

Kearsarge Regional School Board
February 22, 2024
Open to Public

I Call to Order	The Acting Chair, Alison Mastin, called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.
II Pledge of Allegiance	Dr. Bobruff led the Pledge of Allegiance.
III Roll Call	Present: Alison Mastin, Emma Bates, Art Bobruff, Kyle Lombard, David Keith, Eric Gregoire, Kristen Schultz. Ben Cushing-Absent; Catharine Hyson (KREA Representative) Owen Blood, Adara Boucher (Student Reps)
PUBLIC HEARINGS	<p>Public Hearing – Appropriation for Unanticipated Funds</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As required per NH RSA 198:20-b, III, the Kearsarge Regional School Board will conduct a hearing to accept and expend unanticipated revenue funds awarded from Eversource Energy for \$21,800. <p>Dr. Bobruff made a motion to accept and expend unanticipated revenue funds from Eversource for \$21,800 from a rebate. Mr. Gregoire seconded. The Motion carried 6-0-1 (Ms. Mastin abstained).</p> <p>Public Hearing – As required per NH RSA 570-A:2, K s – Audio/Video Recording Devices on School Buses</p> <p>Assistant Supt. Bessette explained Policy EHB was revised for audio and video in 2011. However it predates the new bus contract.</p> <p>Mr. Lombard made a motion to recognize public notice was served regarding sound/audio in addition to video recording abilities on devices on school buses in the district. Ms. Schultz, seconded. The Motion carried 6-0-1 (Ms. Mastin abstained).</p>
IV Approval of Minutes	Ms. Schultz, made the motion to approve the minutes of February 1, 2024 (as written), Mr. Keith, seconded. The Motion carried 6-0-1 (Ms. Mastin abstained).
V Reports of Administration	<p>Chair Report – Ms. Mastin stated how impressed she was with the skills demonstrated when attending the Girls Basketball game this past week.</p> <p>Superintendent’s Report: Superintendent Feneberg and Assistant Supt. Bessette attended the National Superintendent’s Conference last week in San Diego. Over four thousand superintendents attended discussing trends and what’s in the future in education. AI was discussed a lot at the conference. Consensus is, it’s here to stay and taking over rapidly. There are positive opportunities for teachers and students. Teacher recruitment was also a massive theme – we are not alone.</p>

	<p>Portrait of a Student defining what kind of student and why we do things was also a topic. Supt. Feneberg thanked the Board for the opportunity to attend.</p> <p>Fresh Picks/Café Services notified the SAU that they were sold to another company. Administration was assured that students will not see any difference.</p> <p>Supt Feneberg was honored to be invited to read to first graders at KRES at Bradford this week.</p> <p>Superintendent Feneberg announced one retirement and two hires:</p> <p><i>Mr. Lombard made the Motion to approve the retirement, with regrets, of Ramon Leiva KRMS Spanish Teacher, effective June 30, 2024. Dr. Bobruff seconded. The Motion carried 6-0-1 (Ms. Mastin abstained).</i></p> <p><i>Ms. Schultz made the motion to approve the hiring of Lisa Burbach, Special Ed Teacher at KRHS for one year, Ms. Burbach started 2/12/24 and Steve Shepherd, KRMS Math, starting 7/1/2024 Mr. Keith, seconded. The Motion carried 6-0-1 (Ms. Mastin abstained).</i></p> <p><i>Assistant Superintendent's Report:</i> Mr. Bessette spoke about a typical Leadership Team meeting. AI was one of the subjects.</p> <p>Adara Boucher spoke to how she uses AI with her studies.</p>
	<p><i>KREA Representative Report: Catharine Hyson reporting</i> Laurie Prewandowski reports that the middle school all girls 8th grade Drone Competition Teams made it to the National Finals in Tennessee in May. They will soon begin some fundraising to send this team to the National Competition.</p> <p>Noah Clark is a STEM Champion in the National STEM Challenge. He won a trip to Washington D.C. in April to participate in the National STEM Festival.</p> <p>Also the high school FIRST Robotics Team, 1247 Blood, Sweat, and Gears, will be going down to Salem, NH at the end of break for their first regional competition of the year.</p> <p>Kearsarge Regional High School and The Kearsarge Actors Guild will be presenting their winter play "DRACULA" on Friday, March 8th and Saturday, March 9th. This is a Two-Act Drama with many special effects.</p> <p>The students who are involved with the Exhibition production, a 35-minute cut-version of DRACULA, will be presenting this rendition on Saturday, March 16th during the New Hampshire Educational Theatre Guild's Regional Festival hosted by Kearsarge Regional High School.</p>

Culinary is exploring Mid-Atlantic, Central Plains and New England cuisine this week. They are making various dishes indicative of each cuisine and learning about the history of each region and its significance on American Regional Cuisine. Last week they explored Cajun/Creole and had a crawfish boil. Baking students are finishing up Danishes and working on Croissants for the remainder of the week.

1st grade students at Sutton, Bradford, and New London participated in a dental health lesson from Senior Dental Hygienist students from NHTI through their health class. The hygienists came in their full uniform to help minimize fear and anxiety around dentist appointments. Each student was sent home with a toothbrush, toothpaste, and 2-minute timer.

In the month of March, New London Elementary School will hold their second annual One Book One School celebration. Everyone will read a book called *The Adventures of Otis Pendleton*, by Kearsarge's own Kerry Kellogg, with illustrations by Brian Kellogg. A group of fifth graders will walk to Woodcrest Village to read with residents there.

On Thurs., Feb. 15, students involved in the year-long Getting to Y Extended Learning Opportunity hosted a group of peers at the district Professional Development Center for an extended Data Retreat. Students reviewed 2021 data from the Youth Risk Behavior Survey, identifying strengths and challenges within our school community's results. Some of their work will be shared in a Community Dialogue, to take place Thurs., March 21, from 2:30-4:30 in the KRHS Resource Center. Please consider joining the group for the event. Email ELO co-coordinator Amanda Leslie (aleslie@kearsarge.org) with questions or to RSVP.

Sage Tokash, Education Director at the Barn Playhouse, recently engaged fifth-grade music classes across the district, imparting valuable vocal techniques and public speaking skills. Additionally, Sage enthusiastically introduced a groundbreaking initiative at the Barn - providing transportation to and from rehearsals. This initiative effectively dismantles barriers for many students within our rural community.

Business Administrator Report: Mr. LeBoeuf

Donation – Jack and Dorothy Byrne Foundation

Dr. Bobruff made the motion to approve accepting and expending the donation of \$10,000 from the Jack and Dorothy Byrne Foundation for the purpose of their high school trip to Universal Studios.

Mr. Keith, seconded. The Motion carried 6-0-1 (Ms. Mastin abstained).

Request for approval to create a student activity account for KRMS

	<p><i>Mr. Keith made the motion to approve KRMS to create a student activity account for Drone & Robotics Teams, Mr. Gregoire, seconded. The motion carried 6-0-1 (Ms. Mastin abstained).</i></p> <p>Mr. LeBoeuf reported that the current Fund Balance is 1.8 million.</p> <p><i>Student Representative Report: Adara Boucher</i> Indoor Track placed second in the State Championships Boys & Girls Basketball made it to the finals Shout out to Noah Dunlap featured on WMUR Math team meets are taking place, Wrestling and swim teams are competing in the state finals Girls Basketball continue to be in the finals and will be at Keene State this weekend. Adara participated in Getting to Y Retreat – she stated that it was super informative. The Valentine Carnation Song Fundraiser was a success Students left for the France/Italy trip this week for February break.</p>
VI Public Comment	<p><i>Ms. Mastin opened the meeting for public comment.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● No public comment. <p><i>Dr. Bobruff made a motion to close public comment. Mr. Keith seconded. The Motion carried 6-0-1 (Ms. Mastin abstained).</i></p>
VII New Business	<p>a) Playground Committee Presentation – Brett Pare Mr. Pare spoke about the plans for an improved playground for NLES. There are concerns with the timing of the district facility review that will take place over the next 18 months with a contracted firm. It was decided that it was in the best interest with the committee along with the firm, Lavalley-Brensinger, to assess space, drainage issues, etc. as well as the potential need for building changes before redesigning and constructing a new playground.</p> <p>b) Mini Grants – Getting to Youth Program</p> <p><i>Ms. Bates made a motion to approve the purchase recommendation to receive and expend monies up to \$2,500 for the high school and middle school. Funds to be provided for financial support for staff advisors, materials and supplies for Getting to Youth programs at both schools. Mr. Lombard, seconded. The Motion carried 6-0-1 (Ms. Mastin, abstained).</i></p> <p>c) Policy IGDA Organizations/Gambling Revision – Michael Bessette Mr. Bessette explained that the policy was created in the 1990’s and does not apply to the modern era. A revision was requested by building administrators. Mr. Bessette asked the Board to review the policy as the first reading. It will be at the next meeting for approval.</p> <p>d) Calendar Adjustment - Solar Eclipse – Supt. Feneberg</p>

	<p>Supt. Feneberg spoke to the solar eclipse occurring on April 8, 2024. The concern is that dismissal time will start during the most active time of the eclipse. Protecting eyes of all the students with the correct eye protection is a concern. Supt. Feneberg suggests an early release day, similar to the last day of school – 3 hours before usual dismissal.</p> <p><i>Mr. Lombard made a motion to approve the request of Supt. Feneberg for a 3 hours early release on April 8, 2024 for safety reasons due to the Eclipse.</i></p> <p><i>Ms. Bates seconded. The Motion carried 6-0-1 (Ms. Mastin abstained).</i></p>
<p>VIII Old Business</p>	<p>a) Potential Tuition Agreement with Goshen</p> <p>Supt Feneberg followed up with information that the Board requested. Goshen’s sending tuition for 2024-25 school year is \$16,000. Other local districts accept Goshen students at their sending tuition amount. Mr. Lombard asked for a comparison of cost verses revenue.</p> <p>The Board requested that the agreement includes a limit to how many are accepted and the option to not continue. This would not affect students already enrolled.</p> <p><i>Dr. Bobruff made a motion to approve the Superintendent to negotiate a contract with Goshen School District to tuition students from the Town of Goshen with their sending rate. Ms. Schultz seconded. The Motion carried 5-1-1 (Ms. Mastin abstained).</i></p>
<p>Committee Reports</p>	<p>Facilities Committee: Mr. Lombard reported KRHS will have a roof analysis with infrared scans I March New London sprinkler design is done and will be installed this summer March 14, 2024 engineers will meet with the committee David Keith asked about the NLES playground status - Supt. Feneberg stated there are deficiencies and they will be addressed to keep the playground safe.</p>
<p>IX Public Comment</p>	<p><i>Ms. Mastin opened the meeting for public comment.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No public comment. <p><i>Ms.Schultz made a motion to close public comment. Mr. Keith seconded. The Motion carried 60-1 (Ms. Mastin abstained).</i></p>
<p>X Non Public</p>	<p><i>No Non Public</i></p>
<p>Adjourn</p>	<p><i>Mr. Keith made the motion to adjourn the meeting, 7:35 pm, Mrs. Schultz, seconded. The motion carried 6-0-1 (Ms. Mastin abstained) Meeting adjourned</i></p>

Respectfully submitted,

Doreen Salera, District Clerk