

GOVERNOR WENTWORTH REGIONAL SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
GWRSD SCHOOL BOARD – CRESCENT LAKE SCHOOL
MARCH 9, 2026

CALL TO ORDER

Brodie Deshaies called the Governor Wentworth Regional School Board meeting to order at 6:00 pm in the dining room of Crescent Lake School.

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

Also present: Superintendent Caroline Arakelian, Assistant Superintendent Katey Hills, 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 (b) to discuss personnel and RSA 91-A:2, I (a) 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. Williams, yes; Mr. Deshaies, yes

The group moved from the dining room/cafeteria to the library.

Motion: To approve the best interest admission of a Wakefield student at the Rochester School District tuition rate 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. Williams, yes; Mr. Deshaies, yes

Motion: To approve the best interest admission of a Tamworth student at the Kennett School District tuition rate as presented, so long as the parent remains a GWRSD employee.

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

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

Motion: To negotiate a settlement between GWRSD and GWEA regarding the current mileage grievance.

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

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

Motion: At 7:15pm a motion was made to end the non-public session.

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

Vote: unanimous in favor. 9-0-0

The Board members resumed the meeting at 7:20 pm in the dining room. Student Representative Bryce Sandlin, Middleton School Board Representative Kelly Tivnan, students, staff, and community members joined the meeting.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Ms. Schillereff.

AGENDA REVIEW

No discussion.

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CLS STUDENT PRESENTATION

Principal Brittany McGuire welcomed everyone and described the wide range of before and after school extra-curricular activities available to the students of CLS. Members of the Drama Club described the upcoming performance of “*Shrek – The Musical*” and three students sang a beautiful rendition of “*I Know It’s Today*,” featuring Fiona at different ages.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

Motion: To approve the minutes of the January 31, 2026 School Board meeting with edits.

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. Williams, yes; Mr. Deshaies, yes

Motion: To approve the minutes of the February 2, 2026 School Board meeting with edits.

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. Williams, yes; Mr. Deshaies, yes

Motion: To approve the manifests for a total of \$5,813,029.63.

Moved: Mr. Williams – **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. Williams, yes; Mr. Deshaies, yes

PUBLIC INPUT

Jeremiah Burke, Tuftonboro – Introduced himself as the president of the Football Booster Club; shared news of the open coaching position for the varsity football team; and extended gratitude for the Marine Tech Program at LRTC.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

Student Representative Bryce Sandlin presented his monthly summary of Kingswood Regional High School activities. His report is attached to the end of these minutes.

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

Superintendent’s District Update

Superintendent Arakelian shared an update on the progress of Phase 1 of the Carpenter School project. She mentioned special recognition of Phil, Sarah, and Norm for their instrumental efforts in supporting the project. Phase 2 of the project will begin this summer. Superintendent Arakelian thanked the teachers who participated in the creation of a video to highlight their contributions to the District that will air on the WCTV YouTube Channel.

CLS Crowdfunding Request

Superintendent Arakelian shared information on the annual Crescent Lake School Otter Fun Run crowdfunding request.

Motion: To approve the online crowdfunding request for CLS as presented.

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

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

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KRHS Athletics Crowdfunding Request

Superintendent Arakelian shared information on the KRHS Athletics popcorn sales crowdfunding request.

Motion: To approve the online crowdfunding request for KRHS Athletics as presented.

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

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

Boys Hockey Cooperative Proposal

Superintendent Arakelian reviewed a proposal prepared by Athletic Director Vaughn Beckwith to develop a new cooperative boys ice hockey team for NHIAA competition, with Kingswood and Prospect Mountain High School as members.

Motion: To approve the boys hockey cooperative proposal as presented.

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

Discussion: Discussion included that the District's background check requirements apply to all adult volunteers; timing of cost-sharing; potential formulas for cost-sharing; shared administrative and athletic training duties; the cost would be charged as a reimbursement at the conclusion of the school year; and the possibility of advancing divisions.

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

Motion: To approve the cost-sharing proposal as presented for both boys and girls cooperative hockey teams, effective for the 2026-2027 hockey season.

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

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

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Mr. Deshaies expressed appreciation for Ms. Hewitt's service on the Board during this past year and presented her with a gift.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Academic Affairs Committee:

Dr. Sheckler presented policies DDA, DGA, DH, DIA, DIH, DK, and DM as 2nd Read for reaffirmation, requesting suggested edits by the Board.

Motion: To approve policies DDA, DGA, DH, DIA, DIH, DK, and DM as 2nd Read for reaffirmation as presented.

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

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

Dr. Sheckler presented policies DFGA, DJE, DKB, DN, IMBA, JFABD, and JLCE as 2nd Read for revision, requesting suggested edits by the Board.

Motion: To approve policies DFGA, DJE, DKB, DN, IMBA, JFABD, and JLCE as 2nd Read for revision as presented.

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

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

Dr. Sheckler presented policy DFE as a 2nd Read for withdrawal.

Motion: To approve policy DFE as a 2nd Read for withdrawal as presented.

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

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

Dr. Sheckler presented policy DBJ with suggested edits by Mr. Deshaies.

Motion: To approve the revision of policy DBJ as amended by Mr. Deshaies.

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

Discussion: Discussion included the rationale for the policy edits recommended by Mr. Deshaies; opposition to the recommended edits due to the need for oversight of the administration; RSA 32:10; the ability of the Board to ask the SAU questions any time; and the desire for more stringent language.

Vote: Mr. Bickford, no; Ms. Burke, no; Ms. Hewitt, yes; Dr. Manning, no; Ms. Schillereff, no; Dr. Sheckler, no; Ms. Van Dusen, yes; Mr. Williams, no; Mr. Deshaies, yes

Motion Fails: 3 yes; 6 no

Motion: To approve policy DBJ as originally presented for revision by the Academic Affairs Committee as 2nd Read for revision.

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

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

Motion: To refer policy DIE back to the Academic Affairs Committee.

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

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

Building & Maintenance Committee:

Ms. Burke shared updates from the April 2nd committee meeting. The committee heard updates on the Carpenter School project; the water remediation project at CS, CLS, EES, KRHS, and OCS; the District's bus replacement cycle; and a public hearing being held in Ossipee for a property that abuts the school. Superintendent Arakelian announced that there will be tours given of Carpenter School on April 6th before the Board meeting.

Community Relations Committee:

Mr. Williams encouraged everyone to get out and vote tomorrow. A committee meeting will be scheduled after the Board reorganization in April.

Finance Committee:

Mr. Deshaies encouraged everyone to get out and vote.

Human Resources Committee:

No report.

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NON-COMMITTEE REPORTS

WCTV: Ms. Schillereff recognized the WCTV videographers and thanked them for their work.

CLOSING ACTIVITIES

Advanced Planning

Mr. Deshaies read the upcoming activities from the bottom of the agenda. The Academic Affairs Committee Meeting scheduled for April 16th will be held at 3:00pm at New Durham School, prior to the spaghetti dinner. Mr. Deshaies shared an invitation to Arts Knight which will be held on April 19th from 6 to 8pm.

Public Input

Tisha Hoaas, Wolfeboro – thanked the Board for their use of the microphones at the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion: At 8:46 pm a motion was made to adjourn the meeting.

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

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

Respectfully submitted,



School Board Secretary Approved
by School Board: **4/6/2026**