

**GOVERNOR WENTWORTH REGIONAL SCHOOL BOARD MEETING  
KINGSWOOD REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL  
JANUARY 9, 2023**

**NON-PUBLIC SESSION – Kingswood Regional High School , Room 212**

**Members Present:** Tom Bickford, Brodie Deshaies, Wendi Fenderson, Dr. James Manning, James Pittman, Charlene Seibel, Dana Streeter, John Widmer.

**Also present:** Superintendent Caroline Arakelian, Assistant Superintendent Heather Cummings, Business Administrator Kathy O’Blenes

**Motion:** At 6:00 pm a motion was made to enter non-public session under RSA 91-A:3, II to discuss legal matters.

**Moved:** Mr. Bickford - **Second:** Ms. Seibel

**Vote:** Mr. Bickford, yes; Mr. Deshaies, yes; Ms. Fenderson, yes; Dr. Manning, yes; Mr. Pittman, yes; Ms. Seibel, yes; Mr. Streeter, yes; Mr. Widmer, yes

Ms. King arrived at 6:03 pm

Legal matters were discussed.

**Motion:** At 6:48 pm a motion was made to end the non-public session.

**Moved:** Ms. Seibel - **Second:** Mr. Pittman

**Vote:** Mr. Bickford, yes; Mr. Deshaies, yes; Ms. Fenderson, yes; Ms. King, yes; Dr. Manning, yes; Mr. Pittman, yes; Ms. Seibel, yes; Mr. Streeter, yes; Mr. Widmer, yes

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Widmer called the Governor Wentworth Regional School Board meeting to order at 7:00pm in the Lecture Hall of Kingswood Regional High School.

**Members Present:** Tom Bickford, Brodie Deshaies, Wendi Fenderson, Stefanie King, Dr. James Manning, James Pittman, Charlene Seibel, Dana Streeter, Kelly Tivnan, John Widmer.

**Also present:** Superintendent Caroline Arakelian, Assistant Superintendent Heather Cummings, Business Administrator Kathy O’Blenes, Curriculum Coordinator Kaitlyn Hills, Student Videographer, staff, students, community members.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

A moment of silence was held in memory of staff member Jackey Roberts.

**AGENDA REVIEW**

Add Safety and Athletics item per Superintendent request.

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**ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES**

**Motion:** To approve the minutes of the December 5, 2022 School Board meeting as written.

**Moved:** Mr. Deshaies – **Second:** Dr. Manning

**Discussion:** none

**Vote:** Mr. Bickford, yes; Mr. Deshaies, yes; Ms. Fenderson, yes; Ms. King, yes;  
Dr. Manning, yes; Mr. Pittman, yes; Ms. Seibel, yes; Mr. Streeter, yes; Mr. Widmer, yes

**Motion:** To approve the minutes of the December 19, 2022 Academic Affairs Committee meeting as written.

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

**Discussion:** none

**Vote:** Mr. Bickford, yes; Ms. King, yes; Ms. Seibel, yes

**Motion:** To approve the minutes of the December 20, 2022 Finance Committee meeting as amended.

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

**Discussion:** One edit.

**Vote:** Mr. Bickford, yes; Mr. Deshaies, yes; Ms. Fenderson, yes; Ms. King, yes;  
Dr. Manning, yes; Mr. Pittman, yes; Ms. Seibel, yes; Mr. Streeter, yes; Mr. Widmer, yes

**Motion:** To approve the accounts payable (\$1,823,138.11) and payroll (\$3,413,734.66) manifests totaling \$5,236,872.77

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

**Discussion:** none

**Vote:** Mr. Bickford, yes; Mr. Deshaies, yes; Ms. Fenderson, yes; Ms. King, yes;  
Dr. Manning, yes; Mr. Pittman, yes; Ms. Seibel, yes; Mr. Streeter, yes; Mr. Widmer, yes

**PUBLIC INPUT**

Steve Wood, Chairman of the Wolfeboro Police Commission, described increased activity at the schools requiring SRO involvement, the vote by the Budget Committee to put forward the SRO Warrant Article, and the belief that the article is essential in order to protect the students.

Dean Rondeau, Wolfeboro Police Chief, described his history with the department, and the increase in activity at the schools since the first SRO started in 2000. He stated that there have been 169 cases initiated since January, 2022 between the middle and high schools. He believes an additional SRO at the schools is imperative.

Officer Mary Devine, SRO at Kingswood Regional High School, and Wolfeboro Police Officer Boucher described the daily routine of the SRO and the different types of incidents

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recorded and both believe an additional SRO will be a benefit to the schools. Officer Boucher described the types of training that is in progress at schools across the district.

David Bickford, resident of New Durham, questioned a filing date as published and questioned what contract request was discussed in Non-Public in December.

Kurt DeVylder, resident of Wolfeboro, presented a Petition Warrant Article on behalf of the Friends of Pop Whalen for the Pop Whalen Ice Arena with 65 signatures. He described the facility and its benefits in detail, along with the cost to enter the agreement.

### **STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT**

Superintendent Arakelian read from Student Representative Marcella De Nitto's report as she could not attend the meeting. The report is attached to these minutes.

### **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

#### Principal Donnelly – Kingswood Regional High School

Principal Donnelly introduced students from the Global Citizenship Class, taught by Ms. Murray do Carmo, who shared a compelling presentation on Kingswood graduate James Foley's life, legacy, and moral courage. The class created a James Foley Legacy Exhibit that includes photos, artifacts and a timeline of his life and work. The students also reported on the success of the annual James Foley Freedom Run that happens in October each year and on the inspiring story of Jim's mother, Diane Foley. The School Board and audience members viewed the exhibit and thanked the class for such a powerful piece of work.

#### Competency Based Education Presentation

Dr. Katey Hills presented an introduction to Competency-Based Education for the Board and the public. She explained what CBE is, its components, best practices, related state policy, the relationship to Portrait of a Learner, and further learning topics. CBE student presentations will be shared at future board meetings. Paul Famulari was introduced and explained his role in supporting the high school with this program. The presentation will be available to view on the GWRSD website.

#### Wolfeboro Trolley Company

Superintendent Arakelian presented the letter from Kathy Fairman, owner of the Wolfeboro Trolley Company, asking to continue the "Park & Ride" partnership for the upcoming summer.

**Motion:** To approve the request by The Wolfeboro Trolley Company to run a "Park & Ride" shuttle between the Kingswood Arts Center and downtown Wolfeboro in July and August when school is not in session.

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

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**Discussion:** To encourage more students to participate by sharing information about the program

**Vote:** Mr. Bickford, yes; Mr. Deshaies, yes; Ms. Fenderson, yes; Ms. King, yes; Dr. Manning, yes; Mr. Pittman, yes; Ms. Seibel, yes; Mr. Streeter, yes; Mr. Widmer, yes

Snow Days

Superintendent Arakelian proposed removing remote learning as a requirement when school is canceled for weather-related reasons and that make-up days be added at the end of the school year if necessary.

**Motion:** To remove remote learning as a requirement when school is canceled for weather-related reasons when safe transportation of students is affected.

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

**Discussion:** This relates to "snow days" only, removal of remote learning altogether, air conditioning in buildings during hot weather.

**Vote:** Mr. Bickford, yes; Mr. Deshaies, yes; Ms. Fenderson, yes; Ms. King, yes; Dr. Manning, yes; Mr. Pittman, yes; Ms. Seibel, yes; Mr. Streeter, yes; Mr. Widmer, yes

2023-2024 School Calendar

Superintendent Arakelian reported that there will be no town voting on 11/7/23 so the day was added back to the calendar as a regular school day and Parent/Teacher Conferences were changed to 11/8 and 11/9 as a result.

**Motion:** To approve the updated calendar as presented.

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

**Discussion:** The Federal observation of Veterans Day, Friday vs Saturday graduation ceremony, parent/guardian/student survey of graduation day preference was discussed. Principal Donnelly explained the history of graduation ceremony days and the advantages of having multiple plans to react to inclement weather in order to hold the ceremony outside and maximize family attendance.

**Motion:** To approve the updated calendar and to survey parent/guardian/student preference for graduation ceremony on Friday or Saturday.

**Moved:** SK – **Second:** Ms. Fenderson

**Vote:** Mr. Bickford, yes; Mr. Deshaies, yes; Ms. Fenderson, yes; Ms. King, yes; Dr. Manning, yes; Mr. Pittman, yes; Ms. Seibel, yes; Mr. Streeter, yes; Mr. Widmer, yes

Field Trip Updates

Superintendent Arakelian notified the Board that LRTC's FFA group will be attending an overnight field trip to Camp Brookwoods/Deer Run in Alton from January 13-15, the Robotics Team will be attending an overnight/out of state competition in Rhode Island from

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March 10-12, and Effingham's 5<sup>th</sup> Grade class will be attending an overnight/out of state field trip to The Ecology School in Saco, Maine from May 30 to June 2.

KRMS SRO

Mr. Widmer opened up the floor for discussion. Lengthy discussion included comparison of Wolfeboro juvenile petitions with surrounding towns, the definition of a "case", the number of cases year-to-date, available state data and interpretation of data, bullying cases, the types of activities that result in cases, Middle School versus High School cases, the overwhelmingly anecdotal evidence presented versus statistical evidence, mental health services as an additional solution, SRO training, and the lack of regular reporting of activity to the Board. Chief Rondeau committed to regular reporting of specific SRO data to the Board and stated that an additional SRO is critically important.

Budget Adoption Hearing 2024

Mr. Widmer reviewed the Budget Hearing presentation by describing the budget process, enrollment, the general fund, the Collective Bargaining Agreement, the warrant articles, the debt service, the default budget, and important dates.

Mr. Widmer welcomed community members to contact him with any questions. The presentation will be available on the GWRSD website for reference.

Preparation for Deliberative Session

a) Adopt Budget 2023-2024

**Motion:** To approve the 2023-2024 budget as presented.

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

**Discussion:** none

**Vote:** Mr. Bickford, yes; Mr. Deshaies, yes; Ms. Fenderson, yes; Ms. King, yes; Dr. Manning, yes; Mr. Pittman, yes; Ms. Seibel, yes; Mr. Streeter, yes; Mr. Widmer, yes

b) Adopt Warrant 2023-2024

**Motion:** To approve Warrant Article II as presented.

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

**Discussion:** none

**Vote:** Mr. Bickford, yes; Mr. Deshaies, yes; Ms. Fenderson, yes; Ms. King, yes; Dr. Manning, yes; Mr. Pittman, yes; Ms. Seibel, yes; Mr. Streeter, yes; Mr. Widmer, yes

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**Motion:** To approve Warrant Article III as presented.

**Moved:** Mr. Deshaies – **Second:** Dr. Manning

**Discussion:** none

**Vote:** Mr. Bickford, yes; Mr. Deshaies, yes; Ms. Fenderson, yes; Ms. King, yes;  
Dr. Manning, yes; Mr. Pittman, yes; Ms. Seibel, yes; Mr. Streeter, yes; Mr. Widmer, yes

**Motion:** To approve Warrant Article IV as presented.

**Moved:** Dr. Manning – **Second:** Mr. Deshaies

**Discussion:** none

**Vote:** Mr. Bickford, yes; Mr. Deshaies, yes; Ms. Fenderson, yes; Ms. King, yes;  
Dr. Manning, yes; Mr. Pittman, yes; Ms. Seibel, yes; Mr. Streeter, yes; Mr. Widmer, yes

**Motion:** To approve Warrant Article V as presented.

**Moved:** Mr. Deshaies – **Second:** Dr. Manning

**Discussion:** none

**Vote:** Mr. Bickford, yes; Mr. Deshaies, yes; Ms. Fenderson, yes; Ms. King, yes;  
Dr. Manning, yes; Mr. Pittman, yes; Ms. Seibel, yes; Mr. Streeter, yes; Mr. Widmer, yes

**Motion:** To approve Warrant Article VI as presented.

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

**Discussion:** none

**Vote:** Mr. Bickford, yes; Mr. Deshaies, yes; Ms. Fenderson, yes; Ms. King, yes;  
Dr. Manning, yes; Mr. Pittman, yes; Ms. Seibel, yes; Mr. Streeter, no; Mr. Widmer, yes

**Motion:** To approve Warrant Article VII, amended to state that the SRO is for the  
**Kingswood Complex.**

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

**Discussion:** Communication concerns, the timing of presentation of the warrant article, the  
rushed process.

**Vote:** Mr. Bickford, abstain; Mr. Deshaies, yes; Ms. Fenderson, abstain; Ms. King, yes;  
Dr. Manning, yes; Mr. Pittman, yes; Ms. Seibel, yes; Mr. Streeter, no; Mr. Widmer, yes

c) School Board Spokesperson for Articles

Warrant Article II - Wendi Fenderson

Warrant Article III – Wendi Fenderson

Warrant Article IV – Jack Widmer

Warrant Article V – Brodie Deshaies

Warrant Article VI – Jim Pittman

Warrant Article VII – Stefanie King

Safety and Athletics

Superintendent read a response from the Athletic Director and team athletic trainer in  
response to a Board Member question regarding safety protocols at athletic events.

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Chairman's Report

Mr. Widmer shared that congratulations went out to Marie Sanborn on the birth of her daughter, get well wishes went out to Susan Delisle and Tina Rouvalis, and expressions of sympathy were extended to the family of Jackey Roberts on her unexpected passing, to Nancy Rose on the passing of her father, to the family of Philip Thornton on his passing, and to Kelly Tivnan on the passing of her father.

Committee Reports

Academic Affairs – Charlene Seibel

- a) Academic Affairs Update – Ms. Seibel reported on the new English 12 course on Holocaust Literature, the new course proposal process and the proposed change from quarters to trimesters.
- b) Recommended for Adoption - 2<sup>nd</sup> Read – Ms. Seibel presented policies BBBF, EBCD, IHBAB, IMBA and JH for approval. Policy JH requires one minor edit.

**Motion:** To approve policies BBBF, EBCD, IHBAB, IMBA and JH (with noted edit) as presented.

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

**Discussion:** none

**Vote:** Mr. Bickford, yes; Mr. Deshaies, yes; Ms. Fenderson, yes; Ms. King, yes; Dr. Manning, yes; Mr. Pittman, yes; Ms. Seibel, yes; Mr. Streeter, yes; Mr. Widmer, yes

- c) Recommended for Revision – 2<sup>nd</sup> Read – Ms. Seibel presented policies BBB, EBBD, and GBGA for approval.

**Motion:** To approve revised policies BBB, EBBD, and GBGA as presented.

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

**Discussion:** none

**Vote:** Mr. Bickford, yes; Mr. Deshaies, yes; Ms. Fenderson, yes; Ms. King, yes; Dr. Manning, yes; Mr. Pittman, yes; Ms. Seibel, yes; Mr. Streeter, yes; Mr. Widmer, yes

- d) Recommended for Withdrawal – 2<sup>nd</sup> Read – Ms. Seibel presented policies EBCE, IHBA-R, IHBG-R, JHB, and JHB-R for approval.

**Motion:** To approve policies EBCE, IHBA-R, IHBG-R, JHB, and JHB-R for withdrawal.

**Moved:** Ms. Seibel – **Second:** Mr. Bickford

**Discussion:** none

**Vote:** Mr. Bickford, yes; Mr. Deshaies, yes; Ms. Fenderson, yes; Ms. King, yes; Dr. Manning, yes; Mr. Pittman, yes; Ms. Seibel, yes; Mr. Streeter, yes; Mr. Widmer, yes

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- e) Ms. Seibel presented policies JJJ-R, JLCDA, AD, IHBA, GBCD-R and GCAA for 1<sup>st</sup> Read and invited all Board Members to submit edits to Heather in writing before the January 23, 2023 Academic Affairs meeting.

Buildings & Maintenance – Jim Pittman, no news to report.

Finance – John Widmer, no news to report.

Human Resources – John Widmer, no news to report.

### **CLOSING ACTIVITIES**

#### Advanced Planning

Mr. Widmer read upcoming events from the agenda, noting that the filing dates for School District Officers are 1/19 to 1/27.

#### Public Input

Bobbi Boudman, resident of Wolfeboro, thanked the Student Videographer for her service and asked questions of the Warrant Articles presented, commented on the calendar snow days, presented a Petition Warrant Article regarding 1<sup>st</sup> Amendment rights related to library materials, and encouraged the Board to contact legislators regarding HB61.

#### Closing Comments

The Board commented on the fantastic student presentation on James Foley, suggested meeting with the police department annually at the end of each school year, and commented on the Warrant Articles.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion:** At 11:17 pm a motion was made to adjourn the meeting.

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

**Vote:** The motion was approved unanimously

Respectfully submitted,



School Board Secretary  
Approved by School Board: 2/06/2023