

**GOVERNOR WENTWORTH REGIONAL SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
OSSISPEE CENTRAL SCHOOL
MARCH 14, 2022**

CALL TO ORDER

The Governor Wentworth Regional School Board meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm.

Members Present: Brodie Deshaies, Stefanie King, Dr. James Manning, James Pittman, Charlene Seibel, Dana Streeter, John Widmer

Excused: Timothy Eldridge, Wendi Fenderson

Student Representative: Fallon Peacock

Middleton Representative: Kelly Tivnan (7:28 pm)

Also present: Superintendent Kathleen Cuddy-Egbert, Assistant Superintendent Heather Cummings, Principal Andrea Fournier, Assistant Principal Meaghan Cooper, staff, WCTV and community members.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

OATH OF OFFICE

The oath of office was administered to James Pittman, Brodie Deshaies, and Dana Streeter by Clerk Michelle Capone.

AGENDA REVIEW

Ms. Cuddy-Egbert added discussion on the location of the April meeting and an out-of-state field trip request form.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES/MANIFESTS

Acceptance of the December 6, 2021, Academic Affairs Committee meeting was tabled until next month (committee quorum needed).

Motion: To approve the minutes of the February 15, 2022, School Board meeting.

Moved: Mr. Pittman – **Seconded:** Dr. Manning

Vote: Meeting minutes approved 5-0-2. Ms. Seibel and Mr. Deshaies abstained.

Motion: To approve the minutes of the February 24, 2022, School Board meeting.

Moved: Ms. Seibel – **Seconded:** Ms. King

Vote: Meeting minutes approved 5-0-2. Dr. Manning and Mr. Deshaies abstained.

PUBLIC INPUT

- Jessica Williams, Wolfeboro, asked the status of the two notices served to the School Board at the last meeting. She said there is a deadline to schedule a public meeting. She asked that signed manifests be posted on the website within 72 hours of board approval. Ms. Williams said some board members are regularly absent and it is discouraging because it may delay business being conducted.
- Nate Williams asked if the Board has a position on House Bill 1646 relative to representation on a cooperative school district board. This bill requires cooperative school district boards to have an elected member from each pre-existing district and that the members would be voted within their own towns. Mr. Williams believes the current practice is a disservice to the smaller communities.

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Student Representative to the School Board

Fallon Peacock gave a report of school happenings at the high school. She said the spring sport registration will be closing, the student athlete leadership team is planning spring events, and the junior/senior prom will be held May 7 on the Mount Washington.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Welcome by Principal Fournier/Math Presentation

Principal Fournier welcomed everyone and Curriculum Coordinator Kaitlin Hills introduced the District Math coaches. A slideshow and presentation was given explaining how students are learning math in the classrooms.

Election Results

Ms. Cuddy-Egbert read the election results. She congratulated Mr. Deshaies and returning members Mr. Pittman and Mr. Streeter. She thanked the communities for passing all articles.

Wood Estate Expendable Trust

Ms. Cuddy-Egbert said New Durham School, Tuftonboro Central School, Ossipee Central School, and Effingham Elementary are requesting \$10,200 from the Wood Estate Expendable Trust Fund to host Camp Invention for a week during the summer of 2022.

Motion: To approve the distribution of \$10,200 from the Wood Estate Expendable Trust Fund to bring Camp Invention to New Durham School, Tuftonboro Central School, Ossipee Central School, and Effingham Elementary during the summer of 2022.

Moved: Ms. Seibel – **Seconded:** Ms. King

Vote: Motion passed 7-0-0 on a roll call vote.

COVID Update

Ms. Cuddy-Egbert said COVID cases are minimal, masks are optional, and furniture is returning to typical spacing. The COVID hot line is disconnected so families should notify their school nurse if they have a positive COVID case.

Location of April 2022 Board Meeting

Ms. Cuddy-Egbert asked the Board to consider have the April meeting at New Durham School now that we are able to return to a school rotation.

Motion: To hold the April 4, 2022, meeting at New Durham School.

Moved: Mr. Deshaies – **Seconded:** Ms. King

Vote: Motion passed 7-0-0 on a roll call vote.

Out of State Field Trip

Ms. Cuddy-Egbert informed the Board that New Durham School grade 6 will be attending an overnight ecology school in Saco, Maine later in the school year.

NH School Boards Association

Mr. Widmer informed Fallon Peacock that there is a student representative scholarship for 2022. He advised Board members that there are many workshops being offered. He said information regarding the formation of a new National School Boards Association is still in process.

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CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Expressions of sympathy were extended to the Waldrip family on the passing of their daughter.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. Widmer said the Board will reorganize at the next meeting voting in a chair and vice chair and committee assignments will be decided. He asked the Board to let him know before the April meeting what committees they are interested in serving on.

Academic Affairs

Ms. Seibel said the committee addressed Policy BEA, Board Meetings and Policy BEDH, Public Participation at Board Meetings. They discussed bills currently in legislation that may affect these policies so the committee will wait to revise these policies to see if new laws may impact the current policy. If this is the case, they will await guidance from the NH School Boards Association and legal counsel if necessary. They also had a brief Student Health and Wellness discussion. Ms. Seibel asked if there are any students experiencing "long Hauler" COVID symptoms and if so, what supports are in place. Ms. Cummings said the District has not received any reports of this, but provides accommodations for students who suffer from extended illnesses identified in a 504 plan.

Buildings & Maintenance

No report

Finance

Mr. Widmer thanked the GWRSD communities for voting, and for passing the warrant articles.

Human Resources

Mr. Widmer thanked the GWRSD communities for passing the contracts.

CLOSING ACTIVITIES

Advanced Planning

Mr. Widmer read upcoming events from the agenda. The April 4, 2022 school board meeting will be held at New Durham School.

Ms. Cuddy-Egbert addressed the petition for a special meeting issued to the District pertaining to face coverings; making them optional for all students as well as employees and visitors. She said masks are optional so this is a mute issue. Petitions to hold a special meeting require signatures from 5% of registered voters. Ms. Cuddy-Egbert consulted the district attorney and school boards do have the authority to make decisions in various matters and requiring masks was acceptable during the pandemic.

Public Input

- Jessica Williams, Wolfeboro, respectfully disagreed with Ms. Cuddy-Egbert and would like a special meeting held. She also asked that the policy adoption and policy revision process be reviewed.
- Ed Fergado, Center Ossipee, asked that the attorney's opinion be made available to the public.

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Closing Comments by Board Members

- Ms. King, applauded high school sophomore Emily Matos as the State of NH 2022 New Hampshire Poetry Out Loud Champion.
- Mr. Deshaies thanked the community for coming tonight. He said he is a resource and wants to move forward and bring unity to the District.
- Mr. Pittman said today is Pi Day.
- Ms. Seibel said how nice it is to be back visiting the schools and to hear what students are doing.
- Ms. Tivnan encouraged people to attend the drama presentation this weekend.
- Mr. Deshaies said he has heard some people are concerned that Wolfeboro Community Television is no longer broadcasting school board meetings. He said they do not have the resources to live stream from the schools, but the meeting will be taped and posted.

NON-PUBLIC SESSION

Motion: At 8:15 pm a motion was made to enter into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3, II to discuss legal and personnel matters.

Moved: Mr. Pittman – **Seconded:** Mr. Deshaies

Vote: Motion carried on a unanimous roll call vote.

Ms. Cuddy-Egbert presented staff resignations, retirements, and the board discussed a legal matter.

Motion: To accept with the resignation letter from Marcia Kiley-LeMay effective March 4, 2022.

Moved: Ms. Seibel – **Seconded:** Mr. Deshaies

Vote: Motion carried on a unanimous vote.

Motion: To accept with sincere appreciation the retirement letter from Chuck DiCecca at the end of the school year, June 2022.

Moved: Mr. Deshaies – **Seconded:** Mr. Pittman

Vote: Motion carried on a unanimous vote.

Motion: To accept with sincere appreciation the retirement letter from Brian Bloomer effective June 30, 2022.

Moved: Ms. Seibel – **Seconded:** Mr. Deshaies

Vote: Motion carried on a unanimous vote.

Motion: To accept with sincere appreciation the retirement letter from Laura Doggett Campbell at the end of the school year, June 2022.

Moved: Ms. Seibel – **Seconded:** Mr. Pittman

Vote: Motion carried on a unanimous vote.

Motion: To approve a tuition request for two students to attend Carpenter School for the balance of the 2021-2022 school year. The family will need to reapply to the school board in August 2022 if they have not received an occupancy permit on their property in Wolfeboro. Additional tuition may be required if they wish to attend summer school programs and are not residing in Wolfeboro.

Moved: Mr. Deshaies – **Seconded:** Mr. Pittman

Vote: Motion carried on a unanimous vote.

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Motion: To increase the salary of the business administrator effective immediately to \$117,000 (prorated through June 2022). Effective July 1, 2022, the salary will increase to \$120,000.

Moved: Mr. Deshaies – **Seconded:** Ms. Seibel

Vote: Motion carried on a unanimous vote.

Motion: At 9:09 pm a motion was made to end non-public session.

Moved: Ms. King – **Seconded:** Ms. Seibel

Vote: It was a unanimous roll call vote.

There was no further business.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion: 9:12 pm a motion was made to adjourn the meeting.

Moved: Mr. Deshaies – **Seconded:** Mr. Pittman

Vote: It was a unanimous roll call vote.

Respectfully submitted,



School Board Secretary