

GOVERNOR WENTWORTH REGIONAL SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
GWRSD SCHOOL BOARD - KINGSWOOD REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL PLEX
JUNE 16, 2025

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:00pm in the Kingswood Regional High School Plex.

Members Present: Tom Bickford, Kirsten Burke, Brodie Deshaies, Dr. James Manning, Mary Schillereff, Dr. Elizabeth Sheckler, Danielle Van Dusen

Members Absent: Kayla Hewitt, Nate Williams

Also present: Superintendent Caroline Arakelian, Business Administrator Kathy O'Blenes

AGENDA REVIEW

No discussion.

PUBLIC HEARING

Mr. Deshaies opened the Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund Request Hearing for public discussion at 6:00pm. Superintendent Arakelian gave an overview of the events as they occurred with the Carpenter School ceiling collapse on Friday, May 9th. On 6/12/2025, the contractors, architect, and engineer joined school and district staff for a walk-through of the building. Based on their initial findings, every room ceiling in the 1925 portion of the school will need to be scoped to determine the full extent of the repairs. Plaster has detached from the strapping by 1 to 4 inches, creating significant safety concerns. Two repair options are to remove the plaster entirely or secure it with additional strapping and code-compliant fasteners. Lighting will also need to be replaced, but will improve both energy efficiency and long-term cost savings.

Seeing no public comment, Mr. Deshaies closed the public portion of the hearing at 6:06pm.

Motion: To expend up to \$369,000 from the Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund for repair of the ceilings and replacement of lights in the 1925 section of Carpenter School.

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

Discussion: Board members asked questions, answered by Superintendent Arakelian and Ms. O'Blenes. Discussion included:

- Primex will not cover preventative work;
- Primex recommended bids from Construction Services of NH and Insercomm Restoration Group. An architect familiar with the District will coordinate bid specs for the project;
- An informal estimate from the architect predicts the insurance coverage and additional amount available from the trust will likely be enough to fund the project;
- The Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund was established in 1990, was contributed to only twice, and has not been drawn from until the current request;
- The District should prepare for another potential event by contributing to the fund each year going forward; and
- The timeline for the project remains unknown until more information is available.

Vote: Dr. Sheckler, yes; Ms. Van Dusen, yes; Dr. Manning, yes; Mr. Bickford, yes; Ms. Burke, yes; Ms. Schillereff, yes; Mr. Deshaies, yes

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ADJOURNMENT

Motion: At 6:44 pm a motion was made to adjourn the meeting.

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

Vote: Unanimous in favor.

Respectfully submitted,



School Board Secretary

Approved by School Board: **8/04/2025**