - Consolidated

2/25/2021

Enrollment Projections By Grade*																				
Birth Year	Births		School Year	PK	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	UNGR	K-12	PK-12
2015	124		2020-21	92	137	146	139	126	128	135	148	154	140	155	141	163	145	0	1857	1940
2016	153		2021-22	109	171	158	143	142	129	131	139	147	154	134	153	142	167	0	1890	1999
2017	133		2022-23	110	149	173	135	147	146	132	135	138	147	148	133	154	145	0	1882	1992
2018	140		2023-24	111	157	150	170	138	151	149	136	134	138	141	147	134	158	0	1903	2014
2019	110		2024-25	112	123	159	147	174	141	154	153	135	134	132	140	148	137	0	1877	1989
2020	132	(est.)	2025-26	113	148	124	156	151	178	144	159	151	135	129	131	141	152	0	1899	2012
2021	134	(est.)	2026-27	114	150	149	122	160	155	182	148	157	151	130	128	132	144	0	1908	2022
2022	190	(est.)	2027-28	115	145	152	146	125	164	158	187	147	157	145	129	129	135	0	1919	2034
2023	129	(est.)	2028-29	116	145	146	149	150	128	167	163	185	147	151	144	130	132	0	1937	2053
2024	127	(est.)	2029-30	117	142	146	143	153	154	131	172	161	185	141	149	145	133	0	1955	2072
2025	130	(est.)	2030-31	118	146	143	143	147	157	157	135	170	161	176	140	150	149	0	1976	2094

Note: Ungraded students (UNGR) often are high school students whose anticipated years of graduation are unknown, or students with special needs - UNGR not included in Grade Combinations for 7-12, 9-12, etc.

 Based on an estimate of births

 Based on children already born

 Based on students already enrolled

Projected Enrollment in Grade Combinations*									
Year	PK-2	3-5	K-5	K-8	5-8	6-8	7-8	7-12	9-12
2020-21	514	389	811	1253	577	442	294	898	604
2021-22	561	402	854	1294	571	440	301	897	596
2022-23	567	425	882	1302	552	420	285	865	580
2023-24	588	438	915	1323	557	408	272	852	580
2024-25	541	469	898	1320	576	422	269	826	557
2025-26	541	473	901	1346	589	445	286	839	553
2026-27	535	497	918	1374	638	456	308	842	534
2027-28	558	447	890	1381	649	491	304	842	538
2028-29	556	445	885	1380	662	495	332	889	557
2029-30	548	438	869	1387	649	518	346	914	568
2030-31	550	461	893	1359	623	466	331	948	617

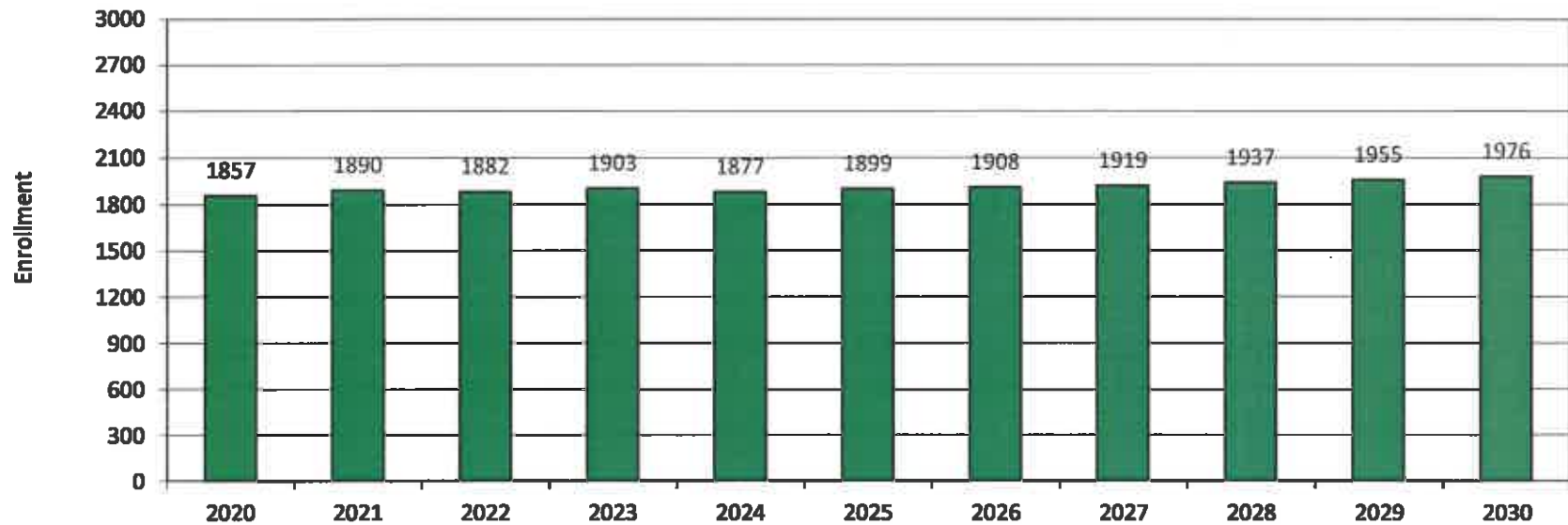
Projected Percentage Changes			
Year	K-12	Diff.	%
2020-21	1857	0	0.0%
2021-22	1890	33	1.8%
2022-23	1882	-8	-0.4%
2023-24	1903	21	1.1%
2024-25	1877	-26	-1.4%
2025-26	1899	22	1.2%
2026-27	1908	9	0.5%
2027-28	1919	11	0.6%
2028-29	1937	18	0.9%
2029-30	1955	18	0.9%
2030-31	1976	21	1.1%
Change	119		6.4%

*Projections should be updated annually to reflect changes in in/out-migration of families, real estate sales, residential construction, births, and similar factors.



Projected Enrollment

K-12 To 2030 Based On Data Through School Year 2019-20

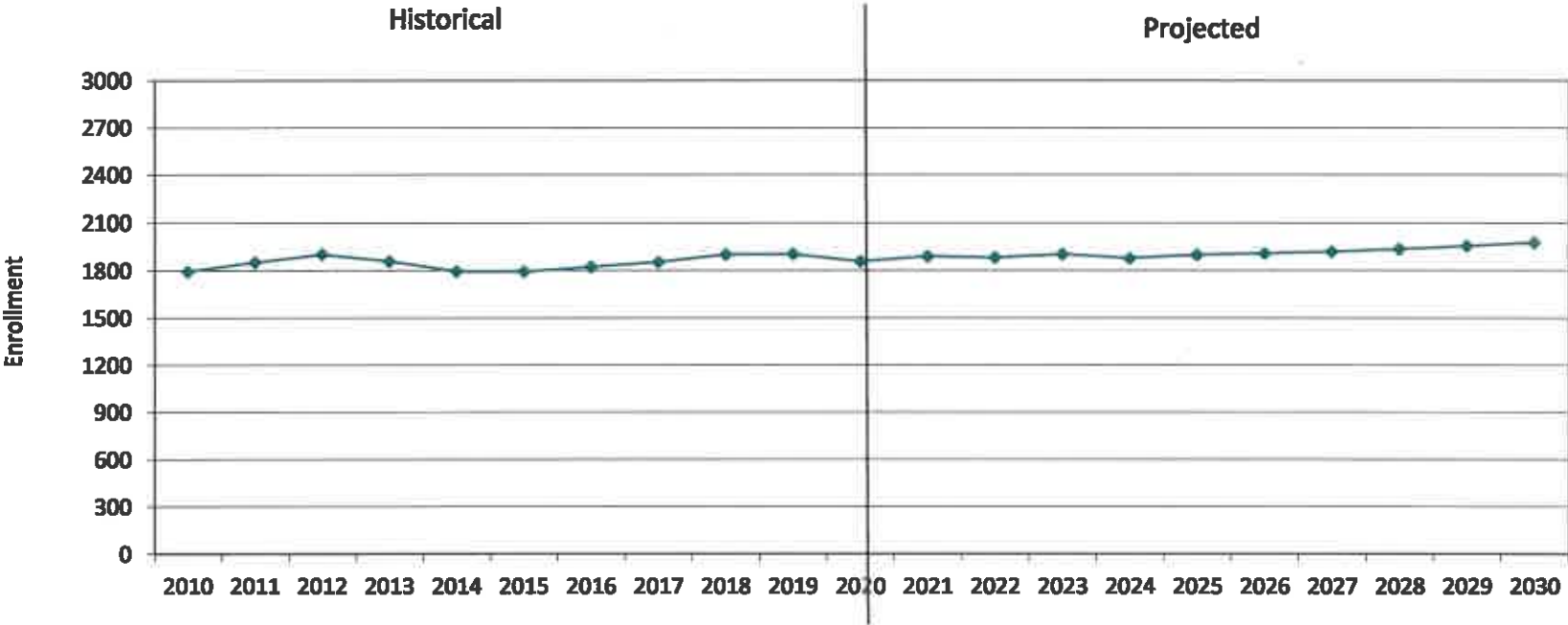


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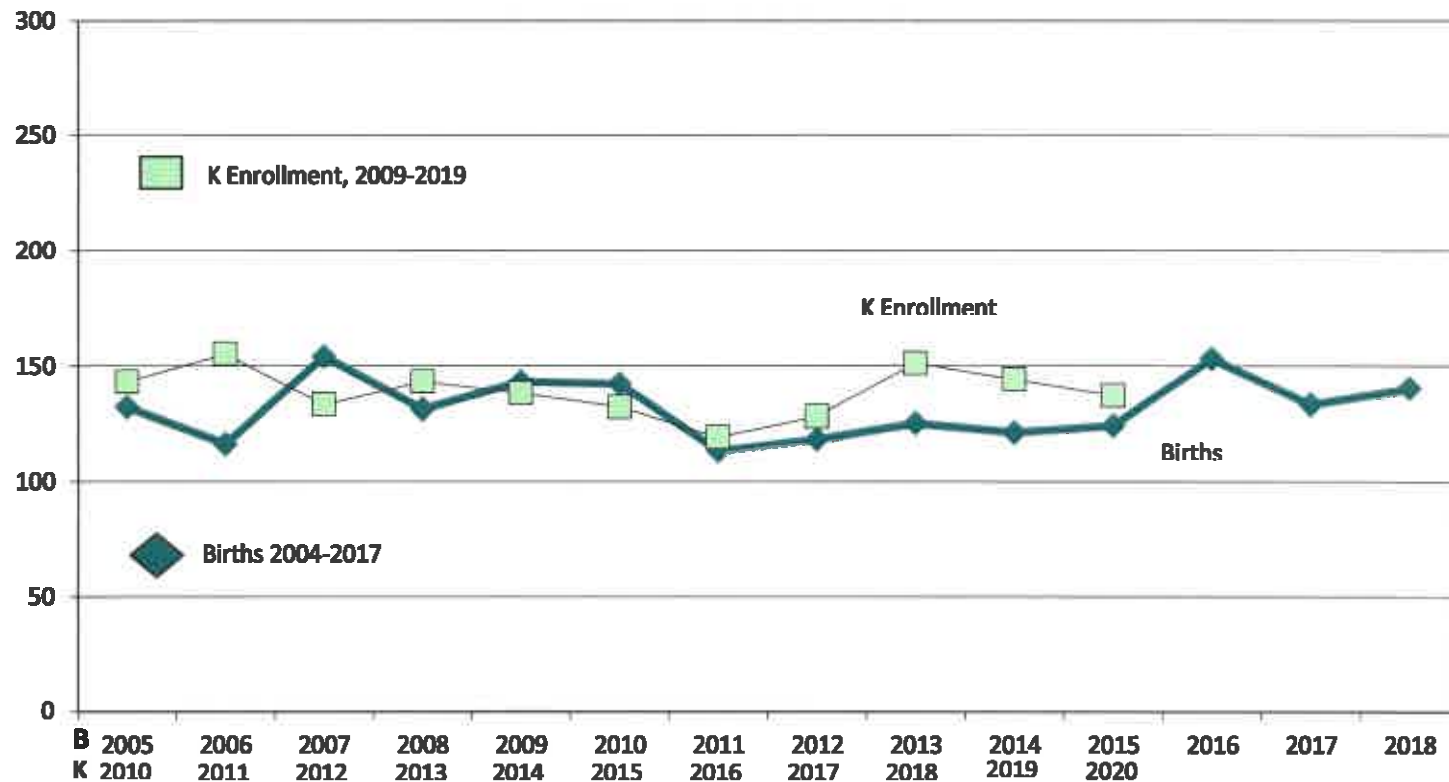


Historical & Projected Enrollment

K-12, 2010-2030



Birth-to-Kindergarten Relationship



Additional Data

Building Permits Issued		
Year	Single-Family	Multi-Units
2005	146	14
2016	64	2
2017	68	6
2018	70	4
2019	64	0
2020	33 to date	0 to date

Source: HUD and Building Department

Enrollment History		
Year	Career-Tech 9-12 Total	Non-Public K-12 Total
2005-06	n/a	n/a
2016	n/a	n/a
2017	n/a	n/a
2018	n/a	n/a
2019	n/a	n/a
2020	n/a	19

Residents in Non-Public Independent and Parochial Schools (General Education)														
Enrollments as of Oct. 1	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	K-12 TOTAL
	8	5	4	5	6	3	7	3	10	5	7	4	13	80

K-12 Home-Schooled Students	
2020	142

K-12 Residents in Charter or Magnet Schools, or "Choiced-out"	
2020	38

K-12 Special Education Outplaced Students	
2020	3

K-12 Tuitioned-in, Choiced-in, & Other Non-Residents	
2020	19

The above data were used to assist in the preparation of the enrollment projections. If additional demographic work is needed, please contact our office.



New England's PK-12 Enrollments The "Big Picture"

From 2016 to 2028, the US Department of Education anticipates changes in PK-12 enrollment of +5.4% in the South; +2.1% in the West, -2.1% in the Midwest; and -3.7% in the Northeast.

State	Fall 2016 PK - 12	Fall 2028 Projected	PK-12 Decline	% Change, 2016-2028
CT	535,118	471,100	-64,018	-12.0%
ME	180,512	171,600	-8,912	-5.0%
MA	964,514	939,400	-25,114	-2.6%
NH	180,888	161,000	-19,888	-11.0%
RI	142,150	135,700	-6,450	-4.5%
VT	88,428	80,400	-8,028	-9.0%

Source: USDE, National Center for Education Statistics, *Projections of Education Statistics to 2028*, Table 3, Pages 35-36; Published May 28, 2020.

Although most New England Districts are seeing a decline in the number of births, NESDEC's experience indicates that the impact on enrollment varies from District to District. Almost half of New England Districts have been growing in PK-12 enrollment, and a similar number are declining (often in rural areas) with the other Districts remaining stable.



Regional School Unit 5
Durham • Freeport • Pownal

Item # 14, C.

"To inspire and support every learner by challenging minds, building character, sparking creativity, and nurturing passions."

Becky Foley, Ph.D., Superintendent of Schools
Rick Kusturin, Director of Finance & Human Resources

Cynthia Alexander, Assistant Superintendent of Schools
Bonnie Violette, Ph.D., Director of Instructional Support

April 28, 2021

The Arts Education Resolution

Whereas all students have the right to an arts education that includes dance, media arts, music, theatre, and visual arts taught by certified arts educators, in partnership with community providers.
Whereas arts education has the power to change students' lives.

Whereas arts education is a key to re-igniting students' learning in a post-COVID-19 world.

Whereas arts education helps nurture healthy, inclusive communities where all points of view are respected.

Whereas arts education experiences help students understand their own cultural roots and appreciate others' cultural roots and traditions.

Whereas arts education supports the social and emotional well-being of students and fosters a more positive, safer school environment.

Whereas arts education is part of the well-rounded education for every student as outlined in the Every Student Succeeds Act and in state law.

Therefore, RSU5 pledges to maintain our arts education programs in the 2021-22 school year and beyond.

Becky Foley, Superintendent
For the RSU5 Board of Directors