

Kearsarge Regional School Board
Minutes of the Public Meeting
Kearsarge Regional School District
April 16, 2020

NOTICE: Some Board members may be attending remotely to establish a quorum, per Governor Sununu Emergency Order 12: Temporary modification of public access to meetings under RSA-91A.

I. Call to Order	The Superintendent called the meeting to order at 6:31pm.
II. Pledge of Allegiance	The Superintendent led the Pledge of Allegiance.
III. Roll Call	Present: Ken Bartholomew, Emma Bates, Art Bobruff, Emilio Cancio-Bello, Bebe Casey, Ben Cushing, Eric Gregoire, Alison Mastin; Beth Perkins (KREA Representative); Katherine Kelly, Nina Spinney (Student Representatives) Absent: Dick Wright
IV. Approval of Minutes	<i>Mr. Cancio-Bello made the motion to approve the Minutes of April 2, 2020 as corrected. Dr. Bobruff seconded. The motion carried 7-0-0.</i>
V. Reports of Administration	<p><i>Chair:</i> No report.</p> <p><i>Superintendent:</i> Mr. Feneberg has been working with the DOE to keep track of recent developments regarding school closure and instruction. Remote learning has been extended to the end of the school year and most likely into the summer programs. Mr. Elliott, Director of Student Support Services, is working very hard with the DOE, the Commissioner, and other districts to seek solutions as a whole state. The Adult Ed program will enter its third session next week. The second session adapted well to remote learning. Parent notification will be sent tomorrow regarding extended remote learning.</p> <p>In response to a question by Mr. Cancio-Bello, Mr. Feneberg stated a decision has not been made about graduation. A variety of ideas are being considered. Mr. Feneberg reported a meeting took place last week with students, administration and parents to start a dialogue. That meeting is only one of many discussions.</p> <p>Administration has been busily interviewing and a nomination will be brought forward for the library media specialist at Sutton. All interviews are taking place with Zoom. A high school finalist has also been identified. An interview for the drama position is scheduled for Monday.</p> <p>Negotiations with Masons for the Lodge in Warner are also taking place.</p> <p>Discussions have continued in leadership about how to push forward with competency education. The district had been ready for a roll out in March, but now this has to be reconfigured and re-planned. This will entail quite a bit of work.</p> <p>Twenty-five hot spots have been obtained to loan out to families for technology access who cannot be serviced by Comcast or TDS.</p>

Food service to families has been expanded. It is now available to bring food to every student. Currently we deliver about 400 meals on average. Weekend delivery is also being planned. The Superintendent stated the bus company and Café Services have been more than accommodating. They are eager to serve our students and we thank them for it.

Nominations and Resignations:

Mr. Cushing made the motion to approve the nomination of Bridget McNemy, for a .4 position (two-day assignment) at Sutton Central. Dr. Bobruff seconded. The motion carried 7-0-0.

Mr. Cancio-Bello made the motion to approve the resignation of Anne Ouerwerk, preschool teacher. Mr. Cushing seconded. The motion carried 7-0-0.

Assistant Superintendent: Mr. Bessette reported the district is amidst the re-certification process with teachers. Most teacher evaluations have already been completed. More time may be needed for Domain IV. The extension will require discussion with the union.

Positive feedback has been received from the community about efforts of the district during the COVID-19 crisis. In particular, the food service component has been resonating with the community.

Mr. Bessette addressed student attendance. The middle school has a precise picture between 90-95% engaged daily. The elementary schools don't take attendance, but track who they have been in touch with on a daily basis and Ms. Collins reports for New London Elementary it's in the middle to high 90%. The high school has an extensive Excel spreadsheet data tracking every student regarding work completion. Teachers, guidance counselors or the school psychologist communicate with students on a daily basis. Those that struggle in school are also the ones who struggle at home.

In response to questions from Mr. Schaumberg, the Superintendent explained how staff, including paraprofessionals, are recording hours. Facilities are still up and running and working on extra projects. They have also sanitized every room. Site managers are accommodating staff admittance who might need materials. The budget is also on pace to meeting its obligations.

Business Administrator [Budget Transfers]: Mr. LeBoeuf introduced a budget transfer for the high-speed hot spots. ***Mr. Cancio-Bello made the motion to approve the transfer of \$9,000 as presented. Mr. Cushing seconded. The motion carried 7-0-0.*** It was noted this expense may be returned through stimulus funds. There is a year-end savings so far of about \$900,000. Food Service has not yet been determined.

Mr. Bartholomew noted that as we rely more heavily on technology, it can exacerbate inequities for students. It is important to keep an eye on the families that have limited or no technology available to them. Some things they may just be unable to do. It is important to be very flexible. As an example, Mr. Bartholomew reported the middle school issued progress reports rather than a

	<p>third quarter report card. As remote learning continues, difficulties will become greater.</p> <p>Mr. Feneberg mentioned that the 4:1 model with a more relaxed day on Wednesdays has been very positive and is an effective tool.</p> <p>There is a video on Facebook about remote learning and it shows how the district has responded to it. Mr. Bessette shared it is under Press Releases and link is at the bottom of actual press release.</p> <p><i>Staff Representative:</i> Ms. Perkins reported. She stated Wednesdays have been a big help for teachers. She also reported the police department has created videos for students to teach DARE. It takes place every Friday and students receive booklets and are able to email the police department. This week they will learn how canines work with police. She felt this is a great example of community assistance.</p> <p><i>Student Representative:</i> Ms. Spinney reported many clubs continue to meet remotely, particularly Student Council and the Culture and Climate Committee. Ms. Kelly reported SWOCO hosted a remote talent show and had eighty submissions. Online tutoring is taking place for math students through NEC.</p> <p>Mr. Bartholomew inquired about Step-up Day and the Superintendent felt it would be a virtual step-up. Fortunately, the middle school has already had two touch points and the third in June is less significant. The elementary to middle school Step-up will be discussed at leadership within the next few weeks.</p>
<p>VI. Public Comment</p>	<p>Mr. Cancio-Bello spoke a letter he wrote to Sutton Selectman. He asked that whenever they have an issue, to please try to communicate more with him or Superintendent. They do understand we are here to listen.</p> <p>Mr. Fleury wanted to recognize Colby Sawyer College Campus Security and Parkhurst Food Service. They offered supplies of cases of service gloves and aprons. He stated it was a generous donation and is much appreciated from both the district and Café Services.</p>
<p>VII. Presentations</p>	<p><u><i>KRHS Diploma for Students with Developmental Disabilities:</i></u> Mr. Jerald Fine, Associate Director of Student Support Services presented a slide show. He reported on KRHS current practice. Best Practice now indicates 70% of districts in the U.S. award high school diplomas to all students, regardless of disability, who earn credit for graduation. He stated the IEP is designed to provide modified instruction to the student's ability and needs, and New Hampshire is behind the curve. A change will take place in the 2020-2021 school for KRHS; all students will be on a diploma track. The high school will design credit-bearing courses to fulfill the graduation requirements defined by the state and modified by the IEP. There was Board discussion and all agreed by consensus this was a positive proposal. Some minor amendments will need to be made to policies.</p> <p>Ms. Jen Pike addressed the Board. She stated she has had this discussion already and would love for her child to have a diploma, however, she wants him to earn it. She felt the programs designed are given for lower functioning students and higher functioning kids lose individualized programs. A lengthy discussion took</p>

	<p>place with an agreement to meet Ms. Pike at another time to discuss her concerns with the appropriate personnel.</p> <p><i>[Mr. Cushing left the meeting at 7:58pm.]</i></p>
<p>VII. New Business</p>	<p>A. <u>Transportation Contract [Short-term agreement and modification in response to the Governor’s School Closure Order of March 13,2020]</u>: Mr. LeBoeuf presented. There was agreement between the district and the bus company to continue with the contract. The daily rate was discussed. Mr. Cancio-Bello added that STA wants to work closely with us and not to hesitate to call with any questions. They are eager to keep the system going. STA will seek government assistance and credit the district back if there is such funding. Mr. Cancio-Bello made the motion to approve and support the modified contract as presented. Dr. Bobruff seconded. The motion carried 6-0-0.</p>
<p>VIII. Old Business</p>	<p>A. <u>Remote Learning Update:</u> <i>[Heard under Superintendent Report.]</i></p> <p><u>Discussion Out of Order:</u> The Superintendent reported the NHIAA cancelled the spring sports season. Without sports, there will be no coaching stipends; however, some activities are being continued and stipends will be given to those club advisors who continue activities remotely with students.</p> <p>All fields at all schools are closed including playgrounds.</p> <p>Ms. Casey asked about the last day of school date and wondered if it is being discussed as many districts are using hours rather than days. Mr. Feneberg stated there are ongoing discussions but nothing has been decided.</p> <p>B. <u>KRHS Principal Search Update:</u> Mr. Feneberg reported. There were thirteen candidates, seven interviews and three finalists. Details about the finalist can be shared in Non-Public if necessary. There may be an extra Board meeting to approve the candidate. Ms. Mastin commented that interviews are very difficult over Zoom. It certainly adds stress and on some level gives a purer picture.</p>
<p>X. Board Committee Reports</p>	<p><u>Facilities (4/9):</u> Mr. Cancio-Bello stated there has been a lot of progress on the Harris Lodge in Warner. A possible source of contamination at the middle school has been discovered. This is very preliminary and the water will continue to be filtered.</p> <p>Mr. Fleury also reported that conversations continued regarding Harris Lodge. The Facilities Committee came up with some wants. A Zoom meeting took place and they agreed to a price reduction, twenty-one days for lead testing, \$1,250 monthly rent, with \$350 monthly going toward the purchase. The district would like to rent from July 1 through the next Deliberative Session. If voters pass the purchase, the district would move to final stages in July of 2021. Mr. Fleury asked for Board approval to proceed with the next steps. Mr. Cancio-Bello made the motion to go forward with a contract as presented. Ms. Bates seconded. The motion carried 7-0-0 [Chair voted].</p> <p>Mr. Feneberg reported that he spoke with the MBC Chair and would like to gain their support for expansion with a southern preschool as well as the purchase.</p> <p><i>[Mr. Cushing returned at approximately 8:23pm.]</i></p>

XI. Non-Public Session	<i>Dr. Bobruff made the motion to enter Non-Public under RSA 91-A: 3II (c) at 8:26 pm. Mr. Cancio Bello seconded. The motion carried by roll call vote.</i>
XII. Return to Public Session	<i>Dr. Bobruff made the motion to return to Public Session at 8:42. Mr. Cancio-Bello seconded. The motion carried 7-0-0,</i>
XIII. Adjourn	<i>Mr. Cancio-Bello made the motion to adjourn at 8:44pm. Dr. Bobruff seconded. The motion carried 7-0-0.</i>

Respectfully submitted,

Leigh Ann Stone
Clerk, KRSD School Board