

**GOVERNOR WENTWORTH REGIONAL SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
GWRSD SCHOOL BOARD – KINGSWOOD ARTS CENTER
SEPTEMBER 11, 2023**

CALL TO ORDER

The Governor Wentworth Regional School Board meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm in Room #136.

Members Present: Brodie Deshaies, Stefanie King, Dr. James Manning, James Pittman, Mary Schillereff, Charlene Seibel, Dana Streeter, John Widmer

Members Excused: Tom Bickford

Also present: Superintendent Caroline Arakelian, Assistant Superintendent Heather Cummings

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

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

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

Superintendent Arakelian presented two teacher nominations.

Motion: To approve the Superintendent's nomination of Rhonda Campbell as a 50% teacher for the 2023-24 school year. Track 4/Step 14 \$44,767

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

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

Motion: To approve the Superintendent's nomination of Randy Davison as a 100% Teacher for the 2023-24 school year. Track 4/Step 14 \$89,534

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

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

The results of the August 23rd, 2023 personnel grievance hearing were discussed.

A student matter was discussed.

Motion: At 6:36 pm a motion was made to come out of non-public session.

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

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

Kelly Tivnan, Elliott Giessler, and community members joined the meeting in the auditorium of the Kingswood Arts Center.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

At 7:00pm the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. A moment of silence was observed to commemorate the 22nd anniversary of September 11th.

AGENDA REVIEW

No Discussion

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ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

Motion: To approve the minutes of the August 7, 2023 School Board meeting.

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

Discussion: Minor edits suggested.

Vote: Mr. Deshaies, yes; Ms. King, yes; Dr. Manning, abstain; Mr. Pittman, yes; Ms. Seibel, yes; Ms. Schillereff, yes; Mr. Streeter, yes; Mr. Widmer, yes

Motion: To approve the minutes of the August 23, 2023 School Board meeting.

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

Discussion: none

Vote: Mr. Deshaies, yes; Ms. King, abstain; Dr. Manning, yes; Mr. Pittman, abstain; Ms. Seibel, abstain; Ms. Schillereff, yes; Mr. Streeter, yes; Mr. Widmer, yes

The accounts payable and payroll manifests will be presented for approval at the October meeting.

PUBLIC INPUT

Ruth Clough, Tuftonboro – Requested to know when the community will be permitted to provide input as to the use of Esser III funds, asked what the Academic Affairs Committee is doing to address the results of the statewide assessments, and asked what is happening with the fund balance that is not being returned to taxpayers.

Bobbi Boudman, Wolfeboro – Requested approval of sharing information with students on the NH Safe Haven laws.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent District Update

Superintendent Arakelian highlighted summer activities, professional development, safety and security training, Homeland Security assessments, and the Daughters of the American Revolutions as submitted in her written report to the Board.

Student Representative

Superintendent Arakelian introduced the new Student Representative to the School Board, Elliott Giessler. Mr. Giessler introduced himself, thanked the Board for the opportunity to serve, and shared a brief summary of information on the events and activities happening at Kingswood Regional High School.

Field Trips

Superintendent Arakelian presented three overnight and out of state field trips to the Board. Tuftonboro Central School's 6th Grade students will attend Camp Merrowvista in November, the KRHS softball team will travel to Florida in March, and the KRHS World Language students will travel to Spain in June. World Language Teacher, Elissa Quinatoa, described the trip to Spain and answered questions.

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Carpenter School Playground Gift

Superintendent Arakelian read a statement to thank the volunteers and community for their support of the efforts to update the playground at Carpenter School.

Motion: To approve the acceptance of the Carpenter School playground as a gift to the Governor Wentworth Regional School District.

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

Discussion: none

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

Let Grow Grant Project

Superintendent Arakelian introduced and shared information on the project that is being brought to New Durham School. The project is a collaboration between the Boston College School of Social Work and the NHED designed to research student wellbeing and play in NH public elementary schools.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Strategic Plan

Mr. Widmer described the August 8th meeting that was held to initiate the strategic plan process, listed the team members, and announced that the first team meeting will be held tomorrow, September 12th. Superintendent Arakelian explained that more information will be shared about the opportunity for community members to participate during the upcoming months. She also explained how the team members were chosen, with the guidance of the third party facilitator, drawing on leaders across the district showing mental health expertise, leadership and collaborative ability, as well as parental and student representation.

NHSBA Resolutions

Mr. Widmer presented the NHSBA proposed resolutions with voting to be held on October 14th. He asked the board to review the resolutions and contact him with questions.

Correspondence

Mr. Widmer shared that notes of condolence were sent out to District staff.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Academic Affairs Committee: Ms. Siebel reported that the first committee meeting of the school year is on September 21st at the SAU building at 4:00pm.

Building & Maintenance Committee: Mr. Pittman reported that the first meeting of the school year is on September 26th at the SAU Building at 4:00pm.

Finance Committee: Mr. Widmer reported that budget work sessions will be held on November 14th, 15th, and 16th at Crescent Lake School at 6:00pm and explained the process that will be followed.

Human Resources Committee: no report

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ADVANCED PLANNING

Upcoming events were read from the agenda.

PUBLIC INPUT

Mr. Jerry Hess, Wolfeboro – Commended the Board for doing a fantastic job and expressed that there is not enough credit given for their work, offering his sincere appreciation. He also offered to help by serving on committees.

CLOSING COMMENTS

Appreciation was expressed for the New Staff Reception, held this afternoon before the meeting, and the opportunity for the Board to meet new members of the District; attention was brought to National Suicide Awareness week and the plight of the residents of Hawaii; appreciation was expressed for the opportunity to serve on the Town of Wolfeboro CIP committee; appreciation was expressed for the opportunity to serve on the Board and for the audience members who attended tonight; Student Representative Elliott Giessler was warmly welcomed; and all were encouraged to attend the District's open houses that will be occurring in the month of September.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion: At 7:57 pm a motion was made to adjourn the meeting.

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

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

Respectfully submitted,



School Board Secretary

Approved by GWRSD School Board: **10/02/2023**