

Kearsarge Regional School Board
Minutes of the Public Meeting
Kearsarge Regional School District
September 16, 2021

Open to Public – MASKS required - Zoom address below for remote attendance

I. Call to Order	The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:31pm.
II. Pledge of Allegiance	The Chair led the Pledge of Allegiance.
III. Roll Call	Present: Ken Bartholomew, Art Bobruff (arrived 7:11pm), Emilio Cancio-Bello, Bebe Casey, Eric Gregoire, Alison Mastin,; Katrina Nowicki, Maggie Ellison (Student Representatives) Absent: Beth Perkins (KREA Representative), Ben Cushing, Emma Bates, Kristin Schultz
PUBLIC HEARING	Public Hearing The Chair opened the hearing. It was posted as required by law. <i>Appropriation for Unanticipated Funds – as required per NH RSA 198:20-b, III, the Kearsarge Regional School Board shall conduct a hearing regarding unanticipated revenue from</i> <i>-The Bottinger Scholarship for \$11,840. Fund for graduating students to attend technical schools/training</i> <i>-Frank Barnard Foundation \$5,000 – KRMS Washington DC trip Donation</i> There was no public comment. Mr. Cancio-Bello made the motion to approve the revenue from the Bottinger Fund as presented. Ms. Casey seconded. The motion carried 5-0-0.
IV. Approval of Minutes	Mr. Cancio-Bello made the motion to approve the minutes of September 9, 2021 as written. Ms. Mastin, seconded. The motion carried unanimously.
V. Reports of Administration	<i>Chair:</i> No report. <i>Superintendent:</i> KRSD will host a COVID Vaccination clinic on Oct 1, 2021- for anyone 12 years old or over in our seven towns and beyond. It will be held at KRMS from 4-6. Sullivan County Health Network is assisting. Thank you to Amy Holobowicz, KRMS Nurse, for helping to organize this and Ms. Casey for suggesting another clinic. <i>Assistant Superintendent:</i> Update on sampling testing SPSS. The Critical Decision Unit is behind the idea. School Nurses looking into it. Rapid testing being used for students with symptoms with parent permission.

	<p><i>Business Administrator:</i> Mr. LeBoeuf clarified that the proposed Health increase for the 2022-23 budget is 7.5%.</p> <p><i>Staff Representative Report:</i> No report</p> <p><i>Student Representative Report:</i> Sports started strong. Getting use to new schedule, confusing at first. Discussion regarding Homecoming, selling of food- traditionally sold by the Boosters Club and not school. Students wish more of a voice in planning. A lot of miscommunication regarding upcoming events. Possibly student rep can speak to CDU regarding specific topics.</p>
<p>VI. Public Comment</p>	<p><i>No public Comment</i></p>
<p>VII. New Business</p>	<p>A. <u>2021-2022 Budget Presentations:</u></p> <p>1. <u>Facilities:</u> Mr. Fleury presented the Facilities budget highlighting specific line items; Contracted services, water & sewer, trash removal, snow removal (a significant savings by purchasing our own trucks and doing our own snow removal in house). Substantial savings with electrical due to changing to LED lighting by Scott Lanier, District Electrician. We've also received approximately \$84K in Eversource rebates from the change to LED. KRSD currently in year 9 of 15 year contract with Honeywell.</p> <p>COVID supplies, paying for storage for furniture that cannot be used right now due to social distancing are other planned expenditures.</p> <p><i>Chair Bartholomew: What would be your first priority if we had extra funds?</i> <i>Mr. Fleury answered: Staffing</i></p> <p>It was noted that the new Professional Development Center now has a street address, 165 Main Street, New London. Parking concerns on school grounds by neighboring businesses were discussed.</p> <p><u>Technology</u> - Ms. Turner pointed out that contracted services makes up for a lot of the proposed budget at \$86,636 for financial software. Printing services has decreased saving 11K and a slight increase in hardware replacement. Plans are to have PowerSchool, Lunch Program and Nurses software hosted by an outside server- worthwhile investment-reduces risks of data breaches and being hacked.</p> <p><u>Special Education:</u> Mr. Elliott began the presentation reviewing the enrollments in and out of district. Out of district numbers are down. Increase of special needs this year is up due to some move-ins. Mr. Elliott reviewed sections of the budget to include: wages, fringe, out-of-district and operations. The overall increase is approximately 2%. The Gateway Program is now referred to as the NECC program.</p>

	<p><u>Federal, Food Service and SAU:</u> Mr. LeBoeuf presented the Food Service budget reviewing changes line by line. Almost all is reimbursed through federal funds and student purchases.</p> <p>Mr. LeBoeuf reviewed the Federal/State proposed budget. This includes Title I, which is all funded by federal and state dollars.</p> <p>Mr. LeBoeuf reviewed the SAU budget highlighting areas in the operating budget. 3% for wage increase, Decrease in legal fees. Contracted services are 120K which include Staff Evaluators. Telephones decreased by \$5,000 with new provider.</p> <p>Mr. Bartholomew asks: <i>Is 3% increase sufficient for lower wage folks in the market today?</i> Further discussion of labor shortage and wage pressure in New Hampshire. Includes custodians, office personnel, and administrators. Last year it was 2%.</p> <p>Mr. Bobruff asks if an increase can happen this year? Further discussion on the labor shortage and keeping current staff while attracting new ones.</p> <p>Federal: Adult Education Funding dropped to zero. Three year grant ended. Some funding is received from other sending districts.</p> <p>Position FTE's up 2.8 which were previously covered by federal dollars.</p> <p>Anticipate ESSER ARP Grant. Community was surveyed as required. Looking at suggestions - one being purchasing a van for athletics to transport teams that don't require a large bus.</p>
<p>VIII. Old Business</p>	<p>Mr. Cancio Bello spoke to the Board about his discussion with the manager at STA. The bus company cannot recruit drivers. Buses are at capacity. Attempting assigned seats on the bus. Suggests that all superintendents get together and discuss the possibility of requesting assistance from the National Guard to help drive buses as the state of Massachusetts has just done.</p>
<p>IX. Non-Public Session</p>	<p><i>Mr. Gregoire made the motion to enter Non-Public Session under RSA 91-A: 3II (c) at approximately 8:05pm. Ms. Mastin seconded. The motion carried by roll call vote.</i></p>
<p>X. Return to Public Session</p>	<p><i>Emilio made the motion to return to Public Session at 8:24 pm. Ms. Casey seconded. The motion carried 5-0-0.</i></p>
<p>XI. Adjourn</p>	<p><i>Dr. Bobruff made the motion to adjourn at 8:25 pm. Ms. Mastin seconded. The motion carried 5-0-0.</i></p>

Respectfully submitted,

Doreen Salera