Kearsarge Regional School District School Board Meeting

January 5, 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 6:35 p.m.
II.	Pledge of Allegiance	Mr. Bartholomew led the Pledge of Allegiance.
III.	Roll Call	Present: Ken Bartholomew, Emma Bates, Arthur Bobruff, Bebe Hammond Casey, Eric Gregoire, Kyle Lombard, Alison Mastin, Kristen Schultz.
		Winfried Feneberg, Superintendent; Michael Bessette, Assistant Superintendent; Larry LeBoeuf, Business Administrator; Beth Perkins, KREA Representative; Maggie Ellison, Student Representative.
		Absent: Ben Cushing; Adara Boucher, Student Representative.
IV.	Public Hearing	The following hearings were published in the December 8, 2022 Intertown Record.
		The Kearsarge Regional School Board is conducting a hearing regarding unanticipated revenue awarded from Primex for \$6,589.97 regarding an insurance claim.
		Dr. Bobruff made a motion to accept and expend unanticipated revenue funds from Primex for \$6,589.97 for an insurance claim. Ms. Schultz seconded. The Motion carried 7-0-1 (Mr. Bartholomew abstained).
		The Board is also conducting a hearing regarding unanticipated revenue of \$380,000.00 in the form of a grant from the Security Action for Education (SAFE) Grant. (Please note, the amount posted in the Intertown Record, \$440,000.00 was in error as this was the anticipated amount.)
		Dr. Bobruff made a motion to accept and expend unanticipated revenue funds from the SAFE Grant for \$380,000.00. Mr. Gregoire seconded. The Motion carried 7-0-1 (Mr. Bartholomew abstained).
V.	Approval of Minutes	Ms. Mastin made a motion to approve the minutes from the December 15, 2022, School Board Meeting as written. Ms. Bates seconded. The Motion carried 7-0-1 (Mr. Bartholomew abstained).
VI.	Reports of Administration	 Chair's Report - Mr. Bartholomew Mr. Bartholomew encouraged the public to attend the Deliberative Session on Saturday, January 7th.
		Superintendent's Report - Winfried Feneberg, Superintendent

• The Superintendent had no report but wished everyone a Happy New Year.

Assistant Superintendent's Report - Michael Bessette, Assistant Superintendent

- Mr. Bessette apprised the Board that he met with the Professional Growth Committee earlier in the day. He noted that the Committee is hard at work trying to create a new supervision and evaluation model. The Committee is looking forward to presenting their progress to the Board in the Spring.
- Mr. Bessette discussed the recent Leadership Team meeting with the Board and noted the Team's discussion about foresight vs. hindsight.

Business Administrator's Report - Larry LeBoeuf, Business Administrator

• Mr. LeBoeuf presented the Board with a year end estimate. He noted the current year end projection is \$1.8 million favorable.

KREA Representative - Beth Perkins, KREA Representative

- The fifth graders in New London produced a Cougar News Report, covering the breakfast meet-and-greet between New London's leadership team and the New London Police officers who have become part of our school community. The Cougar News weather reporter also urged students to wear winter gear in the coming months.
- Students in many High School English classes are again participating in Poetry out Loud. Some classroom recitation competitions were held prior to the holiday vacation, while others will take place this week and next. Top performers will move forward to the school-wide competition scheduled for Jan. 24.
- Baking classes are starting their bread unit they will learn all about flours, yeast and the bread making process as well as make several types of breads and rolls. Culinary classes are working on a grilling section and will have a Chopped competition as their summative exam to see what kind of burgers they can create and execute from a mystery basket of ingredients.
- The following students were selected for the New Hampshire Band Directors Association (NHBDA) Chamber Music Festival on Saturday, January 7 at UNH: Oliver Andrews, Violin in the String Ensemble; Thomas Shepard, Bass Voice in the TTBB Ensemble; Kristen Garzia, Flute in the Flute Ensemble. These students were selected to this festival because of their high All State Audition scores. They will be performing with other high school students from around NH, they will be coached by College Professors and/or Professional Musicians. This is a great reward for all the hard work they put into their All State Audition!
- Ms. Perkins noted that it was great having alumni back in the area during the recent break and noted that she noticed a number of the students who

		she spoke with went into the STEM field. Dr. Bobruff stated that it may be useful to find out if some of those former students in STEM may be willing to speak to the proposed STEAM renovation at the High School. Mr. Bartholomew asked if the District keeps track of where alumni end up. The Superintendent noted that some other Districts have specific positions dedicated to keeping up with alumni; however, Kearsarge does not have such a position. He noted that any Alumni information is from teachers who keep in touch with students and is shared voluntarily. The Board discussed different methods of keeping up with Alumni after graduation.
VII.	Public Comment	Mr. Bartholomew opened the meeting for public comment.
		No public comment.
		Ms. Schultz made a motion to close public comment. Mr. Lombard seconded. The Motion carried 7-0-1 (Mr. Bartholomew abstained).
VIII.	Presentation	 Extended Learning Opportunities - Rebecca Hemingway, Coordinator and KRHS Students The Superintendent introduced Ms. Hemingway and discussed how she has revived the Extended Learning Opportunity (ELO) program. Ms. Hemingway explained that she has been with the District for many years; however, this is the first year she has been in this position. She explained that she has loved seeing how excited the students are about different learning opportunities that are out there in their fields of interest. She explained how ELOs can be a number of different things: an internship, volunteering, job shadowing, research projects, etc. She noted that this program is about students trying out different things to help determine what they want to do in the future. Ms. Hemingway stated that there are 50 students in 22 different ELOs. 6 of the ELOs are in a group setting with multiple students. The students get to help determine what their ELO gets to look like. She stated that it is 100% based on student voice. Ms. Hemingway introduced three KRHS students that accompanied her to the meeting. The first student discussed his participation in the New Futures Leaders and Advocacy ELO. He explained his time meeting with State senators, touring the state house, and having the opportunity to advocate for different issues before legislative committees. He also stated that he has begun an ELO with Safe Schools, an organization that is working to provide information on how school safety can be improved. Another student discussed her desire to study the neurological connection to music. She explained that through her ELO she has had the opportunity to interview medical professionals and music therapists. Additionally, she had the opportunity to tour Berklee College of Music in Boston and sit in on some of their courses. Another student stated that she had participated in 5 ELOs, including the

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	STEM in Action ELO and the ASL ELO. She stated that she has a lot of different interests and saw the ELOs as an opportunity to explore what she wants to do with her life. She stated that through her ELOs she has been able to determine that she wants to go into the STEM field. • Ms. Hemingway gave some examples of other ELOs students are currently participating in. She discussed the LNA program that was funded by a grant signed by Governor Sununu last year that allows students to become certified LNAs while in High School. She also discussed an upcoming EMT ELO that will be taking place and will give students the opportunity to work toward becoming an EMT. • There are a number of community partners that are involved in the ELO program. Ms. Hemingway discussed a recent workshop that took place with the New Hampshire Poet Laureate and the students have been working with Dartmouth Hitchcock. • Ms. Schultz stated that she was very impressed with the students. She asked if there was a limit to the number of ELOs a student could take. Ms. Hemingway noted that there wasn't. • Mr. Lombard stated that he was also very impressed with the students and asked where the students find time in their days to participate in the programs. The students described the different ways they managed their times to allow for these ELOs. • Mr. Bartholomew commended the ELO program. He asked what obstacles the program is facing. Ms. Hemingway noted that a couple of obstacles would be transportation and space.
	 Student Representatives' Report - Ms. Ellison The Swim Team has a home meet tomorrow at Colby-Sawyer. Girls and Boys basketball have two doubleheader games this week. Best Buddies had their first unified game yesterday. Seniors are wrapping up their college applications and are beginning to focus on applying for scholarships. This was the first week with a new flex period. The Student Council is preparing for the Winter Carnival. The Poetry Out Loud competition is coming up in the next few weeks.
IX. Presentation	 Competency Based Education, Update - Christine Downing, Curriculum Coordinator/Sutton Principal and Charles Langille, KRHS Principal Ms. Downing gave the Board an update on the progress of the implementation of competency based education. She noted that they will be wrapping up Stage 1 this year and will soon be entering Stage 2. She noted that every other faculty meeting is used to focus on competency based education (CBE). Mr. Langille noted that meeting with the Curriculum Assessment Leaders (CALs) has been crucial in the development of this model. He discussed that the High School has three times as many courses as the other schools

in the District. He noted that they are on track to wrap up entering all

- these courses in Rubicon Atlas very soon.
- Mr. Geraghty noted that there has been discussion for years in the
 District about competency based education; however, there wasn't great
 clarity on it.
- Ms. Downing discussed the conversations that have begun about how to implement Stage 2 of this process which covers designing and implementing local assessments. This stage talks about what common reporting and assessments platforms do. She discussed an assessment system that goes beyond just grading. She stated that this will take a transition in thinking. Ms. Schultz asked how this will be computed to a GPA. Ms. Downing stated that has not yet been determined and will be an ongoing discussion as this process progresses. Ms. Casey asked if the grading system at the High School has already been changed. Ms. Downing stated that there is continuous improvement.
- Ms. Downing discussed implementing a Quality Performance Assessment framework.
- Mr. Geraghty discussed formative and summative assessments.
- Ms. Downing stated that as they enter Stage 2, there will be more looking into answering the question of how the District is going to measure progress.
- The Superintendent discussed the goal of teaching our kids and reporting
 their progress the best the District can. He stated that this process is
 putting on paper exactly what is expected of students in these courses and
 how a consistent learning and teaching environment can be cultivated
 and maintained.
- Ms. Casey asked if the District will be able to continue to use PowerSchool with this new assessment mode. Ms. Downing noted that they are unsure of that yet as they begin working out how the reporting of student assessments are going to work. She stated that she has asked about other reporting systems; however, they all have limitations.
- Mr. Bianchi, math teacher at the High School, explained that the students have been able to understand this model. He stated that they understand it and it has led to better conversations.
- Dr. Bobruff asked if there is something under this model where teachers can go back and review with students a particular area where the majority struggle, for example if there is one portion of an assessment that the majority of students didn't understand. Mr. Geraghty explained that is what the formative assessments are typically for.
- Mr. Bartholomew asked if there is any consistency with regard to the amount of summative assessment. He asked if some teachers leave all the summative assessments for the end of the semester to wrap up a course in something like a project or a final exam. Mr. Geraghty explained that

- there isn't 100% consistency across the courses. He gave an example of the woodworking class where there isn't a lot of summative assessment at the moment. Ms. Downing explained that there is a notion that the summative assessment is a one-and-done assessment toward the end of the course; however, summatives can be given at any time.
- Ms. Schultz asked what happens when a student takes a summative assessment and finds that they are not proficient in an area. Mr. Geraghty stated that if the student is not happy with their assessment they can reassess. The Superintendent stated that the question implies another question of if students are able to not perform under this model. He noted that success is not guaranteed, but that the model gives students the opportunity to get better feedback and be successful. Ms. Downing stated that a student will need to be considered proficient to complete the course.

X. New Business

Alex Gissler Scholarship - Larry LeBoeuf, Business Administrator

Mr. LeBoeuf apprised the Board that an additional \$250.00 has been received for the Alex Gissler Scholarship. In addition to a previous \$250.00 donation, he noted that a deposit in the amount of \$500.00 will need to be made. He requested Board approval of the deposit.

Mr. Gregoire made a motion to approve the deposit of \$500.00 to the Alex Gissler Scholarship. Mr. Lombard seconded. The Motion carried 7-0-1 (Mr. Bartholomew abstained).

Deliberative Session - January 7, 2023 - Prepare for Meeting - Mr.Bartholomew

• The Board determined who would speak to what Warrant Article at the Deliberative Session on Saturday, January 7th. Mr. Bartholomew will speak to Article 1, Ms. Mastin to Article 2, Ms. Casey to Article 3, and Mr. Lombard to Article 4.

Policy KE - Complaint from Public Relating to Instructions, Discipline,... and Policy KEB Complaints from [public Relating to District Employees - Ms. Casey

• Ms. Casey discussed the two policies noting that they help to determine the chain of command when a complaint is brought forward relating to instruction or discipline, or a complaint regarding a District employee. She noted that the paragraphs in Policy KEB need to be reorganized. Mr. Bessette noted that these policies describe what happens when a complaint is received and how the process gets started. Mr. Bartholomew observed that these policies continue to follow the District's policy of not

		permitting anonymous complaints.
		Ms. Casey made a motion to approve Policy KE for first reading. Mr. Gregoire seconded. The Motion carried 7-0-1 (Mr. Bartholomew abstained).
		Ms. Schultz made a motion to approve Policy KEB for first reading. Dr. Bobruff seconded. The Motion carried 7-0-1 (Mr. Bartholomew abstained).
XI.	Public Comment	Mr. Bartholomew opened the meeting for public comment.
		No Public Comment.
		Ms. Schultz made a motion to close public comment. Ms. Mastin seconded. The Motion carried 7-0-1 (Mr. Bartholomew abstained).
XII.	School Board Sub- Committees	 Policy Committee - Ms. Casey Ms. Casey stated that the Committee discussed the policies discussed previously in this meeting.
KIII.	Non-Public	Ms. Schultz made a motion for the Board to enter non-public. Mr. Gregoire seconded. The Motion carried by roll call vote 8-0-0.
		The Board returned to public session.
		Ms. Schultz made a motion to approve a \$35,000.00 purchase recommendation as presented in the non-public session. Ms. Bates seconded. The Motion carried 7-0-1 (Mr. Bartholomew abstained).
		current 7-0-1 (Mr. Burmotomew abstatueu).

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Hilton School Board Note Taker