

Kearsarge Regional School District
School Board Meeting
 February 2, 2023 - 6:30 pm
 Kearsarge Professional Development Center
 165 Main Street, New London
Open to Public

I. Call to Order	The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:36 p.m.
II. Pledge of Allegiance	Elementary students in attendance led the Pledge of Allegiance.
III. Roll Call	<p>Present: Ken Bartholomew, Emma Bates, Arthur Bobruff, Eric Gregoire, Kyle Lombard, Alison Mastin.</p> <p>Winfried Feneberg, Superintendent; Michael Bessette, Assistant Superintendent; Larry LeBoeuf, Business Administrator; Beth Perkins, KREA Representative; Maggine Ellison, Student Representative.</p> <p>Absent: Bebe Hammond Casey, Ben Cushing, Kristen Schultz; Adara Boucher, Student Representative.</p>
IV. Approval of Minutes	<i>Ms. Mastin made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 5, 2023 School Board Meeting as amended. Ms. Bates seconded. The Motion carried 5-0-1 (Mr. Bartholomew abstained).</i>
V. Reports of Administration	<p><i>Chair's Report - Mr. Bartholomew</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Mr. Bartholomew reminded everyone that the filing period for School Board elections is currently open. <p><i>Superintendent's Report - Winfried Feneberg, Superintendent</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Superintendent gave the Board an update on the School Board and MBC open seats up for election in March. He stated that he was pleased to announce that both Mr. Gregoire and Ms. Bates have signed up to run for another term for the towns of Bradford and Warner, respectively. There is an open seat for the New London School Board representative, and throughout the day four potential candidates have come forward and expressed interest. As for the three available MBC openings, the Superintendent stated that both Richard Anderson from New London and James Bibbo from Bradford have signed up as candidates. David Bates decided not to run again in Warner, but there is a candidate for MBC in Warner who intends to sign up. ● Since the January 5th School Board meeting, the District has had a successful Deliberative Session, a lot of weather, but also a month of productive learning. The High School has transitioned into the second semester, and the elementary schools are getting close to the 100th day of school - always an important milestone in the school year. ● On January 19th, the Superintendent attended the pinning and graduation event for eight High School ELO students who received their LNA

certificates. This excellent program was grant funded, and we just learned that the grant will be extended into next year, providing an opportunity for another group of students to sign up for this ELO at the High School.

- The administrative team has had two intensive training sessions in January, one about developing the portrait of a Kearsarge learner and the other about competency based teaching and reporting. The administrative team feels that significant progress is being made in both areas, thanks in part to the efforts of Christine Downing, Steve Shepherd, and the Curriculum and Assessments Leaders (CALs) in our schools in collaboration with staff from the NH Learning Initiative.
- The Superintendent presented the Board with the resignation of Tucker Johnson, Health and PE teacher at the High School. He requested the Board accept the resignation.

Mr. Gregoire made a motion to accept the resignation of Tucker Johnson. Ms. Mastin seconded. The Motion carried 5-0-1 (Mr. Bartholomew abstained).

- The Superintendent presented the Board with the retirement of Lauren Duquette, an elementary teacher at Bradford. He requested the Board accept her retirement with regrets.

Mr. Lombard made a motion to accept the retirement of Lauren Duquette with regrets. Ms. Bates seconded. The Motion carried 5-0-1 (Mr. Bartholomew abstained).

Assistant Superintendent's Report - Michael Bessette, Assistant Superintendent

- Mr. Bessette stated that he participated in the New Hampshire School Administrators Association (NHSAA) legislative review update. He stated that he had the chance to facilitate a table discussion. He stated that he also had the opportunity to meet representatives from the New Hampshire Rapid Response Team who provide mental health services to families in the region. He looks forward to the District exploring that partnership further.
- Following his update, Mr. Bessette apprised the Board that his report had been written using ChatGPT. He noted that UNH has already suspended some students for using the AI platform to complete assignments. He stated that it is amazing what the program does. There are a number of people who are looking at how this is going to change how schools ask students to produce assignments.
- Mr. Bessette stated that the District has the ability to declare shortages for certain certifications to allow for Site Based Learning Plans to be created for employees to have the ability to receive their certification as a result of their work. He apprised the Board that there is a critical local shortage for people with a theater certification and requested that the Board declare a critical local shortage in that area.

Dr. Bobruff made a motion to declare a critical local shortage in the area of

theater within the District. Ms. Mastin seconded. The Motion carried 6-0-0.

Business Administrator's Report - Larry LeBoeuf, Business Administrator

- Mr. LeBoeuf presented the Board with a year end estimate. Mr. Bartholomew asked about how energy is currently being reflected in the budget. Mr. LeBoeuf stated that the budget will likely be short on the electricity and fuel oil lines.

KREA Representative - Beth Perkins, KREA Representative

- New London Elementary School has had an exciting two weeks with our artist in residence. Mark Rangonese is working with the students during Art class to create a mural about our school for the outside of the building, at the ramp in front of the Unified Arts entrance. Each student had their own wooden piece of the puzzle/mosaic style mural. One week students painted their piece, and the next week they added painted and stamped accents.
- A team of teachers from every elementary grade has been working on developing Social Studies competencies from the district. The group has studied the national C3 Standards, (College, Career, and Civic Life) as well as competencies and learning targets from other states. The group has spent time working as grade level teams and also they have had conversations with partners who teach the grades that precede and follow theirs, including a detailed meeting between the fifth grade team and Jim Tucker, the Social Studies CALS at the Middle School.
- Pippa Bartlett (grade 8) is the KRMS Spelling Bee Winner. Her winning word was "solidarity." Pippa will have the opportunity to compete at the State Bee.
- The Internet Safety Series starts next week at the Middle School. Families are invited to attend in person or via Zoom. The three sessions about youth and social media literacy are presented by NH Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force, the Crisis Center of Central New Hampshire, and Media Power Youth
- Culinary students at the High School started American Regional cuisine last week and this week are concentrating on Mid-Atlantic cuisine. Baking classes did some Focaccia art bread and are making bagels, English muffins and cinnamon rolls later in the week.

Student Representatives' Report - Ms. Ellison

- Midterms were two weeks ago and went smoothly. The students had a relaxing following week due to being at home as a result of the weather.
- The swim team had their meet last week. 6 swimmers will be going on to compete in states.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● There is a track meet at Dartmouth next week. ● Tonight is the senior night for Boys and Girls Basketball playing against Gilford. ● The Nordic Team competed in a Coaches Series race at Waterville Valley. ● Seniors are currently applying for scholarships and underclassmen will be picking their classes for next year next week. ● The Harvard Model UN trip was last week. ● The Kearsarge Principal Advisory Council had their first meeting today and will be meeting again next week. ● The Starry Night Dance was two weeks ago. ● The Student Council is half way through its clothing drive and is also deep in planning for Winter Carnival. They are currently working on incorporating feedback from administrators.
<p>VI. Public Comment</p>	<p><i>Mr. Bartholomew opened the meeting for public comment.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No public comment. <p><i>Mr. Grgoire made a motion to close public comment. Ms. Mastin seconded. The Motion carried 5-0-1 (Mr. Bartholomew abstained).</i></p>
<p>VII. Presentation</p>	<p><i>Sutton Central School - Ms. Downing and Students</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ms. Downing introduced students Jake, Phoebe, Ryan, Alaina, and Kai, who wasn't present at the meeting, and explained that they have been learning with Ms. McNamee how to create movie trailers. Recently, these students created movie trailers for the books they were reading in their class and held an award ceremony to view the trailers run like the Oscars. The entire school cast their vote for the winning book. ● Jake introduced his trailer for the book <i>Brave Everyday</i>. He learned how to use teamwork and technology. The Board watched Jake's video. ● Phoebe introduced her trailer for the book <i>Snail Crossing</i>. She learned you can work together and persevere through anything. The Board watched Phoebe's video. ● Ryan introduced his trailer of the book <i>Change Sings</i>. He learned that you can be the change even when things get hard. The Board watched Ryan's video. ● Ms. Downing introduced Kai's trailer for the book <i>New Day</i>. The Board watched Kai's video. ● Alaina introduced her trailer of the book <i>Stand Up</i>. She learned that you can stand up for what you believe in. The Board watched Alaina's video. ● Ms. Downing presented the Board with a video of some of the highlights from the school's Oscars style award ceremony. ● Ms. Perkins asked what program the students used to create the videos. The students stated that they used Canva. ● Mr. Bartholomew asked the students how long it took them to create their

	<p>trailers. The students stated that it took about 6-weeks.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Mr. Lombard asked the students how they got the pictures into their videos. The students explained that Ms. McNamee took pictures of the books .
<p>VIII. New Business</p>	<p><i>Strategic Plan Mid-year Update - Winfried Feneberg, Superintendent</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● The Superintendent presented the Board with a mid-year update on the District’s Strategic Plan. He reminded the Board that two of the main focus areas this year are curriculum and facilities. He stated that all the work that is done in the District is all based around this Strategic Plan and working toward the District’s goals. The document the Superintendent presented the board chronicles the progress the District has made so far this year.● The Superintendent discussed Goal #1 which discussed a continuum of learning for all students, preparing them for college and their careers. He discussed the progress that has been made around the curriculum development and the work that is being done by Curriculum and Assessment Leaders (CALs) in the District.● Goal #2 discussed the recruitment and retention of student-centered staff members. The Superintendent stated that as a part of discussing the portrait of a learner, discussing a portrait of an educator goes hand-in-hand. He reminded the Board of the hiring difficulties that are currently impacting districts across the state and noted that the District is already beginning to prepare for the next hiring season. To aid recruitment, the District has been going to job fairs and has also discussed hosting an internal education job fair to encourage Kearsarge students to pursue a career in education. Additionally, the District has had successful PEAK negotiations over the first half of the year.● Goal #3 discusses involving families, community organizations, and local businesses to increase engagement and personalized learning opportunities. The Superintendent discussed the District’s ELO program and the plan to continue pursuing the STEAM renovation project for the high school. He also discussed the struggle to get parents to sign up for the free and reduced lunch program following a few years where all lunches were free for students. Mr. Bartholomew asked how that was going. Supt. Feneberg stated that it continues to be a challenge. Mr. Lombard asked what some of the roadblocks are. Ms. Collins stated that there is a lot of paperwork involved and noted that there is a stigma that can surround taking advantage of the program. The Superintendent explained that there is no way to know who is eligible unless the paperwork is filled out and submitted. Mr. Shepherd noted that parents are frequently contacted about the program through various forms of

communications. Ms. Mastin stated that it may be helpful to be sure that local food pantries are aware of the program and to find out if they would be willing to help encourage the program. She added that this would also be helpful information for local welfare officers.

- Goal #4 discussed the creation and maintenance of high quality learning environments. The District used the Youth Risk Behaviour Surveillance System (YRBSS) at the High School and the Middle School, through a grant. The Superintendent discussed the cultivating of student leaders. He also discussed the work that has been done over the past year with the Police Departments in the District. He noted that the District has been meeting quarterly with the local police chiefs. He went on to discuss the Capital Improvement Plan noting that Mr. Paré has been a great addition. The transition from Honeywell to Siemens has also been a major transition during the first half of the year that has continued to be productive. He also discussed the building of the preschool in Bradford.
- Goal #5 discussed the dedication of being an institution of educational innovation. Supt. Feneberg discussed the continued work to create the portrait of a learner. He discussed the question being asked of what do we want these students to look like and have learned upon their graduation? Mr. Bessette has continued to be an active advocate of education before legislative bodies. Mr. Bartholomew discussed getting in touch with the newly elected representatives within the District.
- The Superintendent stated that he is very impressed with how alive this plan is! He thanked the Board for their support.

Approval of the minutes from the Deliberative Session:

Ms. Mastin made a motion to approve the minutes from the Deliberative Session as written. Dr. Bobruff seconded. The Motion carried 4-0-2 (Mr. Bartholomew and Mr. Gregoire abstained).

Science Education Partnership Award (SEPA), MDI Biological Laboratory - Mini Grant-KRHS \$500.00 and Getting to Youth Program - Mini Grant-KRMS, \$2,500.00 - Larry LeBoeuf, Business Administrator

- Mr. LeBoeuf presented the Board with a Science Education Partnership Award (SEPA) mini-grant in the amount of \$500.00.

Dr. Bobruff made a motion to accept and expend \$500.00 from the Science Education Partnership Award (SEPA) mini-grant. Ms. Bates seconded. The Motion carried 5-0-1 (Mr. Bartholomew abstained).

- Mr. LeBoeuf presented the Board the Getting to Youth Program mini-grant in the amount of \$2,500.00.

Mr. Gregoire made a motion to accept and expend \$2,500.00 from the Getting to Youth Program mini-grant. Mr. Lombard seconded. The Motion carried 5-0-1 (Mr. Bartholomew abstained).

2023-2024 Proposed School Calendar for Board Approval - Winfried Feneberg, Superintendent

- Supt. Feneberg presented the Board with the proposed 2023-2024 school year calendar. He noted that the District needs to align its calendar as closely as possible with the career and tech center in Concord. The Superintendent went through the calendar with the Board.

Dr. Bobruff made a motion to approve the 2023-2024 school year calendar as presented. Mr. Lombard seconded. The Motion carried 5-0-1 (Mr. Bartholomew abstained).

2022-2023 School Calendar - Adjustment of June Date - Winfried Feneberg, Superintendent

- The Superintendent discussed the need to make a revision to the current school year's calendar to account for the Juneteenth holiday. He noted that the recommendation would be for the District to celebrate Juneteenth on the first Monday after the last day of school.

Ms. Bates made a motion to adjust the 2022-2023 school calendar to move the District's observance of the Juneteenth holiday to the Monday after the last day of school. Ms. Mastin seconded. The Motion carried 5-0-1 (Mr. Bartholomew abstained).

Policy KE - Complaint from Public Relating to Instructions, Discipline, and Policy KEB Complaints from Public Relating to District Employees - Second Reading - Michael Bessette, Assistant Superintendent

- Mr. Bessette presented policies KE and KEB to the Board. He stated that KEB has been rearranged as discussed at the previous meeting.

Dr. Bobruff made a motion to approve Policy KEB for second reading and to adopt the Policy. Mr. Gregoire seconded. The Motion carried 5-0-1 (Mr. Bartholomew abstained).

Ms. Mastin made a motion to approve Policy KE for second reading and to

	<i>adopt the Policy. Mr. Lombard seconded. The Motion carried 5-0-1 (Mr. Bartholomew abstained).</i>
IX. Public Comment	<p><i>Mr. Bartholomew opened the meeting for public comment.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● No Public Comment. <p><i>Mr. Gregoire made a motion to close public comment. Ms. Mastin seconded. The Motion carried 5-0-1 (Mr. Bartholomew abstained).</i></p>
X. Adjourn	<p><i>Mr. Gregoire made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Mastin seconded. The Motion carried 5-0-1 (Mr. Bartholomew abstained). The meeting was adjourned at 8:28 p.m.</i></p>

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Hilton
School Board Note Taker