Regional School Unit No. 5 17 West Street, Freeport, Maine 04032

Durham Freeport Pownal

Communications Subcommittee Report

Date: November 3, 2010

Committee: Communications

Chair: Jane Blais

Meeting Dates: November 1, 2010

Members Present: Jane Blais, Kristen Dorsey, and Shannon Welsh

Agenda Items and Discussion:

Update on Communications with Parent Groups and Municipal Officials:

Jane has scheduled to meet with Durham's PTA at their meeting in late November. Kristen met with the parent groups at Mast Landing, Freeport Middle and Freeport High schools. She is scheduled to meet with the Morse Street parents on Thursday, November 4th. In general, the parent groups welcome communication efforts regarding program and budget updates. Membership varies by school but all the parent groups are looking at increased participation by a broader group of parents to lend ideas and engage in effective fundraising efforts to provide resources to support teachers and enrich the school environment. The groups support the pre-budget workshops with parent groups; the posting of Board and parent group information on the RSU website(s); and continued written and personal communication contacts. Committee members will provide additional updates at our next meeting.

Informal Social/Coffee in Durham:

Jane Blais extended an invitation to Durham's Selectmen to attend the Board's informal social/coffee scheduled for Wednesday, November 3rd at the Durham Community School. Municipal officers appreciated the opportunity to speak informally with individual Board members. Shannon will send an invitation to the larger RSU community as part of Delivering on the Mission.

We will want to extend a personal invitation to the Freeport Town Council prior to the December 8th social at Freeport High School.

Strategic Framework Report Out Planning:

Committee members reviewed the list of possible invitees to the College and Career Readiness Skills discussions. The list includes representatives from each community's business, municipal, non-profit, and other stakeholder groups. Representatives will be invited to attend a session to identify the skills, knowledge, and attitudes our students need to successfully enter college and career pathways. The Strategic Framework commits to the identification of these skills and development of assessments that require students to demonstrate those skills. This work will occur over the current school year and will involve parents, students, teachers, and other community representatives.

Next Meeting: December 2, 2010

Press release recommended? Not at this time

Submitted by: Shannon L. Welsh