

GOVERNOR WENTWORTH REGIONAL SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
GWRSD SCHOOL BOARD – BROOKFIELD TOWN OFFICE
AUGUST 10, 2026

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Deshaies called the Governor Wentworth Regional School Board meeting to order at 6:05pm in the Brookfield Town Office Building.

Members Present: Tom Bickford, Kirsten Burke, Brodie Deshaies, Ralph Estey, Dayna House, Dr. Jim Manning, Mary Schillereff, Danielle Van Dusen, Nate Williams

Also present: Superintendent Scott Laliberte, Assistant Superintendent Kaitlyn Hills, Business Administrator Adriana Komst

Motion: At 6:05pm a motion was made to enter non-public session under RSA 91-A: 3, II to discuss personnel, student, and legal matters.

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

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

Personnel matters were discussed.

Motion: To ratify the Superintendent's hiring of four teachers for the 2026-2027 school year as presented.

- Amelia Brown, Track2/Step 1 \$50,681.28
- Melissa Dorsey, Track 4/Step 14 \$98,785.44
- Seth Leavitt-Carlson, Track 1/Step 10 \$67,185.04
- Chelsea Wood, Track 3/Step 13 \$85,892.56

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

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

A student matter was discussed.

Motion: To accept the two students from the Madison School District as presented for BID contingent upon the sending district agreeing to pay the GWRSD per pupil tuition rate, all Special Education costs, and all transportation costs.

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

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

A legal matter was discussed.

Motion: At 6:58pm a motion was made to end the non-public session.

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

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

The meeting resumed in public session at 7:03 pm. Middleton School Board Representative Kelly Tivnan, staff, a community member, and the WCTV Videographer joined the meeting.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Superintendent Laliberte.

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AGENDA REVIEW

Mr. Deshaies added an item to the meeting agenda under Chairperson's Report, [NH School Funding Fairness Project](#), for discussion. Mr. Bickford requested to add Fiscal Oversight to the agenda for discussion.

Motion: To add Reacting to Fiscal Oversight to the meeting agenda for discussion and action under Closing Activities.

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

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

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

Motion: To approve the minutes of the June 1, 2026 School Board meeting as presented.

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

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

Motion: To approve the minutes of the June 30, 2026 Finance Committee meeting as presented.

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

Vote: Ms. House, yes; Dr. Manning, yes; Mr. Williams, yes; Mr. Deshaies, yes

Motion: To approve the accounts payable (\$8,190,369.55) and payroll (\$7,163,300.94) manifests totaling \$15,353,670.49.

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

Discussion: The FY2025 School Board line is overspent by 100% due to legal expenses and School Board members are encouraged to meet with the Superintendent and Business Administrator to further understand the monthly budget reports.

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

PUBLIC INPUT

None

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent's District Update

Superintendent Laliberte thanked the community of GWRSD for their welcome to the District and reported that he has visited all school buildings to date. He reported on the summer work being completed at the buildings.

Carpenter School Update

Business Administrator Adriana Komst reported on the Carpenter School project and shared that it is expected that the project will be completed on time prior to the first day of school. Both Superintendent Laliberte and Ms. Komst complimented the District's emergency management response to this event and subsequent completion of the project.

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KRHS James Foley Freedom Run Crowdfunding Request

Motion: To approve the James Foley Freedom Run Crowdfunding Request as presented.

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

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

KRHS Athletics Crowdfunding Request

Motion: To approve the KRHS Athletics Crowdfunding Request as presented.

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

Discussion: The Board requested more information on why all teams are not participating.

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

Authority to Suspend

Superintendent Laliberte explained the intent of RSA 193:13,I for the Board.

Motion: To grant the authority to suspend students to the Superintendent and the Assistant Superintendent according to the statement drafted by Attorney Loughman and presented by Superintendent Laliberte.

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

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

Food Service Costs

Ms. Komst explained that according to the Paid Lunch Equity calculator tool for the NH Education Department, there is no need to increase the GWRSD meal prices for the 2026-2027 School Year. The School Board expressed interest in understanding how the expanded meal eligibility warrant article money worked to benefit the student population this past school year. Ms. Komst will research this and report back to the Board. She explained that the GWRSD Food Service tab of the website has been updated with the new income threshold information and QR codes to easily access the annual Free & Reduced Meal Application and the new Expanded Eligibility Application.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Mr. Deshaies shared that sympathies were sent to staff members on behalf of the Board and that the Board discussed the topic of SchoolCare in tonight's non-public and will follow Dover litigation for potential future legal action.

Mr. Deshaies shared that he was contacted by the NH School Fundraising Fairness Project to request permission to present information to the community at a future Board meeting.

Motion: To invite the NH School Fundraising Fairness Project to present to the community at a hearing during a Board meeting.

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

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

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COMMITTEE REPORTS

Academic Affairs Committee:

Ms. Van Dusen reported that she was appointed Committee Lead at tonight's committee meeting and that the next scheduled meeting will be September 16, 2026.

Building & Maintenance Committee:

Mr. Estey reported that he was appointed Committee Lead at tonight's committee meeting and shared that the OCS playground project is on schedule with hopeful completion prior to the first day of school.

Mr. Estey summarized the committee's discussion of the property boundary encroachment issue at New Durham School and subsequent recommendation to move forward with a property survey and engagement of a real estate attorney.

Motion: To support moving forward with a survey of the New Durham School lot and engage guidance from a real estate attorney.

Discussion: Discussion included a potential agreement with the utility company, the SAU's role to seek the appropriate bids, that the research would be completed during this school year and the physical work would likely be completed next school year and would be included in the budget process for FY2028.

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

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

Community Relations:

No report. Dr. Manning will coordinate a meeting date with committee members.

Finance Committee:

Dr. Manning turned the floor over to Ms. Komst, who reported that she and Superintendent Laliberte met with the committee to discuss the state of the FY2025 Audit, which has two pending items to be reviewed by the auditors and one item yet to be submitted. The auditors will be at the SAU on 8/3 and 8/4 to begin the FY2026 audit process. Discussion included SAU staff turnover, delayed start of the FY2025 audit, delayed review of information, and missing submissions as contributing factors to the pending status of the FY2025 audit. The next Finance Committee meeting is scheduled for September 14th.

Human Resources Committee:

Mr. Deshaies reported that efforts are being made to schedule the initial negotiation meeting with GWSSA.

NON-COMMITTEE REPORTS

WCTV

Ms. Schillereff acknowledged the WCTV videographer, Joey, and thanked him for his important work.

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CLOSING ACTIVITIES

Reacting to Fiscal Oversight

Motion: That the School Board require the Finance Committee review the NHSBA training on fiscal oversight and report back to the Board.

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

Discussion: Discussion included requiring vs recommending the action, Board willingness to review the training without a mandate, consideration of policy to govern such participation in training, and potential relevance to the Strategic Plan.

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

Motion Failed: 0-8-1

Advanced Planning

Mr. Deshaies read the GWRSD website statement from the bottom of the agenda.

Public Input

Kim Kelliher, Wolfeboro – Thanked the Board for their service to the community and inquired about the status of the search for a new Superintendent, noting the importance of including the staff, the community, and the bargaining units in the search. Mr. Deshaies said that information on this will be forthcoming.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion: At 8:25pm a motion was made to adjourn the meeting.

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

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

Respectfully submitted,



School Board Secretary Approved by School Board: **09/14/2026**