

GOVERNOR WENTWORTH REGIONAL SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

CARPENTER SCHOOL

APRIL 1, 2024 6:00PM

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Pittman called the Governor Wentworth Regional School Board meeting to order at 6:10pm in the gymnasium of Carpenter School.

Members Present: Tom Bickford, Brodie Deshaies, Dr. James Manning, James Pittman, Mary Schillereff, Charlene Seibel, Dana Streeter (6:21pm)

Also present: Superintendent Caroline Arakelian, Assistant Superintendent Heather Cummings, and Business Administrator Kathy O'Blenes, Board Member-Elect Guy Pike, Board Member-Elect Dr. Elizabeth Sheckler, School Board Clerk Michelle Capone, GWRSD Professional Administrative Staff, community members.

OATH OF OFFICE

School Board Clerk Michelle Capone administered the Oath of Office to Guy Pike, Dr. Elizabeth Sheckler, and Mary Schillereff.

BOARD REORGANIZATION

Selection of Chair and Vice Chair

Motion: To nominate Brodie Deshaies for Board Chair.

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

Vote: Dr. Manning, yes; Ms. Seibel, yes; Mr. Pittman, yes; Mr. Bickford, yes; Ms. Schillereff, yes; Dr. Sheckler, yes; Mr. Pike, yes; Mr. Deshaies, abstain

Motion: To nominate Dr. Manning for Vice Chair.

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

Vote: Dr. Manning, abstain; Ms. Seibel, yes; Mr. Pittman, yes; Mr. Bickford, yes; Ms. Schillereff, yes; Dr. Sheckler, yes; Mr. Pike, yes; Mr. Deshaies, yes

Assignment to Board Committees

Mr. Deshaies read committee assignments:

1. Academic Affairs – Charlene Seibel (Team Leader), Tom Bickford, Mary Schillereff, Dr. Sheckler
2. Buildings & Maintenance – Jim Pittman (Team Leader), Tom Bickford, Dr. Manning, Guy Pike
3. Finance – Brodie Deshaies (Team Leader), Guy Pike, Jim Pittman, Dr. Sheckler
4. Human Resources – Dr. Manning (Team Leader), Brodie Deshaies, Mary Schillereff, Dana Streeter
5. WCTV – Mary Schillereff
6. Wolfeboro CIP Committee Rep – Jim Pittman

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School Board Member Ethics

Superintendent Arakelian read School Board Member Ethics Policy BCA aloud. Each Board member signed the annual acknowledgement form.

Mr. Streeter arrived at 6:21pm.

Appointment of School District Clerk and Treasurer

Motion: To reappoint Michelle Capone as School District Clerk.

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

Vote: Dr. Manning, yes; Ms. Seibel, yes; Mr. Pittman, yes; Mr. Streeter, yes; Mr. Bickford, yes; Ms. Schillereff, yes; Dr. Sheckler, yes; Mr. Pike, yes; Mr. Deshaies, yes

Motion: To reappoint Scott Isabelle as School District Treasurer.

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

Vote: Dr. Manning, yes; Ms. Seibel, yes; Mr. Pittman, yes; Mr. Streeter, yes; Mr. Bickford, yes; Ms. Schillereff, yes; Dr. Sheckler, yes; Mr. Pike, yes; Mr. Deshaies, yes

Motion: At 6:27pm a motion was made to enter non-public session under RSA 91-A: 3, II to discuss personnel matters.

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

Vote: Dr. Manning, yes; Ms. Seibel, yes; Mr. Pittman, yes; Mr. Streeter, yes; Mr. Bickford, yes; Ms. Schillereff, yes; Dr. Sheckler, yes; Mr. Pike, yes; Mr. Deshaies, yes

SAU Administration, School Board Members, and Professional Administrative Staff moved to the Art Room for the Non-Public session.

Superintendent Arakelian reviewed the nomination list of professional and teaching staff. The Superintendent nominated the staff as presented for the 2024-2025 school year.

Motion: To accept the Superintendent's 2024-2025 nomination of professional and teaching staff as presented.

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

Vote: Dr. Manning, yes, with abstention on two candidates; Ms. Seibel, yes; Mr. Pittman, yes; Mr. Streeter, yes; Mr. Bickford, yes; Ms. Schillereff, yes; Dr. Sheckler, yes; Mr. Pike, yes; Mr. Deshaies, yes

Motion: To accept, with appreciation, the resignation letters from Shelby Alessandroni and Sheryl Power effective at the end of the 2023-2024 school year.

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

Vote: Dr. Manning, yes; Ms. Seibel, yes; Mr. Pittman, yes; Mr. Streeter, yes; Mr. Bickford, yes; Ms. Schillereff, yes; Dr. Sheckler, yes; Mr. Pike, yes; Mr. Deshaies, yes

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The Professional Administrative Staff left the room.

Superintendent Arakelian presented a list of Administrators recommended for renomination for the 2024-2025 school year.

Motion: To accept the Superintendent's 2024-2025 renomination of Administrators as presented.

Moved: Ms. Seibel - **Second:** Ms. Schillereff

Vote: Dr. Manning, yes; Ms. Seibel, yes; Mr. Pittman, yes; Mr. Streeter, yes; Mr. Bickford, yes; Ms. Schillereff, yes; Dr. Sheckler, yes; Mr. Pike, yes; Mr. Deshaies, yes

Superintendent Arakelian presented the list of Non-Union Administrators recommended for renomination for the 2024-2025 school year.

Motion: To accept the Superintendent's 2024-2025 renomination of Non-Union Administrators as presented.

Moved: Dr. Sheckler - **Second:** Dr. Manning

Vote: Dr. Manning, yes; Ms. Seibel, yes; Mr. Pittman, yes; Mr. Streeter, yes; Mr. Bickford, yes; Ms. Schillereff, yes; Dr. Sheckler, yes; Mr. Pike, yes; Mr. Deshaies, yes

Motion: At 6:45 pm a motion was made to end the non-public session.

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

Vote: Dr. Manning, yes; Ms. Seibel, yes; Mr. Pittman, yes; Mr. Streeter, yes; Mr. Bickford, yes; Ms. Schillereff, yes; Dr. Sheckler, yes; Mr. Pike, yes; Mr. Deshaies, yes

At 6:55pm the Board members resumed the meeting in the gymnasium of the school. At this time Michelle Capone administered the Oath of Office to Kaitlin Purdy-Murphy for School Board Moderator. Student Representative Elliott Giessler, Middleton Board member Kelly Tivnan, a student videographer, staff, and community members joined the meeting.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Pike.

AGENDA REVIEW

No Discussion.

CARPENTER SCHOOL STUDENT PRESENTATION

Principal Rowe welcomed the School Board, Administration, and community members, describing her first year as Building Principal spent learning about all of the wonderful traditions of the school. She turned the presentation over to Dr. Katey Hills who described how Kindergarten students are learning how to read using Science of Reading strategies to build foundations in phonics and vocabulary. She introduced Mrs. Dube and her Kindergarten students who demonstrated their vowel sounds, their writing skills, and their reading aloud talents.

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ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

Motion: To approve the minutes of the February 3, 2024 School Board meeting.

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

Discussion: none

Vote: Dr. Manning, yes; Ms. Seibel, yes; Mr. Pittman, yes; Mr. Streeter, yes; Mr. Bickford, yes; Ms. Schillereff, yes; Dr. Sheckler, abstain; Mr. Pike, abstain; Mr. Deshaies, yes

Motion: To approve the minutes of the February 5, 2024 School Board meeting.

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

Discussion: none

Vote: Dr. Manning, yes; Ms. Seibel, yes; Mr. Pittman, yes; Mr. Streeter, abstain; Mr. Bickford, yes; Ms. Schillereff, yes; Dr. Sheckler, abstain; Mr. Pike, abstain; Mr. Deshaies, yes

Motion: To approve the minutes of the March 7, 2024 HR Committee meeting.

Moved: Mr. Streeter – **Second:** Mr. Bickford

Discussion: none

Vote: Mr. Streeter, yes; Mr. Bickford, yes

Motion: To approve the minutes of the March 11, 2024 Finance Committee meeting.

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

Discussion: Relative to the subject of impact fees, Mr. Bickford commented on the policy that states committees cannot compel the Board to take action. Mr. Pittman responded that the committee authorized the administration to engage an offer for settlement of the impact fee request by the Town of Wolfeboro, not approval for payment. Superintendent Arakelian explained that the response from the town will be shared for consideration by the full Board when it is received.

Vote: Mr. Pittman, yes; Mr. Bickford, yes; Ms. Schillereff, yes

Motion: To approve the minutes of the March 11, 2024 School Board meeting.

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

Discussion: none

Vote: Dr. Manning, yes; Ms. Seibel, yes; Mr. Pittman, yes; Mr. Streeter, yes; Mr. Bickford, yes; Ms. Schillereff, yes; Dr. Sheckler, abstain; Mr. Pike, abstain; Mr. Deshaies, yes

Motion: To approve the minutes of the March 14, 2024 Academic Affairs Committee meeting.

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

Discussion: none

Vote: Dr. Manning, yes; Ms. Seibel, yes; Ms. Schillereff, yes; Mr. Deshaies, yes

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Motion: To approve the accounts payable (\$1,566,383.03) and payroll (\$1,865,532.78) manifests totaling \$3,431,915.81.

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

Vote: Dr. Manning, yes; Ms. Seibel, yes; Mr. Pittman, yes; Mr. Streeter, yes; Mr. Bickford, yes; Ms. Schillereff, yes; Dr. Sheckler, abstain; Mr. Pike, abstain; Mr. Deshaies, yes

PUBLIC INPUT

State Representative Katy Peternel, Tuftonboro/Wolfeboro – Welcomed the new School Board members and described activities in Concord related to education funding lawsuits, base adequacy aid, voting, amendments, and tax impacts.

State Representative Glenn Cordelli, Wolfeboro/Tuftonboro/Ossipee – Stated that the updated Strategic Plan is worse than the previous plan, requested a job description for the position of Student Wellness Coordinator, commented on student meals, cultural belonging, the equity team, an equity audit, underrepresented community members, elimination of the 15 minute rule for public input, and discipline. Mr. Deshaies asked if Mr. Cordelli would submit his questions to the SAU office.

Bobbi Boudman, Wolfeboro – Commented on the SWEPT funds, impact fees, and student meals.

Kayla Hewitt, Wolfeboro – Expressed continued support of and appreciation for the School Board, the Strategic Plan, and student meals.

Katy Peternel – Returned to clarify state wide municipality tax collection and SWEPT funds.

Mr. Deshaies took a moment of "Personal Privilege" to make a statement that he had no personal impact on the Strategic Plan, and less than 5% of his 2023 salary goes went towards **advocating for state** legislation. He offered to answer questions if anyone had them.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

Student Representative, Elliott Giessler, shared information on second semester mid-term exams this week, Senior class fundraising efforts for end of year events, a May 4th 5k fundraiser for the Junior class, a sports update, the Music department's Jazz Night, and the Theater department's recent hosting of the State Festival where Cole Murray won an award for Best Set Design in the state.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent District Update – Superintendent Arakelian reviewed the March 21st safety and security tabletop exercise to prepare for potential safety events in the District, reviewed

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the recent Portrait of a Learner survey and the next steps for the POL team. She also announced a District Job Fair planned for April 18th at LRTC.

Strategic Plan Timeline – Superintendent Arakelian explained the timeline that the plan will follow, the focus areas by year, monthly updates, and the timeline's availability on the District website.

Total Solar Eclipse – Superintendent Arakelian announced that some District schools will be hosting after school viewing events at the schools and that all students and staff will be given glasses specially designed for viewing.

Election Results – Superintendent Arakelian reviewed the results of the March elections, introducing re-elected member Mary Schilereff, newly elected members Guy Pike and Dr. Elizabeth Sheckler, and Moderator Kaitlyn Purdy-Murphy. She thanked the community for their support of the budget and warrant articles, all of which passed on the ballot.

End-of-Year – Superintendent Arakelian explained that, pending any weather events, the last day of school will be June 20th. Discussion included the possibility of Saturday classes and consideration of counting hours when deciding on the last day of school. The list of End-of-Year events was reviewed.

Motion: To appoint Mr. Pittman to represent the District at the Joint Boards Meeting in May.

Moved: Dr. Sheckler – **Second:** Dr. Manning

Vote: Dr. Manning, yes; Ms. Seibel, yes; Mr. Pittman, yes; Mr. Streeter, yes; Mr. Bickford, yes; Ms. Schillereff, yes; Dr. Sheckler, yes; Mr. Pike, yes; Mr. Deshaies, yes

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Mr. Deshaies shared that expressions of sympathy were sent to a member of the district, a thank you card was received, and he encouraged members to sign up for NHSBA training in May.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Academic Affairs Committee

Ms. Seibel presented policy GEA as a 1st Read for Adoption and asked for any comments.

Ms. Seibel presented policies GA, GADA, GBD, GBE, GBEA, GBEBA, GBEBA-R, GBEC, GBG, GBGBA, GBJ, GBJ-R, GBJA, GBK, GBK-R, GCB, GCB B, GCCBC, GCF, GCF-R, GCG, GCO, GCQA, GDF, GDO, GDQ, AND JLF as 1st Reads for Revision and asked for any comments.

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Ms. Seibel presented policies GBD-R, GBED, GBGAB, GC, GCAAB, GCBA, GCCA, GCCA-E, GCG-R, GCH, GCI, GCK, GCMC, GCO-R, GCOAA, GD, and JICG as 1st Reads for Withdrawal and asked for any comments.

Building & Maintenance Committee

The next meeting is April 18th at 3:00.

Finance Committee

No discussion.

Human Resources Committee

No discussion.

CLOSING ACTIVITIES

Advanced Planning

Mr. Deshaies read the upcoming activities from the bottom of the agenda.

Public Input

Bobbi Boudman, Wolfeboro – Offered the NHED website link for State Adequate Education Aid information.

Katy Peternel, Wolfeboro – Offered a rebuttal to Ms. Boudman's statement.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion: At 8:10 pm a motion was made to adjourn the meeting.

Moved: Mr. Pike – **Second:** Dr. Sheckler

Vote: Dr. Manning, yes; Ms. Seibel, yes; Mr. Pittman, yes; Mr. Streeter, yes; Mr. Bickford, yes; Ms. Schillereff, yes; Dr. Sheckler, yes; Mr. Pike, yes; Mr. Deshaies, yes

Respectfully submitted,



School Board Secretary

Approved by School Board: **5/6/2024**