

Approved as Written 4/7/22

**Keearsarge Regional School District  
School Board Meeting & Second Bond Hearing  
March 17, 2022  
Open to Public**

<b>I. Swearing in of Elected School Board Members</b>	The Clerk swore in Kyle Lombard, Alison Mastin, and Ben Cushing.
<b>II. Call to Order</b>	The Superintendent called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.
<b>III. Pledge of Allegiance</b>	Ms. Perkins led the Pledge of Allegiance.
<b>IV. Roll Call</b>	Present: Ken Bartholomew, Alison Mastin, Emma Bates, Art Bobruff, Bebe Hammond Casey, Ben Cushing, Eric Gregoire, Kyle Lombard, Kristen Schultz; Beth Perkins (KREA Representative); Maggie Ellison (Student Rep), Winfried Feneberg (Superintendent), Michael Bessette (Assistant Superintendent), Larry LeBoeuf (Business Administrator).
<b>Organizational Action</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Election of Chair - Supt. Feneberg asked for nominations of School Board Members to be Chair of the School Board. <i>Mr. Cushing nominated Mr. Bartholomew to be Chair of the School Board. Seconded by Ms. Casey. The Motion carried 8-0-1 (Mr. Bartholomew abstained).</i></li><li>• Mr. Bartholomew asked for nominations of School Board Members to be Vice-Chair of the School Board. <i>Ms. Casey nominated Ms. Mastin to be Vice-Chair of the School Board. Seconded by Mr. Cushing. The Motion carried 8-0-1 (Mr. Bartholomew abstained).</i></li><li>• The Board discussed the housekeeping matter of whether masks will continue to be a requirement at School Board meetings. The Board agreed that masks would be optional at School Board meetings going forward effective immediately.</li><li>• The Chair asked for nominations for the position of School District Clerk <i>Ms. Mastin nominated Doreen Salera to be School District Clerk. Ms. Schultz seconded. The Motion carried 8-0-1 (Mr. Bartholomew abstained).</i></li><li>• The Chair asked for a motion to retain Legal Counsel to the School Board. <i>Mr. Cushing made a motion to retain Soule, Leslie, Kidder &amp; Loughman, PLLC as legal counsel to the School Board. Seconded by Ms. Casey. The Motion carried 8-0-1 (Mr. Bartholomew abstained).</i></li></ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The chair asked for a motion to retain Roberge &amp; Company, PC as auditor.</li> </ul> <p><i>Mr. Cushing made a motion to retain Roberge &amp; Company, PC as auditor. Dr. Bobruff seconded. The Motion carried 8-0-1 (Mr. Bartholomew abstained).</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Chair asked for a motion to approve Nancy Barthol as Treasurer.</li> </ul> <p><i>Ms. Casey made a motion to approve Nancy Barthol as Treasurer. Ms. Schultz seconded. The Motion carried 8-0-1 (Mr. Bartholomew abstained).</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Chair asked for a motion to approve Doreen Salera as Deputy Treasurer.</li> </ul> <p><i>Ms. Mastin made a motion to approve Doreen Salera as Deputy Treasurer. Mr. Gregoire seconded. The Motion carried 8-0-1 (Mr. Bartholomew abstained).</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Chair asked for a motion to approve Bar Harbor Bank and Trust and New Hampshire Public Deposit Investment Pool as the Banks of the District.</li> </ul> <p><i>Ms. Casey Made a motion to approve Bar Harbor Bank and Trust and New Hampshire Public Deposit Investment Pool as the Banks of the District. Seconded by Mr. Cushing. The Motion carried 8-0-1 (Mr. Bartholomew abstained).</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Chair noted that subcommittee selections will be made at the next meeting.</li> </ul>
<p><b>V. Approval of the Minutes</b></p>	<p><i>Mr. Cushing made a motion to approve the minutes from the February 17, 2022 meeting as written. seconded by Ms. Mastin. The Motion carried 7-0-2 (Mr. Bartholomew and Ms. Schultz abstained).</i></p>
<p><b>VI. New Business</b></p>	<p><b>CoCurricular Tentative Agreement - Ms. Schultz</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ms. Schultz presented to the Board with a tentative agreement between the Administration and the Union regarding extracurricular activities.</li> </ul> <p><i>Mr. Cushing made a motion to approve the agreement. Dr. Bobruff seconded. The Motion carried 8-0-1 (Mr. Bartholomew abstained).</i></p>
<p><b>VII. Reports of Administration</b></p>	<p><b>Chair Report - Mr. Bartholomew</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mr. Bartholomew noted that there is a lot of legislation in the State House affecting schools right now. He noted that a Bill has passed the House that would outlaw mandatory masking requirements established by a School Board. He noted that the Bill discussed at the previous meeting regarding cooperative school districts was voted down. There was only one positive vote.</li> </ul>

- Dr. Bobruff made mention of a Bill before the Legislature that would require the removal of a School Board member for missing more than one meeting per year.

***Superintendent Report - Supt. Feneberg***

- Supt. Feneberg welcomed all new and returning School Board members as the new season of meetings begins. He congratulated and welcomed Mr. Lombard and thanked Mr. Cancio-Bello for his 22 years of distinguished service as a Board member.
- He thanked the voters of the District for their strong support of the school district budget and the teacher's contract. He also stated that though the STEAM wing renovation and construction bond did not receive the 60% plus 1 vote that was needed he thanked the voters for their very serious consideration of this project. The Superintendent also noted that discussions are taking place regarding the next steps at the High School.
- The Superintendent congratulated Mr. LeBoeuf, the 2022 New Hampshire Business Administrator of the Year. Mr. Chuck Bates, Executive Director of the New Hampshire Association of School Business Officials was present to recognize Mr. LeBoeuf. Mr. Bates read a proclamation and thanked Mr. LeBoeuf for his work.
- The Superintendent apprised the Board that he has nominated them to be considered for the Edies award of 2022 School Board of the Year. He thanked the Board for all of their work.
- The Superintendent had the opportunity to read to Mr. Webber's 5th-grade classroom as a part of Read Across America. He thanked Laura Monroe for organizing the annual event and inviting him.
- The hiring process is in full swing. The District has recruited successfully for a few of the positions that have become open due to retirements and early resignations. The HR Committee will review the status at next week's meeting.
- The Superintendent will meet with three other past and present Superintendents of the Year along with Governor Sununu next Tuesday. At the meeting, they intend to explore ways to improve communication between the Department of Education, the Governor's Office, and school leaders.
- The Superintendent brought before the Board the resignation of Kelsey Heath of Bradford Elementary. He requested that the Board approve her resignation with regret.

***Mr. Gregoire made a motion to accept the resignation of Kelsey Heath with regret. Ms. Schultz seconded. The Motion carried 8-0-1 (Mr. Bartholomew abstained).***

- The Superintendent brought before the Board the retirement of Karen Howell for approval.

***Mr. Cushing made a motion to accept the retirement of Karen Roberts-Howell with regret. Ms. Casey seconded. The motion carried 8-0-1 (Mr. Bartholomew***

Commented [1]: Confirm Name

*abstained).*

- The Superintendent brought before the Board the approval of four new hires: Abby Cross (Elementary Teacher), Christina Carrier (Guidance Counselor), Sarah Beauchemin (Nurse), and Couper Gunn (Social Studies).

*Ms. Schultz made a motion to approve the hiring of Abby Cross, Christina Carrier, Sarah Beauchemin, and Couper Gunn. Mr. Cushing seconded. The Motion carried 8-0-1 (Mr. Bartholomew abstained).*

***Student Transportation of America Report*** - Mr. Gregg Stinson, Mr. Brian Hemingway

- Mr. Stinson discussed the recent explosion and fire at the bus facility off of New Hampshire Route 114 in Bradford. Two technicians were in the facility at the time of the explosion. He stated that after two weeks, the two men who were injured have made some progress and stated that they are committed to ensuring the men get the best care available. 4 vehicles were destroyed and 8 vehicles sustained damage. Mr. Stinson thanked the neighboring communities for their outpouring of support. The cause of the explosion remains under investigation. Student Transportation of America is working with various agencies from the state and federal levels.
- Mr. Hemingway stated that they continue to ensure that the bus routes are being conducted on a daily basis. The maintenance of the buses has been transferred to other facilities in the area. An office trailer is being brought in to allow for dispatch of the buses to continue. Power is being connected to the office trailer on Wednesday. Mr. Hemingway acknowledged that it is not everyday people have to consider whether or not to run into a burning building; however, many citizens did just that.
- Mr. Bartholomew stated that the Board is sending their best wishes to the injured technicians and thanked all the folks who have helped out.

*Ms. Schultz left the meeting at 7:19 p.m.*

***Assistant Superintendent Report*** - Mr. Bessette

- Mr. Bessette noted that House Bill 1671 did not pass. He stated that this bill would have removed wellness, health, music, arts, etc, from the core curriculum. He noted that amendments to the Bill were added to require personal finance as a subject for all students.
- Mr. Bessette thanked the Facilities Department for their hard work over the winter months. He thanked Scott, Leann, and Chip. He noted that many of them have worked overtime on the weekends doing snow removal with smiles on their faces.
- With the likely passing of the Bill currently before the House that would remove the Districts ability to implement a masking mandate, the CDU will have to come up with a plan B. He noted that they are seeking to see

if certain RSAs will give the District some options.

- Mr. Bartholomew noted that the District has worked hard to keep the schools open during the pandemic. He noted that the District didn't have a choice in April of 2020 as the Governor ordered the schools be closed. He stated that he felt that the District opened the schools back up in a safe manner and was able to do so because of the guidance from the different public health agencies. He stated that the Bill Mr. Bessette was discussing is taking away tools from the District's tool belt. He stated that they talk about local control; however, they don't offer any support. Mr. Bessette thanked Mr. Bartholomew for his comments.
- Mr. Bartholomew asked where the hiring for the position of Facilities Director stood. The Superintendent noted that they received 12 applications and the first round of interviews is to begin next week.

***Business Administrator Report - Mr. LeBoeuf***

- Mr. LeBoeuf thanked the Superintendent for the nomination of Business Administrator of the Year and thanked his staff for all of their hard work.
- Mr. LeBoeuf apprised the board of a recent cyberattack that took place at Hood. He noted that as a result, the District has been unable to get milk; however, they are supplementing with juice and water. Ms. Perkins asked if there was any alternative to the plastic bottles that the water and juice came in, noting how much waste that would produce. Supt. Feneberg noted that food services have their requirements and view this as an acceptable substitute.
- Mr. LeBoeuf presented to the Board a sole source purchase recommendation for graduation contracted services for the High School in the amount of \$43,155.00 from *Consider It Done*.

***Ms. Casey made a motion to approve the purchase recommendation for graduation contracted services for the High School in the amount of \$43,155.00 from Consider It Done. Mr. Cursing seconded. The Motion carried 7-0-1 (Mr. Bartholomew abstained).***

- Mr. LeBoeuf requested the Board's approval of a budget transfer of \$23,000.00 from the Instruction HS line to the HS Graduation line.

***Ms. Casey made a motion to approve the budget transfer of \$23,000.00 from the Instruction HS line to the HS Graduation line. Mr. Cushing seconded. The Motion carried 7-0-1 (Mr. Bartholomew abstained).***

- Mr. LeBoeuf requested the Board's approval of a budget transfer of \$9,596.45 from the Maintenance Property Insurance line to the Bradford Maintenance Plumbing line.

***Mr. Cushing made a motion to approve the budget transfer of \$9,596.45 from the Maintenance Property Insurance line to the Bradford Maintenance Plumbing line. Ms. Mastin seconded. The Motion carried 7-0-1 (Mr. Bartholomew abstained).***

- Mr. LeBoeuf apprised the Board that as of now there is an estimated savings of approximately \$1.7 million in the general fund.

***KREA Representative Report - Ms. Beth Perkins***

- The fifth grade at Simonds is working with a New Hampshire artist on a mural for their building. This artist was selected to do a mural for the town last year. The mural for the building represents the fifth graders' favorite things about Simonds and will hang in the fifth-grade hallway. Here is an article on the mural for the town:  
<https://www.concordmonitor.com/warner-mural-unveiled-42969555>
- Sutton Central started One School One Book last week. The whole school is reading Adventures of a South Pole Pig by Chris Kurtz for the month of March. The main character, Flora, is a pig with dreams of pulling a sled with the sled dogs! With hard work, determination, a positive mindset, and teamwork, Flora achieves her dream. Students have made pig crafts that are all over the school, participated in trivia questions, and are doing a STEM sled challenge.
- In Bradford, they just finished up the Jump Rope for Heart program. The students worked very hard and raised over \$6,300 to the American Heart Association!! The money raised goes towards health and professional education, training, and research to try to eliminate and combat heart disease, which affects so many individuals and loved ones. Students took great pride in participating in something bigger than themselves.
- KRMS and KRHS Chorus students performed an in-person concert for students at The Middle School on Thursday, March 10th. It was great to hear live music again!
- In 8th grade Language Arts, students have started the Flowers for Algernon Unit. They will be taking notes on any observations they make on the character, Charlie Gordon's, progress before and after his surgery. This information will be used to help determine whether they thought Charlie's surgery was worth it or not. They will take this evidence and defend their claims in an argumentative essay.
- Earlier this year, members of the KRHS Sustainability Club approached Ms. Hill for help writing a warrant article to ban single-use plastic bags in the district. That was their first lesson-seven separate entities would need seven separate warrant articles.
- Fast forward to March. These students wrote a warrant article for the Town of New London, got the required 25 registered voter signatures, and found someone who would speak for them at the town meeting (since they're all under age and not all from New London.) At the last minute, their speaker lost her voice, and Mr. Roddy stepped in to represent them. The club was shocked when other members of the public

	<p>stood to speak for them-one woman came because she heard their volunteer speaker couldn't make it and wanted to be sure they had someone there for them! The warrant article passed unanimously. Congratulations go to Madelin Prak, Amber Houle, Meghan Blood, and Jane Anderson.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The High School Math Team just completed their season in the Lakes Region Math League. After 5 meets, of which they won 4, the team ended the year in first place by a margin of 57 points! Last year was Kearsarge's first year in the league and they came in 2nd for the year, winning only the last meet. This year the team had 21 students participating in at least one meet. Seven participated in all 5 meets. 12 were seniors, so next year will be a building year, but they are up to the task. Devin Phyllides (gr 12) was the overall individual high scorer in the league (in the large school division). Evan Menard (gr 12) was right behind her in 2nd place. Amber Houle (gr 11) was in 4th place. Ty Bears and Roxanne Chambers (both gr 12) were tied for 5th place. Maggie Ellison (11th gr) and Thomas Shepherd (10th gr) were tied for 7th place (because of the tie for 5th). So we accounted for 7 of the top 10 overall placings. Thomas was also the highest-scoring sophomore (last year was the highest-scoring freshman). Many thanks to my co-coach Olivia Kotusky for a great year!</li> <li>• Culinary classes are working their way through American regional cuisine - they just finished "FLorribean" cuisine and this week they are doing Cajon Creole - having a crawfish boil! All classes helped create cookies for the theater production of Your a Good Man Charlie Brown, which runs this week - students made cookies to look like the characters' shirts. Last week, culinary classes had a demonstrator in from Lakes Region Community College to talk about Project Running Start and do culinary Arts demonstrations for the students.</li> </ul> <p><b><i>Student Representative Report: Ms. Maggie Ellison</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Charlie Brown opens tonight at 7:00 p.m.</li> <li>• Spring sports begin next week.</li> <li>• Last week, the Juniors took the SATs.</li> <li>• The Math Team finished their season at home.</li> <li>• MOCs are on Tuesday for Nordic Skiing.</li> </ul>
<p><b>VIII. Public Comment</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ms. Casey encouraged others to take part in The Family Partnership Wednesday, March 23rd at 12:00 p.m. The Family Partnership is a group of Special Ed teachers and parents. It allows for connections and relationships to be built between the Special Ed staff and families.</li> <li>• Ms. Casey also gave a shout-out to the three Kearsarge students who appeared at the New London Town Meeting last week. These students</li> </ul>

	<p>filed the paperwork to get a warrant article on the ballot.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mr. Bartholomew discussed the recent Town Meeting in the Town of Croydon, New Hampshire. At the meeting, less than 50 residents showed up. 20 residents voted in favor of an amendment that reduced the school budget from \$1.7 million to \$800,000. The \$800,000 is not enough money to cover tuition. He stated that this is a good example of why citizens need to be involved in their communities.</li> <li>Supt. Feneberg congratulated Mr. Lombard's son for his recent award won in wrestling.</li> </ul>
<p><b>IX. Further New Business</b></p>	<p><b>Approval of School Board Calendar</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mr. Bartholomew introduced the School Board Calendar for the upcoming year. He noted that June 11th is the Board retreat.</li> </ul> <p><i>Ms. Casey made a motion to approve the School Board Calendar. Dr. Bobruff seconded. The Motion carried 7-0-1 (Mr. Bartholomew abstained).</i></p> <p><b>KRMS Water Filtration System - Mr. Scott Lanier</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mr. Lanier presented to the Board a sole source purchase recommendation in the amount of \$17,004.00 to add to the Middle School's water filtration. He also presented a sole source purchase recommendation in the amount of \$96,500.00 to complete water testing for PFAS at the Middle School. He noted that the \$96,500.00 is not currently budgeted. Mr. LeBoeuf stated that the \$17,004.00 is in the budget; however, he has a budget transfer request for the \$96,500.00. Mr. Lanier stated that these are sole source requests as the vendor, GZA Environmental has already been conducting the ongoing testing.</li> </ul> <p><i>Dr. Bobruff made a motion to approve the purchase recommendation of \$17,004.00 for a Rebed PFAS Adsorber from Secondwind Water Systtems, Inc. Ms. Casey seconded. The Motion carried 7-0-1 (Mr. Bartholomew abstained).</i></p> <p><i>Mr. Cushing made a motion to approve the purchase recommendation of \$96,500.00 for ongoing water supply testing for PFAS at KRMS from GZA Environmental. Dr. Bobruff seconded. The Motion carried 7-0-1 (Mr. Bartholomew abstained).</i></p> <p><i>Mr. Gregoire made a motion to approve the budget transfer of \$96,500.00 from the Out of District - Transport line to the Maintenance-Capital MS line. Ms. Mastin seconded. The Motion carried 7-0-1 (Mr. Bartholomew abstained).</i></p> <p><b>Simonds Window RFP - Mr. Scott Lanier</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mr. Lanier stated there is one bidder for the Fire Egress windows for Simonds school in the amount of \$84,500.00. He stated that this is one continuous bank of 26 windows.</li> </ul> <p><i>Mr. Cushing made a motion to approve the purchase recommendation of \$84,900.00 for window replacement at Simonds Elementary from Granite State Glass. Dr. Bobruff seconded. The Motion carried 7-0-1 (Mr. Bartholomew</i></p>



	<p><i>abstained).</i></p> <p><b>Signing of MS-22 - Mr. LeBoeuf</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• M-22 was signed. Mr. LeBoeuf thank the Board.</li> </ul> <p><b>Purchase Recommendation NH Fire &amp; Security Systems, KRMS - Mr. LeBoeuf</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. Lanier stated that it would be \$22,400.00 to replace some major components of the fire alarm panel. The Finance and Audit Committee has reviewed and approved that; however, Board approval is needed.</li> </ul> <p><i>Mr. Cushing made a motion to approve the purchase recommendation of \$22,400.00 for KRMS Upgrades to FACP from NH Fire &amp; Security Systems. Ms. Casey seconded. The Motion carried 7-0-1 (Mr. Bartholomew abstained).</i></p>
<p><b>X. Old Business</b></p>	<p><b>Policy IJL - Library and Instructional Materials and Reconsideration 2nd Reading - IJL-R Procedure</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. Bessette explained that this is a policy for parents in the community who want to challenge instructional materials being used in classrooms and in the libraries.</li> <li>• Dr. Bobruff asked if residents of the community are eligible to file a complaint. He noted that if taxpayer funds are being used to purchase the materials, the community should have a say. Mr. Bartholomew agreed with Dr. Bobruff and stated that he believed line 39 should include “or district resident.” Mr. Lombard asked if after a complaint is filed, is the point to have the material removed from our libraries and classrooms. Mr. Bessette stated that the District would have to defend the content that is in that particular program. Mr. Gregoire clarified that people who are not District residents would not have the ability to file a complaint under this policy.</li> </ul> <p><i>Ms. Casey made a motion to approve Policy IJL as amended. Mr. Cushing seconded. The Motion carried 7-0-1 (Mr. Bartholomew abstained).</i></p>
<p><b>XI. School Board Sub Committees</b></p>	<p><b>Facilities Committee 3/10</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Facilities Committee discussed the STEAM Wing and how to go forward. Those present suggested proceeding with the project; however, taking a look at how to present the project going forward.</li> <li>• The Committee discussed lighting at the Middle School. Mr. Lanier noted that Eversource has decreased its rebate program down to \$.18 per kilowatt-hour. This is significantly less than previous rates. The Committee discussed postponing the lighting project.</li> <li>• The Committee discussed the fire escape replacement at Simonds Elementary. A quote has been received for \$300,000.00 for the two fire escapes. Mr. Lanier stated that the plan is to have the fire escapes completed by August. Dr. Bobruff asked why this would be so expensive. Mr. Lanier stated that this is a fairly common rate. Mr. Bartholomew asked where the funds are coming from. Mr. LeBoeuf stated there is currently \$125,000.00 set aside for the fire escape;</li> </ul>

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	<p>however, since the Middle School lighting project is not being completed right now, funds can be transferred from that line.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Mr. Cushing asked about the windows at Sutton Elementary and if there were currently any bids for their replacement. Mr. Lanier stated that no bids have yet been received.</li></ul> <p><b>Communications Committee - 2/23</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Ms. Mastin recognized Abby Peel for her work on the STEAM Wing.</li><li>● The Committee discussed Freedom of Information Act requests and noted that some generic requests have been made to the District in an attempt to give the District extra work. Mr. Bessette noted that a number of these requests were in the form of an online template.</li><li>● Ms. Mastin noted that the Committee also discussed asking the Athletic department to put together an athletic communications plan. Mr. Bessette noted the great work that Mr. Fitzgerald does as the Director of the Athletic Department.</li></ul>
<b>XII. Non-Public</b>	<p><i>Ms. Cushing made a motion for the Board to go into Non-Public Session. Seconded by Ms. Mastin. The Motion carried 8-0-0.</i></p> <p><i>The Board returned to Public Session.</i></p> <p><i>Mr. Cushing made a motion to approve the special education expenditure as explained in Non-Public in the amount of \$50,000.00 for unanticipated out-of-district expenses. Mr. Gregoire seconded. The Motion carried 7-0-1 (Mr. Bartholomew abstained).</i></p>
<b>XII. Adjourn</b>	<p><i>Mr. Cushing made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Mastin seconded. The Motion carried 7-0-1 (Mr. Bartholomew abstained). The meeting was adjourned at 8:27 p.m.</i></p>

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Hilton  
School Board Note Taker