

Kearsarge Regional School District
School Board Meeting
 October 19, 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 6:34 p.m.
II. Pledge of Allegiance	Mr. Bartholomew led the Pledge of Allegiance.
III. Roll Call	<p>Present: Ken Bartholomew, Emma Bates, Arthur Bobruff, Eric Gregoire, David Keith, Kyle Lombard, Alison Mastin.</p> <p>Winfried Feneberg, Superintendent; Michael Bessette, Assistant Superintendent; Larry LeBoeuf, Business Administrator; Catherine Hyson, KREA Representative.</p> <p>Absent: Ben Cushing, Kristen Schultz; Owen Blood, Student Representative; Adara Boucher, Student Representative.</p>
IV. Approval of Minutes	<i>Ms. Mastin made a motion to approve the minutes from the October 5, 2023 Board Meeting as amended. Mr. Lombard seconded. The Motion carried 5-0-2 (Mr. Bartholomew and Mr. Keith abstained).</i>
V. Reports of Administration	<p><i>Superintendent's Report – Winfried Feneberg, Superintendent</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Superintendent apprised the Board that the District was informed of the untimely passing of Robert Regazzo, a longtime teacher at the Middle School. Supt. Feneberg extended the District's deepest sympathies to Mr. Regazzo's family. • Mr. Bartholomew apprised the Board of the passing of Martha Thoits. Ms. Thoits served a number of roles in the District from Reading Specialist, to Vice-Principal, to Interim-Principal. • The Municipal Budget Committee (MBC) met on Tuesday and had a productive meeting regarding version 3 of the 2024-25 budget. The MBC was appreciative of the cuts presented and approved at the previous School Board meeting. The next MBC meeting is November 14, 2023. • YCN documented the grand opening of the new preschool at Bradford. He encouraged everyone to find the footage and noted that if anyone has trouble finding it, he can forward that along. He stated that YCN did a great job! <p><i>Assistant Superintendent's Report - Michael Bessette, Assistant Superintendent</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Bessette stated that he had a great meeting with the team developing a Portrait of an Educator. He discussed the work being done developing a competency-based model to replace the existing supervision and evaluation model. • Mr. Bessette apprised the Board of a new technical advisory regarding restraint and seclusion from the State Department of Education. He stated

	<p>that Dianna Fenton from the Department of Education will be in the District for a training on the new technical advisory tomorrow.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Mr. Bessette stated that he was recently invited to become a panel discussion member at Primex. He stated that there is a training coming up discussing Title IX. ● He reminded the Board that on October 31, 2023 he will be teaching the 5th graders about Zombie Fungus. <p><i>KREA Representative’s Report – Beth Perkins, KREA Representative</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● New London Elementary School had their annual Walk or Bike to School day last week. Bus students were dropped off at Colby-Sawyer College and a group of staff and volunteers walked and biked down the hill to school. Many thanks to the New London Police Department for helping the stream of people cross the streets safely. ● Simonds school entered a float built by staff and students into the Warner fall foliage festival. All parents and students were invited to walk in the parade with the float. There was such a huge turnout that they won first place in the student division! It was a wonderful community building activity for Simonds school and Warner. ● A small team from the Middle School was invited to present at the NH Transition Summit next month around their work with Person-Centered Planning. Kaily Roukey, Emily Corcoran, Mary Babineau as well as a parent are excited about this opportunity to present. They will present on the value in conducting PCP to help families navigate MS and HS and help collaborate with families. They use PCP as a launching point to develop IEP goals and services that align with families’ goals and vision for their child. It has also helped identify and connect families with community resources sooner rather than later. ● This week Sutton Central is piloting Welch's Pack Assorted Colors for Kids (P.A.C.K.) Week in collaboration with cafe services. They are teaching kids about the micronutrient superpowers that come from the different colors of the rainbow in the various fruits and vegetables. For example, red fruits and vegetables have lycopene which is excellent for your heart. They are eating different colored fruits and vegetables at snack and lunch and wearing coordinating colors this week. ● Bradford Elementary School is very fortunate to be working with Dr. Suzanne Chapin this year. Dr. Suzanne Chapin is professor emerita of mathematics education at Boston University Wheelock College of Education & Human Development. Her work covers gifted education, curriculum design, teacher professional development in mathematics, and teacher and student discourse in mathematics. Dr. Chapin came in this week to model Number Sense Talks in many classrooms, joined some classroom lessons, met with teachers, and did an after-school math chat. She will be volunteering in Bradford throughout the school year working with teachers and in classrooms. Bradford Elementary is happy to have her join the team.
<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>Ms. Bates made a motion to close public comment. Mr. Gregoire seconded. The Motion carried 6-0-1 (Mr. Bartholomew abstained).</i></p>
<p>VII. Presentation</p>	<p><i>KRES New London – “Cougar News” Student News Broadcast – Ms. Fluery, Ms. Corbyn, and 5th Grade Students</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ms. Fluery and Ms. Corbyn introduced the students and their roles for <i>Cougar News</i>. They noted that the students write the stories and produce, film, and edit them. The students presented the Board with the most recent episode of <i>Cougar News</i>. Mr. Keith stated that he has been on <i>Cougar News</i> before. Mr. Lombard asked how frequently new episodes are filmed. Ms. Fluery stated it is filmed once quarterly. Mr. Bartholomew asked how long <i>Cougar News</i> has been filmed. Ms. Fluery stated that it has been 5 years. The Superintendent stated that the students do a great job speaking and creating the episodes. He said that the episodes are very professional. He told the students that if they are interested in this kind of work, there are opportunities to do so as they move into Middle School and High School.
<p>VIII. New Business</p>	<p><i>Donation of \$8,000 from the Frank M. Barnard Foundations, Inc. – Larry LeBoeuf, Business Administrator</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The donation is for the Holocaust Program and Anti-Bias Educational initiative at the Middle School. <p><i>Dr. Bobruff made a motion to approve the deposit of \$8,000.00 from the Frank M. Barnard Foundations, Inc. Mr. Keith seconded. The Motion carried 6-0-1 (Mr. Bartholomew abstained).</i></p> <p><i>Warren Brooks Project Climb Trust – Larry LeBoeuf, Business Administrator</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. LeBoeuf presented the Board with a withdrawal of \$3,900.00 from the Warren Brooks Project Climb Trust. <p><i>Ms. Mastin made a motion to approve the withdrawal of \$3,900.00 from the Warren Brooks Project Climb Trust. Ms. Bates seconded. The Motion carried 6-0-1 (Mr. Bartholomew abstained).</i></p> <p><i>Draft 2024 Warrant – School Board Discussion</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Superintendent presented the Board with a draft of the 2024 warrant. He noted that no numbers have been inserted yet as the budget has not been finalized and numbers need to be determined for any additions to trust funds. The Board discussed the amounts to be contributed to the trust funds out of unexpended funds. The Superintendent discussed previous discussions about raising the target amount for the Roof Trust.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Bartholomew discussed the Capital Reserve Trust and the need to increase the target amount for the Roof Trust. He asked where the Facilities Department was in terms of estimates for the roof replacements needed for the District. The Superintendent stated that the District doesn't yet have the estimates. He stated that the District will be going through a second bout of assessments to check the structure under the roofs. Mr. Bartholomew stated that he believes the Roof Trust target should be increased to at least \$1.5 million. He stated that the District was told many years ago that the roofs were in need of replacement. The repairs have been piece by piece but not comprehensive. • Mr. Lombard asked when trust funds can be used. Mr. Bartholomew stated that the trust funds can only be used within the terms of the trust that are approved by the voters. He expressed his belief that trust funds should not be used when the District has the opportunity to plan out the costs of need repairs. • Ms. Mastin asked when the numbers need to be finalized. The Superintendent stated before the next MBC meeting on November 14th. • Mr. Bartholomew discussed scheduling a Finance & Audit Committee prior to the next meeting and requested Mr. Paré be in attendance to discuss the facilities work that needs to be done around the District.
<p>IX. Old Business</p>	<p><i>School Board 2024-2025 Proposed Budget – Further Discussion – Winfried Feneberg, Superintendent</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Bartholomew stated that version 3 of the budget is currently before the MBC. Supt. Feneberg said that the MBC was very complimentary of the reductions that were proposed and approved by the Board. The majority of the MBC members were satisfied with the final budget number. • The Superintendent stated that the District is set to get the insurance rates for the next budget year just prior to the next MBC meeting.
<p>X. School Board Sub-Committees</p>	<p><i>Facilities Committee – Mr. Lombard</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Lombard stated that the Committee received an update from Supt. Feneberg about the facilities review. He apprised the Board that the Committee is in agreement that the District needs a long term review of its assets to determine what work needs to be done and when. • The Superintendent stated that an RFP will go out in the next week seeking engineering firms, architectural offices, whoever would like to put in a bid. He laid out the plan to assess all the schools: basements, grounds, roofs, athletic fields, etc. He stated that one of the goals of the assessment is to try and decipher what education will look like in 10 to 15 years. Once the District has all the data, the company or firm that is the successful bidder will be asked what the District's options are and how to get started. • The Committee also discussed creating a sub-committee dedicated to just this project, a group of Board Members, MBC Members, parents, and town representatives.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. Lombard noted discussions about increases in safety that can be covered by the project.
XI. 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>Ms. Bates made a motion to close public comment. Ms. Mastin seconded. The Motion carried 6-0-1 (Mr. Bartholomew abstained).</i></p>
XII. Non-Public Session	<p><i>Mr. Keith made a motion for the Board to enter a non-public session. Dr. Bobruff seconded. The Motion carried by rollcall vote 7-0-0.</i></p> <p><i>The Board returned to public session.</i></p>
XIII. Adjourn	<p><i>Ms. Mastin made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Gregoire seconded. The Motion carried 6-0-1 (Mr. Bartholomew abstained). The meeting was adjourned at 7:48 p.m.</i></p>

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Hilton
 School Board Note Taker