

**GOVERNOR WENTWORTH REGIONAL SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
OCTOBER 7, 2019
EFFINGHAM ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Governor Wentworth Regional School Board meeting was called to order at 7:04 PM

Members Present: Krista Abear, Julianne Cardinal, Timothy Eldridge, Dr. James Manning, Dana Streeter, Stacy Trites and John Widmer

Excused: Bridget Edwards, Wendi Fenderson, Student Representative Connor Demasi

Middleton Representative: Kelly Tivnan

Also present: Superintendent Kathleen Cuddy-Egbert, Assistant Superintendent Heather Cummings, Business Administrator Kathy O'Blenes, Patti Morrissey, Brian Beaverstock, Effingham Elementary Staff, Peter Pijoan NH Community TV, Ed Comeau/NH Government Oversight and community members.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

III. AGENDA REVIEW

Add school board member resignation.

IV. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

Motion: To approve the notes from the September 16, 2019 Academic Affairs Committee meeting.

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

Vote: It was a unanimous vote

Motion: To approve the minutes of the September 16, 2019, school board meeting.

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

Vote: It was a unanimous vote

Motion: To approve the manifests as presented (\$1,502,107.63).

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

Vote: It was a unanimous vote

V. PUBLIC INPUT

Joseph Haas thanked the district for sending him the payment information for the Towns of Brookfield and Ossipee. He said he sent a letter today asking for the other four towns in the district. He said the law on payment schedules was amended in 2016 and he also talked about a few House Bills on school funding.

VI. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

Superintendent Cuddy-Egbert read the attached report on Connor's behalf.

VII. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Principal Morrissey

Before introducing Principal Morrissey, Superintendent Cuddy-Egbert said it is great to see the faculty that are here and it is always a pleasure to have students. Ms. Morrissey told everyone the stage is not always full of miscellaneous items but the school is preparing for the PTO yard sale on Saturday, October 12th. She said Effingham Elementary is going greener. She introduced students from grade 6 who explained the process of how they compost fruits and vegetables. They distributed a handout on total weight during the 2018-2019 school year and what has been collected this year and involved the school board in a rock-paper-scissors game which is connected to their compost project.

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Carroll County Broadband Project

Ms. Cuddy-Egbert introduced Albany Selectman Rick Hiland and Albany resident Steve Knox. The two co-chair a group called Carroll County Broadband. The group wants to bring high-speed internet access to every home and business in Carroll County so the region does not fall behind. The two said the population in the northern part of the state is lower than in the southern part so they are trying to get support by sharing information about the project. A grant application was submitted which will cover a financial and feasibility study which should be done by the end of summer 2020. Right now they are gathering information and formulating a plan and have received interest from 17 of the 18 counties. In the future the group may need help from the district with documentation such as questionnaires.

Town of Ossipee Payment Schedule

Superintendent Cuddy-Egbert said in June, without authorization from the school board, the Town of Ossipee started submitting equal installments for payment due to the district rather than paying the apportionment formula developed long ago for the six towns. The district cannot agree to the Town's schedule because the amount of money needed by the district each month varies.

Medicaid to Schools Program – Emergency Rules

Superintendent Cuddy-Egbert informed the Board of another wrinkle in the funding schedule. She said the Medicaid to Schools program allows districts to seek partial reimbursement for medically related services. However, on August 27, 2019 emergency rules went into effect removing "licensed practitioner of the healing arts" as a person who can order services and requires a medical doctor, PA or ARNP to order these services. This change may hold up or effect district reimbursement. Ms. Cuddy-Egbert said Susan Merrell developed a work around form to help the district receive funds in a timely manner. The State is also using Ms. Merrell's form.

Budget Timeline for 2020-2021

Superintendent Cuddy-Egbert provided the Board with 2020-2021 budget preparation dates and deadlines. The dates will be posted on the district website.

School Enrollment Update

Superintendent Cuddy-Egbert said enrollments show a slight increase.

School Calendar

Superintendent Cuddy-Egbert said next year Labor Day is late which made it difficult to draft a calendar (created with input from teachers and administration). Two calendars were discussed with the Board and both reflect a set end date and three blizzard bag days. One calendar ends June 18 and has students in school on voting days and the other ends June 23 but has students out on voting days. The Board decided to defer on a vote and have Ms. Cuddy-Egbert contact the Town of Effingham and the Town of New Durham to inform them the district is considering holding school on voting days next year and the towns may need to hold elections at another location.

Winter Weather

Superintendent Cuddy-Egbert read a letter to parents notifying them of the winter weather procedures used to decide if school should be delayed, released early or cancelled. The letter will be published on the district and school web pages.

Legislative Update

Superintendent Cuddy-Egbert said the compromise State budget passed. She will have more details on the district's portion of the aid at the next meeting.

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School Board Member Resignation

Superintendent Cuddy-Egbert announced that Bridget Edwards has relocated outside of Effingham so she is no longer eligible for her seat on the board as an Effingham member. An ad will be placed for an immediate vacancy with hopes to interview before the next meeting.

NH School Boards Association (NHSBA)

Mr. Widmer said the NHSBA has a collaborative effort with the NH School Administrators Association and the NH School Principals Association which makes the association that much greater. The next meeting is in November but it conflicts with the district's finance meeting.

VIII. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Mr. Widmer said expressions of sympathy were sent to Cindy Joseph and Maryann Belanger on the loss of family members and to the family of Len Martin on his passing.

IX. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Academic Affairs

Ms. Trites said the discussion regarding the policy on athletic teams is ongoing.

Buildings & Maintenance

Ms. Cardinal said the committee will meet next month.

Finance

Mr. Widmer said that it is important for people to attend the upcoming finance committee meetings.

Human Resources

No report

X. CLOSING ACTIVITIES

Advanced Planning

Mr. Widmer read upcoming events from the bottom of the agenda.

Public Input

Joseph Haas said he attended the Effingham Board of Selectmen's meeting and there was mention of a joint meeting on October 28. Mr. Widmer said he will be doing a budget presentation when they find a mutually agreeable date.

Closing Comments by Board Members

Ms. Abear said it is nice being in Effingham. Mr. Streeter thanked the students for demonstrating their compost project and said it was his first time playing rock-paper-scissors. Mr. Eldridge thanked Principal Morrissey and the staff. He said he liked the Broadband presentation and hopes the project continues to move forward. Mr. Eldridge thanked the administration for working through the Ossipee payment schedule. Ms. Cardinal and Dr. Manning thanked Principal Morrissey and the students. Ms. Trites said she is not surprised that Susan Merrell developed a workaround form as she is always doing amazing things to keep the money moving. Ms. Tivnan was happy that Connor mentioned the upcoming drama show in his report. Mr. Widmer thanked Principal Morrissey and said it is always fun doing activities with the students. He said he is excited about the Broadband project.

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NON-PUBLIC SESSION

Motion: At 8:30 pm a motion was made to enter into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3, II to discuss personnel and legal issues.

Moved: Dr. Manning – Seconded: Mr. Eldridge

Vote: It was a unanimous roll call vote

Motion: To accept the resignation from Michael Manning, and release him from his contract, with appreciation for his service to the district.

Moved: Mr. Eldridge – Seconded: Ms. Trites

Vote: Dr. Manning abstained with all other members voting in the affirmative

Motion: To accept the Superintendent's nomination of Jasmine Robinson as a 100% teacher at Crescent Lake School for the 2019-2020 school year. Track 3/Step 4 - \$45,501

Moved: Dr. Manning – Seconded: Ms. Trites

Vote: It was a unanimous vote

Superintendent Cuddy-Egbert discussed Appendix 4 Coaching Stipends in the agreement between the Governor Wentworth Regional School Board and the Governor Wentworth Education Association.

Motion: 9:35 PM a motion was made to come out of non-public session.

Moved: Ms. Abear – Seconded: Mr. Eldridge

Vote: It was a unanimous vote

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: 9:36 PM a motion was made to adjourn the meeting.

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

Vote: It was a unanimous vote

Respectfully submitted,



School Board Secretary

Approved by GWRSD School Board 11.4.19

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Connor Demasi
Student Representative Report

Homecoming is this week which includes many fun and exciting activities at the High School. These include the famous Hallway Decorating Contest, the School Dance on Saturday, October 12th, as well as many sports games to attend.

Last week the Knights football team hosted the John Stark Generals on Friday night. The Knights, winning 31-0 making their record at 2-2. Also at the game donations for NH Tackles Hunger were collected from generous students, teachers, and community members. Bass Fishing has also had a winning season as they end it by coming in 2nd place for the state!

On October 2nd there was a College Board meeting for the senior class and it was well attended.

Q1 Interims were due on Friday October, 4th.

This year a new freshman program was initiated to help this year's freshman class find out about all of Kingswood's helpful and fun extracurricular activities.

Next Monday night, October 14th, the Junior and Senior girls will be hosting the second annual women's football game! They are calling it Girls' Knight - money raised will benefit the cheer program and their give back charity this season, Suicide Prevention.

Mr. Geissler and his theater team have been working diligently for the release of their up and coming new play, "Disaster". Opening night is November 22nd at 7pm in the Kingswood Arts Center. It should be, as always, a great time!