

**GOVERNOR WENTWORTH REGIONAL SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
GWRSD SCHOOL BOARD
LAKES REGION TECHNOLOGY CENTER – LECTURE HALL
JUNE 6, 2022**

CALL TO ORDER

The Governor Wentworth Regional School Board meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m.

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

Middleton Representative: Kelly Tivnan

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 7:05 p.m.

AGENDA REVIEW

Superintendent Cuddy-Egbert requested to add an Alumni Association Action Item, Amicus Brief Information/Discussion Item, and 603 Bright Future Survey Information/Discussion Item.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES/MANIFESTS

Motion: To approve the minutes of the May 9, 2022, Joint Board/School Board meeting.

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

Discussion: No Discussion

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

Motion: To approve the accounts payable (\$1,317,834.53) and payroll (\$1,838,761.43) manifests totaling \$3,156,595.96.

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

Vote: Motion passed 9-0-0.

PUBLIC INPUT

None

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

Miss Peacock provided a summary of recent LRTC and KRHS activities. At the annual State Competition DECA won 6 awards, HOSA won 9, Precision Manufacturing won 8 and FFA won 10. 12 Marketing students competed in Nationals in May. HOSA and Precision will compete in Nationals the week of June 20th. All level 2 Construction Trade students received their OSHA 10 certifications. The Tech Center hosted 6th grade student tours for Crescent Lake, Effingham, Tuftonboro, Ossipee, New Durham and Middleton schools. A summer job fair was held at the Tech Center on May 17th. The Tech Center and the High School offered 9 Running Start courses during the school year. 72 classes were taken for credit by 56 students for a total of 254 college credits earned in Spanish, Accounting, Statistics, Manufacturing, Business, Medical Terminology and Nurse Assisting. Student Council planned the May 9th prom that was held on the Mount Washington and the May 26th Field Day that was held on Alumni Field. NHS participated in the Read Program for the first time in two years, and also held a car wash and envelope stuffing events. All sports teams are headed to Plymouth State playoffs against Coe Brown, with the exception of the softball team that has its playoff this week. Track & Field advanced to the New England Championship as well. June is a

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busy month with Academic Awards Night, Scholarship Night, Senior Baccalaureate, Senior Athletic Awards Night, final exams, and graduation practice followed by graduation on Friday night at 6pm.

Mr. Widmer presented a thank you card to Miss. Peacock for her year of representation to the School Board.

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

New District Websites

Ms. Cuddy-Egbert introduced Karen Libby and Amy Riebau who have been diligently working on the new GWRSD website using provider, Finalsite. They gave a brief tour of the new website, explaining that it is ADA compliant, intends to promote the district, and they welcome any feedback that the schools and community would like to share. Superintendent Cuddy-Egbert thanked Karen and Amy for all of their hard work.

Alumni Association

Ms. Cuddy-Egbert introduced Kristie Smith, Chris Nelson and Deb Skelley of the Alumni Association, who explained the Association’s role and membership. There will be a fundraising golf tournament on October 15, 2022 to benefit the KRHS Scholarship Fund. The Association extends best wishes to Superintendent Cuddy-Egbert for her retirement. MaryEllen Bridges recently joined the Alumni Association Board. The Alumni Association recently awarded several scholarships at Senior Awards night.

Motion: To approve \$5,000.00 to be given to the KRHS Alumni Association for the 2022-2023 school year activities.

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

Vote: Motion passed 9-0-0.

Wood Estate Expendable Trust Fund Applications

Ms. Cuddy-Egbert presented application requests to offset the cost of student trips to Costa Rica and Quebec in the amounts of \$11,400 and \$6,520 respectively, using funds from the Wood Estate Expendable Trust. Using these funds would offset the cost of the trips by one third for each student, leaving the students to pay for the remaining two thirds of the cost of their trips.

Motion: To allow the use of the Wood Estate Expendable Trust Fund for the trips to Costa Rica and Quebec.

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

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

School Security / Prenda Pods

Deidrah Prior, resident of Ossipee, thanked the Board for all of their hard work during the COVID pandemic and then read a statement advocating for a district learning pod through Prenda with funding from the NH Department of Education’s Recovering Bright Futures Program. Mr. Deshaies recommended the Yes! grants for student tutoring available through the DOE website. Ms. King also suggested a Rekindling Curiosity grant on the DOE website.

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Jonathan Prior, also a resident of Ossipee, read a statement asking the school board to take action to employ armed guards at all schools in the Governor Wentworth Regional School District, citing several different studies and statistics on the topic.

Jack Widmer thanked the Priors for their remarks and the information they shared, stating that the Board will take it under advisement. Ms. King suggested a virtual training available through the Department of Homeland Security regarding school safety. A link will be posted on the district website.

Amicus Brief

Superintendent Cuddy-Egbert reminded the board of their agreement to sign on at the April board meeting in support of the Amicus brief that was filed. She has been contacted by the law firm looking for a financial donation to help defer the costs of presenting the case. The general consensus of the board is against providing any financial assistance at this time.

603 Bright Futures Survey Results

Superintendent Cuddy-Egbert shared the positive survey results showing that the district exceeded the state results in every category but one. School climate showed to be a particular strength, as well as teaching and learning conditions, social emotional well-being, community engagement, school safety and family engagement. The district also showed improvement over the prior year's survey results in these areas as well. The results can be found online at 603 Bright Futures.

NH School Boards Association

Mr. Widmer reported that there is a meeting tonight, June 6th. The call for resolutions is due by the October 1, 2022 meeting.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

No Discussion

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Academic Affairs

Ms. Seibel reported that there will be two policies ready for first readings and adoption at the August meeting; new Policy EGA-E: Employee/Volunteer Computer Network Acceptable Use Agreement and Policy JGA-R: GWRSD Acceptable Use Policy for Internet, Network and Computers. Curriculum Coordinator Kaitlyn Hills will present some updates at the August or September meeting. The committee learned that the math coaches have been incredibly beneficial, and a pilot program called Eureka Math Squared is in the works.

Buildings & Maintenance

Mr. Eldridge reported that there was a meeting with the administration and the Friends Pop Whalen about an MOU for potential locker rooms. More information to come. Carpenter Elementary PTO is fundraising for a new playground. The conceptual plan with structural design for removal of the old playground and installation of the new playground was presented to the board for approval.

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Motion: To approve the playground plans presented to the Buildings & Maintenance Committee for the new playground.

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

Discussion: Clarification that the playground will be paid for by PTO fundraising only.

Vote: Motion passed 8-0-1 (Ms. King abstained by absence from the room)

The fence at Carpenter School is in need of repair, more information is forthcoming.

The committee discussed putting in a new garden to spruce up the front of the high school.

Motion: To approve up to \$20,000 to move forward with a new garden to the left of the entrance to Kingswood Regional High School.

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

Discussion: This item is not budgeted, but will use leftover funds, up to \$20,000. The board would like to involve agriculture students and be mindful of including the best pollination supporting plants while taking advantage of this project as an educational opportunity for students that also benefits the environment.

Revised Motion: To approve up to \$20,000 to move forward with a new garden to the left of the entrance to Kingswood Regional High School and involve the agriculture students and include the best pollination supporting plants while taking advantage of the educational opportunity for students and benefiting the environment as well.

Revision Seconded: Mr. Deshaies

Vote: Motion passed 8-0-1 (Ms. King abstained by absence from the room)

General housekeeping items were also discussed at the committee meeting; sidewalks, summer projects, solar projects.

Human Resources

No report

Finance

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

Ruth Clough of Tuftonboro expressed thanks and congratulations to Superintendent Cuddy-Egbert for her retirement, questioned if the School Board called a special meeting to address school safety issues, and expressed shock that the school district has only one SRO.

Jessica Williams questioned the status of the fence repair, wondering how long she must wait for results, and how to clarify who is owner of the fence. Ms. O'Blenes replied that the district is

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awaiting legal documentation of the fence ownership. Ms. Williams asked what she should do to get the fence fixed. Ms. Williams will work with Ms. O'Blenes and the B&G Committee on this issue.

Ms. King and Superintendent Cuddy-Egbert discussed the letter that went out to parents about GWRSD's school safety measures and district safety plans.

An unidentified audience member asked if there are drills for active shooters in the schools. Another unidentified audience member asked how recent the safety plan is. Superintendent Cuddy-Egbert answered that Homeland Security recommends best practices which the district implements, and that the district safety plan is updated annually, to include off-site evacuation plans. The local police and fire departments have all of the schools' plans.

Ruth Clough expressed concern with the policies of the local police department and feels the parents should know the specific policies/plans of the police department and the school regarding school safety.

Closing Comments by Board Members

- Mr. Deshaies summarized the school safety and fence issues.
- The videographer, Mary Ann Murray, expressed concern that students may be opening building doors for strangers and that the school and parents should review the safety of this practice with students.
- Ms. Seibel highlighted that this is the Superintendent's last board meeting and thanked her for all of her years of service.
- Ms. King expressed congratulations to the graduating Class of 2022, to the Superintendent's retirement and to all of the retirees.

NON-PUBLIC SESSION

Motion: At 8:34 pm a motion was made to enter into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3, II to discuss personnel matters.

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

Vote: Motion carried on a unanimous roll call vote.

Personnel matters were discussed.

Motion: To accept the nomination of Lynda Baita as a Math teacher at KRHS effective July 1, 2022. Track 2/Step 12: \$67,005

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

Vote: Motion carried on a unanimous vote.

Motion: To accept the nomination of Kristen Clark as a Grade 6 teacher at Tufonboro Central School teacher effective July 1, 2022. Track 1/Step 1: \$43,509

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

Vote: Motion carried on a unanimous vote.

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Motion: To accept the nomination of Marie Deane as a 50% Physical Education teacher at Carpenter School effective July 1, 2022. Track 3/Step 8: \$27,738

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

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

Motion: To accept the nomination of Kelly Demain as a Science teacher at KRHS effective July 1, 2022. Track 3/Step 8: \$55,476

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

Vote: Motion carried on a unanimous vote.

Motion: To accept the nomination of Jessica Heald as Preschool Coordinator effective July 1, 2022. Track 4/Step 13: \$79,949

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

Vote: Motion carried on a unanimous vote.

Motion: To accept the nomination of Janice Jesberger as a Special Education teacher at Tuftonboro Central School effective July 1, 2022. Track 3/Step 13: \$75,581

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

Vote: Motion carried on a unanimous vote.

Motion: To accept the nomination of Jessica Lear as a First Grade teacher at Ossipee Central School for the period of one year, effective July 1, 2022. Track 1/Step 1: \$43,509

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

Vote: Motion carried on a unanimous vote.

Motion: To accept the nomination of Dr. Tracey Rose as Principal at Carpenter School effective July 1, 2022. \$104,201

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

Vote: Motion carried on a unanimous vote

Motion: To accept the nomination of Ashley Russell as a Second Grade teacher Tuftonboro Central School effective July 1, 2022. Track 1/Step 3: \$45,685

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

Vote: Motion carried on a unanimous vote.

Motion: To accept the nomination of Deborah Skelley as a 50% Physical Education teacher at Crescent Lake School effective July 1, 2022. Track3/Step 13: \$37,791

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

Vote: Motion carried on a unanimous vote.

Motion: To accept the nomination of Douglas Skelley as a Middle School Social Studies teacher at KRMS effective July 1, 2022. Track 3/Step 13: \$75,581

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

Vote: Motion passes 5-4-0

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Motion: To accept the nomination of Dayna Thompson as a Fifth Grade teacher at Tufonboro Central School effective July 1, 2022. Track 1/Step 1: \$43,509

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

Vote: Motion carried on a unanimous vote.

Motion: To accept the nomination of Erica Woodward as a Fourth Grade teacher at New Durham School effective July 1, 2022. Track 3/Step 7 : \$52,810

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

Vote: Motion carried on a unanimous vote.

Motion: To reinstate Mary Dolan-Meyers' accrued, unused sick days to her.

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

Vote: Motion carried on a unanimous vote.

Motion: To accept with sincere gratitude and regret, the retirement of James Reilly.

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

Vote: Motion carried on a unanimous vote.

Motion: To approve the creation of a category 7 position of Child Nutrition Warehouse Supervisor and eliminate the category 6 position of Food Service Warehouse.

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

Vote: Motion carried on a unanimous vote.

Motion: To approve the request to move the Library Media Assistant position to a full time, year-round IT Equipment Manager position and add a 5 hour/week part time position.

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

Vote: Motion carried on a unanimous vote.

Motion: At 9:49 pm a motion was made to end the non-public session.

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

Vote: It was a unanimous roll call vote.

There was no further business.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion: At 9:50 pm a motion was made to adjourn the meeting.

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

Vote: It was a unanimous roll call vote.

Respectfully submitted,



School Board Secretary