

**Kearsarge Regional School Board**  
 March 14, 2024  
**Open to Public**

<b>I Call to Order</b>	Supt. Feneberg called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.
	The Clerk swore in Kristen Schultz.
<b>II Pledge of Allegiance</b>	Ms.Perkins led the Pledge of Allegiance.
	Ms. Mastin spoke to Ken Bartholomew’s service as a School Board member and presented him with a gift as a token of thanks. Supt.Feneberg also thanked Mr. Bartholomew, stating he brought wisdom and dignity to the Board. Bartholomew thanked everyone and stayed for a portion of the meeting as a citizen in the audience.
<b>III Roll Call</b>	Present: Alison Mastin, Emma Bates, Kyle Lombard, Eric Gregoire, Kristen Schultz, David Keith, Ben Cushing; Beth Perkins (KREA Representative), Owen Blood (Student Rep), Patrick McGowan via zoom voting, Art Bobruff via zoom (non-voting) The clerk swore in Patrick McGowan and Art Bobruff via zoom.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Election of Chair - Supt. Feneberg asked for nominations of School Board Members to be Chair of the School Board.  <i>Mr. Keith nominated Alison Mastin to be Chair of the School Board. Seconded by Ms. Schultz. The Motion carried 7-0-1 (Ms. Mastin abstained).</i></li> <li>● <i>Ms. Mastin</i> asked for nominations of School Board Members to be Vice-Chair of the School Board. <i>Ms. Bates nominated Kristen Schultz to be Vice-Chair of the School Board. Seconded by Mr. Cushing. The Motion carried 7-0-1. (Ms. Mastin abstained).</i></li> <li>● The Chair asked for nominations for the position of School District Clerk  <i>Mr. Cushing nominated Doreen Salera to be the School District Clerk. Mr. Keith seconded. The Motion carried 7-0-1 (Ms. Mastin abstained).</i></li> <li>● The Chair asked for a motion to retain Legal Counsel to the School Board.  <i>Mr. Keith made a motion to retain Soule, Leslie, Kidder &amp; Loughman, PLLC as legal counsel to the School Board. Ms. Schultz seconded. The Motion carried 7-0-1 (Ms. Mastin abstained).</i> Superintendent Feneberg noted that the District also works with two other law firms consistently.             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The chair asked for a motion to retain Roberge &amp; Company, PC as auditor. <i>Ms. Bates made a motion to retain Roberge &amp; Company, PC as auditor. Ms. Schultz, seconded. The Motion carried 7 -0-1 (Ms. Mastin abstained).</i></li> <li>● The Chair asked for a motion to approve Nancy Barthol as Treasurer.  <i>Mr. Gregoire made a motion to approve Nancy Barthol as Treasurer. Mr. Cushing, seconded. The Motion carried 7 -0-1 (Ms. Mastin abstained).</i></li> <li>● The Chair asked for a motion to approve Doreen Salera as Deputy Treasurer.  <i>Ms. Schultz made a motion to approve Doreen Salera as Deputy Treasurer. Mr.Cushing, seconded. The Motion carried 7 -0-1 (Ms. Mastin abstained).</i></li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Chair asked for a motion to approve Bar Harbor Bank and Trust and New Hampshire Public Deposit Investment Pool as the Banks of the District.</li> </ul> <p><b><i>Mr. Cushing made a motion to approve Bar Harbor Bank and Trust and New Hampshire Public Deposit Investment Pool as the Banks of the District. Seconded by Ms. Schultz. The Motion carried 7 -0-1. (Ms. Mastin abstained)</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Chair noted that subcommittee selections will be made at the next meeting.</li> </ul>
<p><b>IV Approval of Minutes</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Chair asked for a motion to approve the minutes.</li> </ul> <p><b><i>Mr. Keith made the motion to approve the minutes of February 22, 2024 as written, Ms. Bates, seconded. The motion carried (5-0-1) (Ms.Mastin, Mr. Cushing and Mr. McGowan abstained.)</i></b></p>
<p><b>V Reports of Administration</b></p>	<p><b><i>Chair Report – Superintendent Feneberg –</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Superintendent Feneberg requested the acceptance of the resignation of Mr. Michael McCosker, KRHS Associate Director, with regrets, effective June 30, 2024</li> </ul> <p><b><i>Mr. Keith made the motion to approve as presented, with regrets, the resignation request. Mr. Gregoire, seconded. The motion carried 7-0-1 (Ms. Mastin abstained).</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Superintendent Feneberg requested the acceptance of the resignation of Kerry Huhn, KRMS teacher, with regrets, effective June 30, 2024</li> </ul> <p><b><i>Ms. Bates made the motion to approve as presented, with regrets, the resignation request. Ms. Schultz seconded. The motion carried 7-0-1 (Ms. Mastin abstained).</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Superintendent Feneberg requested the acceptance of the resignation of Betsy Parrish, KRMS teacher, with regrets, effective June 30, 2024.</li> </ul> <p><b><i>Ms. Bates made the motion to approve as presented, with regrets, the resignation request. Mr. Gregoire, seconded. The motion carried 7-0-1. (Ms. Mastin abstained).</i></b></p> <p>Superintendent Feneberg reported on the recent activities held in the district:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>KRHS play Dracula- outstanding performance by the Actors Guild under the direction of Mrs. Nelson, well attended.</li> <li>Enjoyed attending the District Chorus of grade 4 students across the district along with the middle and high school chorus. Very impressed with the collaboration- young students were tutored by older students. The middle school gym was filled; it was a wonderful event.</li> <li>Had the opportunity to meet with incoming Superintendent John Fortney, who was visiting the district for the past few days.</li> <li>Congratulations to Larry Elliott, who was named the NH Special Education Administrator of the Year.</li> </ul> <p><b><i>Assistant Superintendent’s Report</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Portrait of a Learner meeting was held to finalize video content to bring to the Board in April.</li> <li>Portrait of an Educator, which has been worked on for the past two and half years by 20 educators to reconstruct the Super Evaluation Model will also be</li> </ul>

	<p>brought to the Board in late April. Teachers will review, a union vote will take place.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Portrait of an Athlete to follow.</li> <li>• Ed 306 Meeting was hosted by Kearsarge for two days this week with 80-90 educators attending, facilitated by Christine Downing.</li> <li>• Ms. Bates asked if it is passed only by the Board of Education? Mr. Bessette explained that the RSA permits the State Board of Ed to approve.</li> </ul> <p><b><i>Business Administrator’s Report</i></b></p> <p>Mr. LeBoeuf presented a purchase recommendation for Financial Software for the 24-25 fiscal year for Tyler Technologies, Inc for the amount of \$93,828. This is the same vendor, saving money by not having to change module licensing.</p> <p><b><i>Mr. Cushing made a motion to accept the transfer recommendation as presented, Ms. Schultz seconded. The Motion carried 7-0-1 (Ms. Mastin abstained).</i></b></p>
	<p><b><i>KREA Representative Report: Beth Perkins reporting</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sutton Central School kicked off their One School One Book project this month with an all-school assembly. This year’s book is Skunk and Badger.</li> <li>• NLES continuing their One Book One School project. Catharine Hyson, media specialist and ardent knitter, has knitted 20 little bunnies in tribute to Otis Pendleton, the main character. She hides one bunny somewhere in the school each day and the lucky students who find them are quite delighted.</li> <li>• New London Elementary School Raised \$6,753.39 for the American Heart Association by participating in The Kids’ Heart Challenge, which involved lots of jump roping!</li> <li>• Many teachers at KRMS are participating with students in the annual March Mammal Madness activity that comes out of Arizona State University. This is the first year they are trying it out at KRMS, but they are hoping to make this an annual event. It’s a community-building activity that takes over 60 animals (and a few plants) and places them in a tournament bracket, modeled after March Madness. Students get access to a slideshow that shows information about each of the animals/plants, and they have to decide what would win in each round, then ultimately pick their winning champion.</li> <li>• The Kearsarge Actors Guild from the High School had a wonderfully successful weekend of theater presenting “Dracula” on March 8th and 9th. A 35-minute version of this production will be presented on March 16th during the NH Educational Theatre Guild Regional Festival, which KRHS is hosting. This is an exciting day of theater with schools joining Kearsarge from all over the state.</li> <li>• Intro to Culinary classes at the high school are in their soup unit and learning how to make clear, pureed and thickened soups. Culinary I is still working on American Regional cuisine and focusing on California cuisine this week. Baking &amp; Pastry Arts class is finishing up their laminated dough unit with a summative on Danish, Croissants and puff pastry. They will move into an advanced bread unit and make bagels, English muffins and a sourdough focaccia art bread which they will use to create an edible piece of artwork.</li> </ul>

- On April 17th the culinary classes and Emily Anderson’s marine biology class will be combining forces and learning all about clams and lobsters. They will discuss their anatomy, how to cook them, how to crack them open and then we sit down and enjoy a feast!
- The Nordic ski season is wrapping up this week and Kearsarge has had three skiers represent NH in the New England U16 Championships. Tenth graders Ainsley Frenkiewich and Ned Stepp, and ninth grader Katherine Blagden traveled with the top 24 girls and boys from NH to Gore Mt. in New York to compete against skiers and teams from other states.
- March 12, Elias Baer and Andrew Blagden will represent Kearsarge at the NHIAA Cross Country Skiing Meet of Champions in Hanover. They qualified by finishing in the top 20 in the Div. State Championships last week. Eli will also represent Kearsarge as part of NH team at the Eastern High School Championships are being held at the Holderness School March 15-17.
- Everyone is invited to the 2024 New Hampshire Poetry Out Loud State Championship tomorrow night. 10 finalists from around the state, including **KRHS's own Lilah Bartholomew** will be competing at 5:00pm at the NH State House in Concord. The winner gets a trip to represent New Hampshire and compete in the national championship in Washington DC.
- Today I joined educators from the region here at Kearsarge’s PDC for a session led by Christine Downing to review and give input for the revision of New Hampshire’s Minimum standards for public school, or ED 306. The function of the state minimum standards is to provide consistent curriculum and learning opportunities, and equitable access to those opportunities, for all students in New Hampshire public schools, regardless of their zip code. The grassroots initiative to include the input of educators in the creation of these standards is another in a series of efforts to mitigate the fact that throughout the process, educators’ voices have been shut out.

***Student Representative Report: Owen Blood***

- Spring sports have started their preseason training this week, with some even being outside due to the nice weather recently.
- The school play Dracula was a success with a good showing for the performance.
- Today in school we had a group of people come in to present to students about the dangers of driving under the influence and while on your phone. This included hands-on models and simulations to show how dangerous it is.
- The school is having a blood drive tomorrow throughout the day.
- Sustainability Club is in the final stages of planning for the rehabilitation of the stream by the student parking lot. The project will be completed this spring so the area surrounding the stream can finally regrow into a healthy environment for the brook trout that pass through.
- The Student Council met with administrators this week to talk about Kearsarge’s new grading system starting next year. Some students and staff have concerns about the system and how grading turnaround and overall, the effectiveness might be hindered. Students also feel as though they should have been involved in the drafting of this system so their voices could have been heard.

<p><b>VI Presentation</b></p>	<p><b><i>Transportation Ben Cushing</i></b>          Mr. Cushing presented the Transportation Committee’s recommendation regarding changing bus route times for the 2024-2025 school year.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Not all elementary schools start at the same time.</li> <li>• Proposed changes displayed on the screen: Elementary would all start their day at the same time (this would be a change for Sutton Central)</li> <li>• Elementary students would not be on the same bus as older students.</li> <li>• Behavior incidents mostly occur in the afternoon.</li> <li>• Some buses currently are 3 to a seat, the new routes would create more seating space.</li> <li>• Bus transfers will be very limited.</li> <li>• 2 bus runs instead of one.</li> </ul> <p>Ms. Schultz asked if this was informational or is the committee asking for a Board vote and have parents been given a chance for input?          Ms. Mastin asked to clarify does this mean older and younger students are separated – Mr. Elliott confirmed, yes.          Ms. Bates asked if the Boy &amp; Girls Club were notified. Lisa Scolaro, Sutton Principal, stated that the major impact would be the morning and the Boys &amp; Girls Club would build a morning program.          Mr. Gregoire asked how discipline was handled on the bus. Steve Paterson, KRMS principal, answered that issues are referred to the Building Administrator. Cameras can be useful at times, but not always.          Mr. Gregoire asked about the loss of instructional times at KRMS &amp; KRHS. This is not an issue.          Mr. Lombard asked if teachers supported this.</p> <p>It was confirmed by Mr. Elliot that this would not decrease riding route time. However, KRHS and KRMS would have less time on the bus.</p> <p>Mr. Bartholomew, a citizen, asked if it was considered having KRHS &amp; KRMS students start later. -The committee looked at this – it would interfere with scheduled after school sports and activities.          Ms. Schultz would like to gain feedback from staff and parents and have the decision be more collaborative.          Mr. Bessette stated that current feedback has been that morning daycare is an issue for parents and staff, especially schools with an earlier opening such as Sutton Central.          Ms. Bates stated concern for older students that watch their younger siblings and will now have to wait for them.          The committee noted that there will be no financial cost change.          Ms. Schultz requested to table the subject until the next meeting.          Ms. Bates would like the plan to be more open to families and to solicit public feedback.          Ms. Schultz appreciated the intent and work involved in the plan.          Mr. Elliott stated that this was informational to the Board and the committee would now go to the public.</p>
<p><b>VII Public Comment</b></p>	<p><b><i>Ms. Mastin opened the meeting for public comment.</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No public comment.</li> </ul> <p><b><i>Mr. Keith made a motion to close public comment. Mr. Gregoire seconded. The Motion carried, 7-0-1 (Ms. Mastin abstained).</i></b></p>

<p><b>VIII New Business</b></p>	<p><b>a) Great East Musical Festival - KRMS</b> Principal Paterson presented a request for funds for approximately 116 Chorus &amp; Band students to attend a day long activity in the Salem School District. This activity is not budgeted. The request is to transfer \$6,820. to the KRMS Field Trip Acct to help cover costs.  <i>Ms. Schultz made a motion to approve the budget transfer recommendation for the amount of \$6,820, Ms. Bates seconded. The Motion carried 7 -0-1 (Ms. Mastin, abstained).</i></p> <p><b>b) Approval of School Board Calendar</b> Supt. Feneberg presented the proposed calendar with consideration of starting the budget process one week later in September. Holidays and budget timelines were also considered. The Board discussed but did not confirm a date for the retreat. <i>Mr. Gregoire made a motion to approve the School Board Calendar, as presented. Ms. Schultz seconded. The Motion carried 7-0-1 (Ms. Mastin abstained).</i></p> <p>Mr. McGowan and Dr. Bobruff left the meeting.</p> <p><b>c)Federal Assurances –</b> Supt. Feneberg explained the assurances that requires the signature of the School Board Chair. The Assurance’s essentially confirms in writing that the district is in agreement with the Federal Government and State Dept., and will act responsibly with public money. Ms. Mastin will review the document, sign it, and return it to the SAU Office.</p> <p><b>d)Policy IMGG Therapy Dog Use in District Programs – First Reading</b> Mr. Bessette stated that there is an increase in requests for therapy animals coming to schools. He clarified that this policy is not pertaining to service dogs. There is already a separate Board policy for service dogs. Mr. Bessette distributed IMGG-R procedure for viewing.</p>
<p><b>IX Old Business</b></p>	<p><b>Policy IGDA – Organizations /Gambling - Second Reading</b>  <i>Mr. Cushing made a motion to accept the second reading and approve Policy IGD as written.. Ms. Bates seconded. The Motion carried, 6-0-1 (Ms. Mastin abstained).</i></p>
<p><b>X Public Comment</b></p>	<p><i>Ms. Mastin opened the meeting for public comment.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● No public comment.</li> </ul> <p><i>Mr. Keith made a motion to close public comment. Mr. Cushing seconded. The Motion carried 6-0-1 (Ms. Mastin abstained).</i></p>
<p><b>XI Committee Reports</b></p>	<p>Ms. Mastin reported on the Human Resources and Communications Committee. Supt. Feneberg reported that Building Principals met with Lavallee Brensinger today as they plan to assess the district’s buildings in depth. Lavallee Brensinger Engineers has been contracted with the district. This will be a 6–8-month process.</p>
<p><b>XII Non-Public</b></p>	<p><i>No Non-Public</i></p>
<p><b>Adjourn</b></p>	<p><i>Ms. Schultz made the motion to adjourn the meeting, Mr. Lombard seconded. The motion carried 6-0-1. (Ms. Mastin abstained) Meeting adjourned.</i></p>

Respectfully submitted,  
Doreen Salera