

GOVERNOR WENTWORTH REGIONAL SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
GWRSD SCHOOL BOARD – OSSIPEE CENTRAL SCHOOL
NOVEMBER 3, 2025

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Deshaies called the Governor Wentworth Regional School Board meeting to order at 6:03 pm in Room #135 of Ossipee Central School.

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

Member Absent: Nate Williams

Also present: Superintendent Caroline Arakelian, Assistant Superintendent Katey Hills, and Business Administrator Kathy O'Blenes

Motion: At 6:03pm a motion was made to enter non-public session under RSA 91-A: 3, II (a)(e) and 91-A:2 I (a) to discuss personnel and legal matters.

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

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

Personnel and legal matters were discussed.

Motion: To approve the leave request of Morgan Polish as presented.

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

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

Motion: To approve the transfer request of a Wakefield student to attend Kingswood Regional High School as a tuition student at the Wakefield cost for Spaulding High School.

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

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

Ms. O'Blenes left the meeting at 6:45pm.

Motion: At 7:20 pm a motion was made to end the non-public session.

Moved: Ms. Schillereff – **Second:** Ms. Van Dusen

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

The Board members resumed the meeting at 7:25 pm in the Gymnasium. Student Representative Bryce Sandlin, Middleton School Board Representative Kelly Tivnan, and community members joined the meeting. Ms. O'Blenes rejoined the meeting.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

AGENDA REVIEW

No discussion.

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STUDENT PRESENTATION

Grade 5 teachers, Tracey Holmes and Seth Leavitt-Carlson, introduced their students who presented their projects on natural disasters. The students shared information on earthquakes, floods, tornadoes, sinkholes, and volcanic disasters with real world examples.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

Motion: To approve the minutes of the October 1, 2025 School Board meeting as written.

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

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

Motion: To approve the minutes of the October 6, 2025 School Board meeting as written.

Moved: Ms. Schillereff – **Second:** Ms. Hewitt

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

Motion: To approve the minutes of the October 9, 2025 Buildings and Maintenance Committee meeting as written.

Moved: Ms. Hewitt – **Second:** Ms. Burke

Vote: Ms. Burke, yes; Ms. Hewitt, yes; Dr. Manning, yes

Motion: To approve the minutes of the October 22, 2025 Academic Affairs Committee meeting as written.

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

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

Motion: To approve the minutes of the October 22, 2025 School Board meeting as written.

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

Vote: Mr. Bickford, yes; Ms. Burke, yes; Ms. Hewitt, abstain (not present); Dr. Manning, yes; Ms. Schillereff, yes; Dr. Sheckler, yes; Ms. Van Dusen, abstain (not present); Mr. Deshaies, yes

Motion: To approve the accounts payable and payroll manifests.

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

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

PUBLIC INPUT

Carolyn D'Angelo, Wolfeboro – Asked if NH Outright had provided any professional development to the schools in the District pertaining to LGBTQ subjects. (Her statement is attached at the end of these minutes.)

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STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

Student Representative Bryce Sandlin shared a report on the activities and events happening at the High School. Ms. Hewitt complimented the KRHS and LRTC student body for their intercommunity work and thanked the LRTC Ambassadors for attending the CLS Trunk or Treat event in October. Bryce's report is attached to these minutes.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Curriculum Update

Curriculum Director Danielle Harvey presented the Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment update. She shared NHSAS spring testing results for math, ELA, and science and compared the results with state averages and the previous year. She also shared PSAT and SAT testing results and compared the results with state averages across time. She shared the District's plan to strengthen learning and improve results that includes meetings, task force work, updating documents and rubrics, and continued discussion of grading. School Board members asked questions and thanked Ms. Harvey for her presentation. The presentation is available on the Curriculum tab of the GWRSD website.

Superintendent's District Update

Superintendent Arakelian announced news of the McKinney-Vento grant award to the District of \$75,000 per year for three years and shared information on the expansion of the free and reduced-price meals program. She also reviewed the progress being made with the all-staff endeavor of Competency-Based Education as part of the District's Strategic Plan. Superintendent Arakelian updated the Board on the work in progress at Carpenter School, managed by the Bauen Corporation.

School Calendar

Superintendent Arakelian presented the draft of the 2026-2027 school year calendar. Mr. Deshaies stated that the state primary day will be September 8, 2026.

Motion: To approve the 2026-2027 school year calendar as presented.

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

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

Superintendent Goals

Superintendent Arakelian presented goals for the year: Implementing Universal Design for Learning (Academic Achievement); Nutrition Access, Drug Prevention, and Support Services (Student Wellness); and Building a Culture of Belonging (Family and Community Communication & Engagement).

Motion: To accept the Superintendent goals as presented.

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

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

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Budget Transfer Request

Superintendent Arakelian presented two budget transfer requests on behalf of the Director of Special Education. The requests were to transfer \$15,000 from Elem Consult Services to KRMS Consult Services and \$15,000 from KRMS Psychological Testing to KRMS Consult Services for the payment of services.

Motion: To approve the two budget transfer requests as presented.

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

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

Wood Estate Application

Superintendent Arakelian presented an application to fund one week of Camp Invention in June for Carpenter, CLS, OCS/EES, TCS, and NDS in the amount of \$5,500.

Motion: To approve the Wood Estate application for \$5,500 for Camp Invention as presented.

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

Discussion: Mr. Deshaies requested that the Wood Estate account balance, obligated amount, and available balance information accompany all Wood Estate applications presented to the Board for consideration. Mr. Bickford requested a list of Wood Estate requests for the past three years, and the dollar amounts requested/granted for each.

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

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Mr. Deshaies shared a summary of the Delegate Assembly he attended on October 25th, attached at the end of these minutes.

Mr. Deshaies read aloud a prepared statement from the School Board that will be sent to local papers and posted online regarding the plan to pay the SchoolCare assessment.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Academic Affairs Committee:

Dr. Sheckler presented policies BBBE and IKFC for adoption as 2nd Reads, requesting suggested edits by the Board.

Motion: To adopt policies BBBE and IKFC as presented as 2nd Reads.

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

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

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Dr. Sheckler presented policies BEDG, EBB, EBBB, EBCH, IHCA, IIB, IJ, IK, IKB, IKEA, IKF, IMAH, IMBA, IMBD, JG, JIC, JLCF, JLCK, and JLIA for revision as 2nd Reads, requesting suggested edits by the Board.

Motion: To approve revised policies BEDG, EBB, EBBB, EBCH, IHCA, IIB, IJ, IK, IKB, IKEA, IKF, IMAH, IMBA, IMBD, JG, JIC, JLCF, JLCK, and JLIA as presented as 2nd Reads.

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

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

Dr. Sheckler presented policies IKAA, IKFA, ILBAA, and IMBC for withdrawal as 2nd Reads.

Motion: To withdraw policies IKAA, IKFA, ILBAA, and IMBC as presented as 2nd Reads.

Moved: Mr. Deshaies – **Second:** Ms. Van Dusen

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

Building & Maintenance Committee: Dr. Manning reported that the state approved the New Durham School application to Get The Lead Out.

Community Relations Committee: No report.

Finance Committee: No report.

Human Resources Committee: Mr. Deshaies reported that the GWEA negotiations have concluded.

NON-COMMITTEE REPORTS

Wolfeboro CIP: No report.

WCTV: Ms. Schillereff reported on the continued fundraising efforts underway by WCTV.

CLOSING ACTIVITIES

Advanced Planning

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

Public Input

None.

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ADJOURNMENT

Motion: At 9:32pm a motion was made to adjourn the meeting.

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

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

Respectfully submitted,



School Board Secretary

Approved by School Board: **12/8/2025**