

**GOVERNOR WENTWORTH REGIONAL SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
JOINT BOARDS – LAKES REGION TECHNOLOGY CENTER
GWRSD SCHOOL BOARD - KINGSWOOD HIGH/MIDDLE SCHOOL LIBRARY
MAY 9, 2022**

The Joint Boards meeting was held at the Lakes Region Technology Center prior to the regularly scheduled School Board meeting. The following Districts were represented: The entire Governor Wentworth Regional School Board, Eunice Landry represented the JMA Board from Barnstead, Kelly Tivnan and Rebecca Eastman-Derrow from the Middleton School Board, Patrick Hart from the Moultonborough School Board and Principal Andrew Coppinger and Director of Counseling Services Heather Nelson from Moultonborough Academy. Also present were Superintendent Kathleen Cuddy-Egbert, Assistant Superintendent Heather Cummings, Business Administrator Kathy O'Blenes, Principal of LRTC Kathy Tetreault, Student Services Coordinator Jennifer Ouellette, and Work Based Learning Teacher Jennifer French. The evening started just after 6:00 pm with a welcome from Chef Brideau of the Culinary Arts Program. Mr. Brideau thanked everyone for attending. He said the Skylight Dining Room has been very busy this year, open by reservation only, and it has been a great learning experience for the students. The Culinary Arts students prepared and served a delicious meal to the attendees.

Ms. Cuddy-Egbert thanked everyone for attending and said the students did a fabulous job. She said it was a smooth transition for Ms. Tetreault's to Principal, and she has the vision to bring the center to the next level using our resources and those in the community.

Ms. Tetreault said she is getting to know how CTE works across the State, how the program can grow, and by being involved in the communities to get a sense where the work force is going. Jen French gave an overview of the Work Based Learning Program. She said Work Based Learning is evolving out of COVID. The strongest community partnerships are when students get real world skills with internships. The plan as we move forward is to remove internship impediments for the sending schools. Ms. Tetreault extended invites to tour the facility anytime. She thanked the sending schools for their support.

Motion: To approve the Perkins Grant Funds and support the program initiatives for next year.

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

Vote: All voted in favor

The Joint Boards meeting adjourned at 7:40 pm. The school board proceeded to the Library for the regularly scheduled board meeting.

CALL TO ORDER

The Governor Wentworth Regional School Board meeting was called to order at 8:00 p.m.

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

Middleton Representative: Kelly Tivnan

Excused Student Representative: Fallon Peacock

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited at 8:00 p.m.

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AGENDA REVIEW

No changes

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES/MANIFESTS

Motion: To approve the minutes of the April 4, 2022, Buildings & Maintenance Committee meeting.

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

Vote: Meeting minutes approved 4-0-0. (Mr. Eldridge, Mr. Pittman, Dr. Manning, Mr. Streeter).

Motion: To approve the minutes of the April 4, 2022, School Board meeting.

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

Discussion: Ms. King added to Ms. Colby-Seavey’s report, regarding iSocial, that this is a three-tiered system, also known as the Pyramid Model, that supports best practices for social-emotional learning, support for parents, and it is data driven. Mr. Deshaies felt it important to add that the additional petition signatures submitted for a special hearing were submitted after the deadline

Vote: Amended meeting minutes approved on a roll call vote 9-0-0.

Motion: To approve the accounts payable (\$2,000,674.30) and payroll (\$1,923,135.76) manifests totaling \$3,923,810.06.

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

Vote: Motion passed 9-0-0.

PUBLIC INPUT

None

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

Miss Peacock was excused from the meeting. No report was provided.

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

High School Initiative

Ms. Cuddy-Egbert said this year the high school has noticed an increase in unkind and hateful comments from students. It has been noticed by faculty, administration, and students. Unfortunately, this is a common theme nationwide. Ms. Cuddy-Egbert reported a committee has been formed at the high school a “no slur school campaign” to remind student to be kind and that hateful and unkind language is not acceptable. The committee meets weekly, and with a sustained effort, expects to see the unkind behavior decline.

Teacher and Staff Appreciation Week, May 2-6

Ms. Cuddy-Egbert read a message sent to staff, on behalf of the School Board, extending deep gratitude for their dedication, steadiness and acts of kindness toward one another, our students, our families, and our communities. In the best of times, and in the worst of times, you have found it within yourselves to create the magic for them, day by day.

District Websites

Ms. Cuddy-Egbert was excited to announce that the District will have a new website provider soon. Our current provider is with Weebly, but as of August they will no longer support the educational platform. Karen Libby and Amy Reibau have been working hard with a new provider, Finalsity. The new design will interface with our School Messenger System, will address handicapped accessibility,

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MAY 9, 2022**

and will provide our community with a content management system with a platform easy for parents to navigate with an app they can download on their phones.

Donation

Ms. Cuddy Egbert said Bill Tufts, a Tuftonboro resident, a former player for the Chicago Clubs Organization and a former Associate Major League Baseball Scout for the Arizona Diamondbacks, donated a Stalker 2 Radar Gun which will benefit in measuring metrics in baseball, softball and tennis.

Motion: To accept, with appreciation, the donation of the Stalker 2 Radar Gun from Mr. Tufts.

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

Vote: Motion passed on a roll call vote 9-0-0.

21st Century Community Learning Centers Grant Annual Youth Surveys

School's Out! Program, Ossipee Central School

Superintendent Cuddy-Egbert explained each year the District is required to conduct a survey of students who participate in the Ossipee Central afterschool program. The surveys are part of the Federal 21st Century Community Learning Centers grant through the NH Department of Education. It is a non-academic survey conducted in order to adhere to the grant provisions.

Motion: To allow promulgation of the NH Department of Education 21st Century Community Learning Centers Grant Annual Youth Surveys for the Ossipee Central School's Schools Out! Program.

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

Vote: Motion carried on a unanimous roll call vote 9-0-0

Friends of Drummond and Woodsum Supreme Court Brief

Ms. Cuddy-Egbert said that Drummond and Woodsum is filing a friend of the court brief with the NH Supreme Court which may be heard this summer. She said RSA 171-A would seem to provide protections for 18 year olds and above with disabilities, but in fact if they are receiving special education in their school district the services have not been available to students as outlined in the summary document. In this particular case, the area agency found the student eligible for home and community based services, but DHHS vetoed that decision because the 19 year old was still attending high school. It does not seem morally right or legally correct to deny services a student is entitled to because they are a student. There is no financial commitment to sign on to this friend of the court brief.

Motion: To sign on as a friend of the court with Drummond and Woodsum case filed with the NH Supreme Court r on the interface between social services and special education.

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

Discussion: Mr. Deshaies wonders who appealed the first time it was in court and Ms. Fenderson said she was unable to find a first ruling. Mr. Pittman asked if the plaintive is in our District and the answer was no. Mr. Deshaies said he agrees with a lot of the logic and that the state should change the law so this does not happen in the future.

Vote: Motion carried on a roll call vote 7-0-2 (Mr. Deshaies and Ms. King both abstained).

**GOVERNOR WENTWORTH REGIONAL SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
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MAY 9, 2022**

Stay Open Plan

Ms. Cuddy-Egbert said we are aware that the pandemic is not over. Many references have been stricken from the stay open plan, but the information provides very good information to use as a guideline. She said all of the references to masking have been taken out as the governor has ordered that masks are only optional, the social distancing is still suggested, but not in the six foot range only that students keep spaced out as much as possible during activities, and the document refers to the most recent CDC and DHHS guidelines on what to do if you have a confirmed exposure or have been confirmed positive. Also, if a student is exhibiting symptoms and a parent authorizes to have their child tested the school will provide antigen testing for the student. Many of the expectations are recommended, but not requirements. If there is ever a need to revert backwards we have the earlier plans we can use. The Board discussed several areas of the plan. Ms. King would like to see in the last section for social emotional learning the following added: Social Emotional Learning as part of a multi-tiered system of supports for behavioral health and wellness has been an ongoing priority for GWRSD.

Motion: To approve the revised Stay Open Plan.

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

Vote: Motion carried on a roll call vote 9-0-0

General Assurance FY 2023

Superintendent Cuddy-Egbert presented the School Board with the Department of Education Fiscal Year 2023 General Assurances. It is required that School Board be informed of the federal funds the District will be receiving and to know the District is implementing the practices. A copy of the document must also be signed and initialed by the School Board Chair and Superintendent of Schools.

Motion: To accept the Fiscal Year 2023 NH Department of Education General Assurances, Requirements and Definitions for Participation in Federal Programs document as presented; signed and initialed by Ms. Cuddy-Egbert and Mr. Widmer.

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

Vote: Motion carried 9-0-0 on a roll call vote

Field Trip Requests

Ms. Cuddy-Egbert informed the Board that senior students are taking an out-of-state field to the Holocaust Memorial, the Lakes Region Technology Center Precision Manufacturing Tech class is taking an out-of-state overnight trip to the 2022 Skills USA National Leading and Skills Conference in Georgia, and Tuftonboro Central School grade 6 is taking an out-of-state trip to the Boston Science Museum and Duck Board Tour.

Grant

Ms. Cuddy-Egbert said the District was fortunate to have had two part-time grant positions approved; one through the special education IDEA grant and the other half through the CTE Perkins Fund. The position will combine to be a full-time counseling position to be housed at the CTE Center. The purpose of the position is multifold. The District has seen an increase in students who have mental health needs, especially our emotional disabilities population, so this position will provide counseling for those students, but also career development services as related to the Technical Education Center.

**GOVERNOR WENTWORTH REGIONAL SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
JOINT BOARDS – LAKES REGION TECHNOLOGY CENTER
GWRSD SCHOOL BOARD - KINGSWOOD HIGH/MIDDLE SCHOOL LIBRARY
MAY 9, 2022**

NH School Boards Association

Ms. Cuddy-Egbert said the Board needs to establish dates for training by the NH School Boards Association. Mr. Widmer said the new association, the Consortium of State School Boards Associations, has had 22 states sign on. A representative attended a two-day meeting of the association in South Carolina where they discussed bylaws, the goals for the association, and how the setup is going to be. Every member state will be on a rotating basis to be in charge of the association at some point. Every state that belongs will go into a statement to a cycle so nobody has complete control over the association.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Academic Affairs

No report

Buildings & Maintenance

Mr. Eldridge said he would like to schedule a meeting for May 17 at 10:00 a.m. at the SAU Office. He said the committee received a monthly update from the custodial staff and April showers bring May flowers but they also bring leaky roofs, but they are all in the pipeline of being resolved.

Finance

No report

Human Resources

No report

CLOSING ACTIVITIES

Advanced Planning

Mr. Widmer read upcoming events from the agenda. A list of end of year events was provided to the Board.

Public Input

None

Closing Comments by Board Members

- Mr. Widmer said the Joint Boards meeting with the sending towns was held this evening at the Tech Center and the student served a spectacular dinner.
- Ms. Cuddy-Egbert pointed out the patio garden in front of the library that was planted in memory of Ann Olkkola with donated funds.
- Ms. Seibel said Joint Boards is always a treat and the students were phenomenal.
- Mr. Pittman said this evening we're having a full lunar eclipse. It will be a long lunar eclipse starting at 9 30 p.m. and ends at 2:00 a.m.
- Ms. King expressed appreciation for teachers and their work every day, and also wanted to mention that Wednesday is school nurses' appreciation day, and they have certainly worked their amount of overtime and said she appreciates their efforts and support as well.
- Mr. Deshaies said that legislative session are complete in Concord so now we will wait to see what gets to the Governor's desk over the next few months. He anticipates big updates may be coming so Academic Affairs may be busy.

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MAY 9, 2022**

NON-PUBLIC SESSION

Motion: At 8:55 pm a motion was made to enter into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3, II to discuss legal and personnel matters.

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

Vote: Motion carried on a unanimous roll call vote.

Legal and personnel matters were discussed.

Motion: To accept the resignation letters from Michelle Arbour, Lois-Jean Stevens, Kimberly Canney, Karole-Ann Keniston, Laura Tsoronis, and Jessie Mardis, with appreciation, at the end of the school year, June 2022. Also to accept the retirement letter from Jill Daley-Gibson, with appreciation, at the of the 2022-2023 school year.

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

Vote: Motion carried on a unanimous vote.

Motion: To accept the nomination of Anna Hersey as Out-of-District Case Manager and DPT effective July 1, 2022. Track 3/Step 13: \$75,581

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

Vote: Motion carried 8-0-1 (Mr. Deshaies abstained).

Motion: To accept the nomination of Kathleen LeMay as Special Education Teacher at Ossipee Central School effective July 1, 2022. Track 3/Step 13: \$75,581

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

Vote: Motion carried on a unanimous vote.

Motion: To accept the nomination of Robin Merenda as classroom teacher at Effingham Elementary School effective July 1, 2022. Track 1/Step 3: \$45,685

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

Vote: Motion carried 8-0-1 (Ms. King abstained).

Motion: To accept the nomination of Angel Boisvert as Special Education Teacher at Kingswood Regional High School effective July 1, 2022. Track 3/Step 13: \$75,581

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

Vote: Motion carried on a unanimous vote.

Motion: To accept the nomination of Alison Wichroski as a District Speech and Language Pathologist effective July 1, 2022. Anticipated Track 4/Step 14: \$86,926

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

Vote: Motion carried on a unanimous vote.

Motion: To accept the nomination of Casey Widmann as a Classroom Teacher at Ossipee Central School effective July 1, 2022. Track 3/Step 6: \$50,255

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

Vote: Motion carried on a unanimous vote.

Motion: To accept the nomination of Kim Morrisette as Special Education Teacher at Crescent Lake School effective July 1, 2022. Track 2/Step 9: \$56,127

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

**GOVERNOR WENTWORTH REGIONAL SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
JOINT BOARDS – LAKES REGION TECHNOLOGY CENTER
GWRSD SCHOOL BOARD - KINGSWOOD HIGH/MIDDLE SCHOOL LIBRARY
MAY 9, 2022**

Vote: Motion carried on a unanimous vote

Motion: To accept the nomination of Nancy Michaud as a Special Education Teacher/DPT at Kingswood Regional High School effective July 1, 2022. Track 4/Step 14: \$86,926

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

Vote: Motion carried on a unanimous vote.

Motion: At 10:16 pm a motion was made to end non-public session.

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

Vote: It was a unanimous roll call vote.

There was no further business.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion: 10:16 pm a motion was made to adjourn the meeting.

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

Vote: It was a unanimous roll call vote.

Respectfully submitted,



School Board Secretary