

**GOVERNOR WENTWORTH REGIONAL SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
KINGSWOOD ARTS CENTER
AUGUST 24, 2020**

I. CALL TO ORDER

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

Members Present: Krista Abear, Julianne Cardinal, Timothy Eldridge, Wendi Fenderson, Dr. James Manning, James Pittman, Charlene Seibel, Dana Streeter, John Widmer

Middleton Representative: Kelly Tivnan

Also present: Superintendent Kathleen Cuddy-Egbert, Assistant Superintendent Heather Cummings, Business Administrator Kathy O'Blenes, administrators, staff, community members and WCTV.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited

III. AGENDA REVIEW

No changes

IV. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

Motion: To accept the meeting minutes from the August 3, 2020 School Board meeting.

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

Vote: It was a unanimous roll call vote.

Motion: To accept the meeting minutes from the August 6, 2020 School Board meeting.

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

Vote: It was a unanimous roll call vote.

V. PUBLIC INPUT

None

VI. SCHOOL ATHLETICS

Aaron House, Director of Athletics, presented a flexible and gradual phase-in for fall sports, similar to the District's approach with academics. All program will utilize the most recent guidelines from the State of New Hampshire, NH Interscholastic Athletic Association, NH Athletic Directors Association, and the National Federation of State High School Associations under purview of the Kingwood Department of Athletics. Fall registration will be relaunched, and varsity tryouts will be held on the NHIAA start date of September 8. All District programs will be restricted to skill sessions, practices and intrasquad scrimmages in a phased approach until October 1. At this time the Director of Athletics will seek approval from administration about playing a Lakes Region game schedule beginning October 5th. Should regional games be allowed, varsity teams will be permitted to take part in the NHIAA open tournament planned for mid-October.

The board asked about waivers, transportation, coach interest, intramural teams, mouth guard protocol, and what happens if a student misses a training session/practice due to a scheduled remote day if transportation is not available. Transportation could potentially be an issue for all Districts because only 13 students are allowed on a bus. Mr. House will be talking with transportation if given Board approval. He will also send a survey to parents and will also find out how many coaches plan on returning. Ms. Abear asked the Superintendent if clubs will run and she said it will depend on staffing. Ms. Abear also said we work hard on cohort groups in the

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schools but during sports students may be exposed to students in another building. Guy Donnelly, High School Principal, said we have an advantage with our students participating in District athletics because we have guidelines and protocols and some control. If kids don't have this option more will join independent or regional teams. Dr. Manning asked about the NHIAA open tournament and Mr. House said the NHIAA is not requiring schools to have a game count or be in a top standing. All schools are eligible if they participate in games by October. Mr. House will update the Board at the September meeting.

Motion: To move forward with the athletic plan as presented.

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

Discussion: Board members would like a coach count, participation count, and information on transportation and schedules.

Amendment to Motion: On October 1 when the Athletic Director seeks approval from the Superintendent, KRMS Principal and KRHS Principal about playing a regional game schedule (starting October 5) approval must also be given by the School Board.

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

Vote on Amendment: It was a unanimous roll call vote

Amended Motion: To move forward with athletic plan as presented and on October 1 when the Athletic Director seeks approval from the Superintendent, KRMS Principal and KRHS Principal about playing a regional game schedule approval must also be given by the School Board.

Vote: Motion passed on a roll call vote (8-1). Ms. Seibel voted against the motion and all other Board members voted in favor of the motion.

VII. SCHOOL OPENING UPDATE

Ms. Cuddy-Egbert thanked Curriculum Coordinator Kaitlyn Hills for her work in matching families requesting remote learning with teachers requesting remote teaching. The next step is to split those students choosing the hybrid/blended model into two groups (Cohort A and B). Classroom spacing is manageable. The high school is the most difficult due to the number of classes, the various class levels and the graduation requirements. Over 100 families have requested remote learning so the District will be working with an outside provider for remote learning. Some areas still need fine tuning but we are approximately 80% of the way in creating this system.

VIII. CLOSING ACTIVITIES

Public Input

- A parent and business owner said we should look from a macro level instead of micro level. He was concerned that we may have surges after the July 4 tourist season but it did not happen. He said his daughter also participated in the skills program this summer, in a ten session soccer program in Bedford (no cases reported from this group), she works 4-seven hour shifts in town and is auditioning for dance tonight. If school sports/activities don't happen she will be participating elsewhere. Kids are working, playing sports and travelling.
- A parent would like elementary students to attend 5 days per week if space is available. Mr. Widmer agreed that this is a terrific idea but we are unable to do this with 6 foot distancing guidelines. He said we will bring all students back at the same time.
- A parent request for rapid testing for our athletes and opposing team on game days. She is also concerned about a lack of mouth guards because they may help prevent concussions. She feels this should be discussed more for the safety of children.

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IX. NON-PUBLIC SESSION

Motion: At 8:22 pm a motion was made to enter into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3, II to discuss a legal matter.

Moved: Mr. Eldridge – **Seconded:** Ms. Fenderson

Vote: It was a unanimous roll call vote.

Ms. Cuddy-Egbert shared a matter with the Board

Motion: 8:39 pm a motion was made to end non-public session.

Moved: Ms. Seibel – **Seconded:** Dr. Manning

Vote: It was a unanimous roll call vote.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion: 8:39 pm a motion was made to adjourn the meeting.

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

Vote: It was a unanimous roll call vote.

Respectfully submitted,



School Board Secretary

Approved by School Board 09/10/2020