

GOVERNOR WENTWORTH REGIONAL SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
GWRSD SCHOOL BOARD – CARPENTER SCHOOL
APRIL 6, 2026

CALL TO ORDER

Superintendent called the Governor Wentworth Regional School Board meeting to order at 6:00 pm in the cafeteria of Carpenter School.

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

Also present: Superintendent Caroline Arakelian, Assistant Superintendent Katey Hills.

BOARD REORGANIZATION

Selection of Chair and Vice Chair

Motion: To nominate Mr. Deshaies as chair.

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

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

Motion Passes 8/1

Motion: To nominate Ms. Burke as vice chair.

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

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

Motion Passes 9/0

Assignment to Board Committees

Mr. Deshaies read committee assignments:

1. Academic Affairs – Kirsten Burke, Tom Bickford, Dr. Beth Sheckler, Danielle Van Dusen
2. Buildings & Maintenance – Dr. Jim Manning, Nate Williams, Mary Schillereff, Dayna House
3. Finance – Brodie Deshaies, Danielle Van Dusen, Nate Williams, Dayna House
4. Human Resources – Brodie Deshaies, Kirsten Burke, Dr. Beth Sheckler, Dr. Jim Manning
5. Community Relations – Tom Bickford, Dr. Jim Manning, Nate Williams, Mary Schillereff
6. WCTV – Mary Schillereff
7. Wolfeboro CIP Committee Rep – TBD Buildings & Maintenance Committee Member

Mr. Deshaies explained the rationale for assignments based on policy and Board member experience.

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

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Motion: To reappoint Michelle Capone as School District Clerk.

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

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

Motion: To reappoint Scott Isabelle as School District Treasurer.

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

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

Ms. Capone administered the Oath of Office to Tom Bickford, Kirsten Burke, Dayna House, and Dr. Jim Manning.

Motion: At 6:14 pm a motion was made to enter non-public session under RSA 91-A: 3, II (b) to discuss personnel matters.

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

Vote: Mr. Bickford, yes; Ms. Burke, yes; Ms. House, 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 cafeteria to room 209.

Personnel matters were discussed.

Motion: To accept the resignations of Keith Conley, Robert Gagne, Rachele Harvey, and Chloe Shea as presented.

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

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

Motion: To accept the Superintendent's nomination of Lisa Long as a 100% teacher for the 2026-2027 school year Track 3 / Step 13 (\$85,892.56) and Andrea Drolet as a 100% teacher for the 2026-2027 school year Track 3 / Step 13 (\$85,895.56).

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

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

Motion: To accept the Superintendent's recommendations for non-renewal, reduction-in-force, resignation, retirement, and end of a grant-funded positions as presented.

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

Vote: Mr. Bickford, yes; Ms. Burke, yes (abstained from Deborah Yeaton); Ms. House, yes; Dr. Manning, yes; Ms. Schillereff, yes; Dr. Sheckler, yes; Ms. Van Dusen, yes; Mr. Williams, yes; Mr. Deshaies, yes

Motion: To accept the Superintendent's 2026-2027 renomination of professional and teaching staff as presented.

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

Vote: Mr. Bickford, yes; Ms. Burke, yes; Ms. House, yes; Dr. Manning, yes (abstained from voting on Michael Manning and Sarah Manning); Ms. Schillereff, yes; Dr. Sheckler, yes; Ms. Van Dusen, yes; Mr. Williams, yes; Mr. Deshaies, yes

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Motion: To accept the Superintendent's 2026-2027 renomination of District administrative staff as presented, with the exception of two administrators.

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

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

Motion: To accept the Superintendent's 2026-2027 renomination of Paul Famulari as presented.

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

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

Motion: To accept the Superintendent's 2026-2027 renomination of SAU administrative staff as presented.

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

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

Motion: At 7:24pm a motion was made to end the non-public session.

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

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

The Board members resumed the meeting at 7:30 pm in the cafeteria. Business Administrator Kathy O'Blenes, 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 Dr. Sheckler.

CARPENTER SCHOOL STUDENT PRESENTATION

Principal Corinne Rowe welcomed everyone for the evening. She introduced Ms. Gilpatrick, Ms. Bechard, and Ms. Sanft with their first-grade students who read decodable theater stories of "The Snake Escape," "The Magic Man," and "Patch in the Park" with unbridled enthusiasm and animation for the audience.

AGENDA REVIEW

Chair Deshaies added personnel to the non-public agenda. A KRMS crowdfunding request and a Kingswood Summer Theater Camp request were added per Superintendent request.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

Motion: To approve the minutes of the March 2, 2026 Buildings & Maintenance Committee meeting with edits.

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

Discussion: Add qualifying language to number of fleet vehicles.

Vote: Ms. Burke, yes; Dr. Manning, yes; Mr. Williams, yes

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Motion: To approve the minutes of the March 9, 2026 School Board meeting with edit.

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

Discussion: Dining Room/Cafeteria

Vote: Mr. Bickford, yes; Ms. Burke, yes; Ms. House, 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 March 16, 2026 Academic Affairs committee meeting as written.

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

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

Motion: To approve the manifests for a total of \$4,987,955.58.

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

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

PUBLIC INPUT

Asa Stockton, Wolfeboro – Introduced himself as the former coach of the KRHS Varsity Baseball team. Described his experience as coach of the team for 8 years, his opinion of his termination, and his desire to pursue other coaching opportunities with a positive reference.

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 confirmed June 17th as the last day of school with staff attending an in-service day on June 18th. She briefly described the Carpenter School renovations to date and explained how the loss of Title 1 grant funds has affected the summer program at Ossipee Central School and Effingham Elementary School as school year staffing must be prioritized.

Election Results

Superintendent Arakelian read the results of the March 10, 2026 elections. Discussion included the fact that the Student Wellness Coordinator position is part of the District's Strategic Plan and that there is misunderstanding of the position and of special education needs by the community.

Carpenter School Preschool Program

Superintendent Arakelian, Special Education Director Kelly Mask, Crescent Lake School Principal Brittany McGuire, and Carpenter School Principal Corinne Rowe presented information on the proposal to permanently locate grade 3 at Crescent Lake School and establish a Preschool Program at Carpenter School. Discussion included staffing levels and projected enrollment numbers at the two schools, physical classroom space at Crescent Lake School, proposed preschool program hours/days, the preschool steering committee, the capacity of and collaboration with the Wolfeboro Area Children's Center, and the potential cost savings for the District.

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Motion: To approve the designation of Crescent Lake School as a Grades 3-6 school effective for the 2026-2027 school year.

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

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

Motion: To authorize the District to proceed with planning for the establishment of a preschool program at Carpenter School during the 2026-2027 school year, with potential implementation beginning in the 2027-2028 school year.

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

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

The meeting was paused for recess from 8:51pm to 8:58pm.

Equity Plan Update

Assistant Superintendent Hills provided an update on the status of the Equity Plan which has been shared with district staff and will be posted on the district website for reference. The plan is focused on creating inclusive classrooms that meet diverse student needs, ensuring that all students have equitable access to rigorous learning opportunities, building staff capacity and consistency in equitable practices, promoting fair, supportive, and restorative approaches to student behavior, and strengthening connections with families and the broader community.

Budget Transfer Requests

Motion: To approve the Special Education budget transfer requests as presented.

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

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

OCS School's Out Survey

Motion: To approve the OCS School's Out survey for distribution as presented.

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

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

Crowdfunding Requests

Motion: To approve the CLS National History Day and KRMS Skills USA crowdfunding requests as presented.

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

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

End of Year Events

Superintendent Arakelian reviewed the end of year events, noting that they are subject to change.

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Kingswood Theater Summer Camp

Scott Giessler proposed a GWRSD summer theater camp program to run for two weeks in July. Discussion included the Kingswood Regional Children's Summer Theater Program, participant eligibility, insurance coverage, revenue, and scholarships.

Motion: To approve Kingswood Theater Summer Camp proposal as presented.

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

Vote: Mr. Bickford, yes; Ms. Burke, yes; Ms. House, 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 explained the letter he wrote to the Senate Election Law and Municipal Affairs Committee regarding opposition to HB 590, relative to cooperative school district school board elections. He reported that the bill will no longer be moving forward.

Mr. Deshaies asked the Board to consider being more involved in advocacy and suggested the topic be added to the NHSBA training that will be scheduled in May.

Mr. Deshaies shared that the healthcare options working group has seen presentations by HealthTrust and SchoolCare and will be meeting with an insurance broker as well as considering self-insurance options.

NHSBA Calls for Resolutions will be on the May agenda.

School Board Meeting Calendar 2026-2027

Motion: To approve the School Board meeting calendar for 2026-2027 as presented.

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

Discussion: Location of the November Finance Committee meetings.

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

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Academic Affairs Committee:

Dr. Sheckler provided an academic update on Middle School math and science state testing, competency -based education at KRHS, and the personal finance graduation requirement.

Dr. Sheckler presented policies EBBCA and GBEBB as 1st Reads for adoption, requesting suggested edits by the Board.

Dr. Sheckler presented policies EB, EBBB, EBCD, EHAC, EHB, FF, GBEF, and GBGA as 1st Reads for reaffirmation, requesting suggested edits by the Board.

Dr. Sheckler presented policies DIE, EBCG, EHAB, IC, IHCD, IJAA, IJL, JCA, JICK, and LEB as 1st Reads for revision, requesting suggested edits by the Board. Discussion included the RSA that governs audits (DIE) and the RSA that governs the language regarding bullying (JICK).

Dr. Sheckler presented policies EBBCF, EBCF, and KFD as a 1st Reads for withdrawal, requesting questions from the Board.

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Building & Maintenance Committee:
No report.

Community Relations Committee:
No report.

Finance Committee:
No report.

Human Resources Committee:
No report.

NON-COMMITTEE REPORTS

WCTV: No report

CLOSING ACTIVITIES

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

Public Input
Bobbi Boudman, Wolfeboro – Ms. Boudman commented as a NH State Representative on Title 1 funding, a proposed school zone in front of Carpenter School, the administration of the oaths of office following the votes taken earlier in the meeting, an advocacy committee for NHSBA, and the District's universal meals funding.

Motion: At 10:35 pm a motion was made to enter non-public session under RSA 91-A: 3, II to discuss student, legal, and personnel matters.

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

Vote: Mr. Bickford, yes; Ms. Burke, yes; Ms. House, 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 cafeteria to room 209.

Student, legal, and personnel matters were discussed.

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

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

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

Motion: To permit Mr. Deshaies and Ms. Burke to meet with the Middleton School Board to offer to terminate SAU services prior to the expiration date of the agreement.

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

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

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Motion: To accept the resignation of Superintendent Arakelian effective July 1, 2026.

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

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

Motion: To post for and hire a one-year interim Superintendent.

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

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

Motion: At 11:20 pm a motion was made to end non-public session.

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

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

ADJOURNMENT

Motion: At 11:20pm a motion was made to adjourn the meeting.

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

Vote: Mr. Bickford, yes; Ms. Burke, yes; Ms. House, 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: **5/4/2026**

Good Evening Everybody,

With Spring approaching our Spring sports seasons have officially begun. Each team held tryouts last week and their first games are as follows: Baseball and Softball on the 15th at Plymouth, Boy's Lacrosse at Timberlane also on the 15th, and Girl's Lacrosse on the 13th at Kennet. Several teams also had scrimmages last week and this week to start off their season. Today Kingswood's Scholar Athletes took a trip to Concord after having breakfast in the skylight dining hall for the NHIAA Scholar Athlete Ceremony to celebrate student athletes across the state. This past month our LRTC Programs in DECA, FBLA, and FFA had their state competitions where several of our students had top three finishes and qualified for nationals. Also this past month the Theatre Program held their production of The Last Firefly with great outings from the public at both shows. Last week Kingswood held their annual lip sync contest where the Freshman came first and our spring fling dance was the week before that. Looking ahead, Our Youth and Government Program has their field trip to the state Capital this Friday to practice Parliamentary Procedure. In a few weeks, the English department will be taking their trip to Ireland over Spring Break which they have been planning and fundraising for all year. Mrs. Famulari's Holocaust Literature class will be going next week to see the New England Holocaust memorial museum in Boston. We have also begun planning for prom which will be on May 9th and have a Casino theme, and field day which will come at a later date. The Seniors are also planning a trip to Boston on the 15th of May to eat lunch at Faneuil Hall and do some escape rooms as a class.

Thank you and have a good rest of your night everyone!