

Kearsarge Regional School District
School Board Meeting
 April 6, 2023 - 6:30 pm
 Kearsarge Professional Development Center
 165 Main Street, New London
Open to Public

<p>I. Swearing in of Elected School Board Members</p>	<p>The Clerk swore in the elected School Board members prior to the commencement of the meeting.</p>
<p>II. Call to Order</p>	<p>The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m.</p>
<p>III. Pledge of Allegiance</p>	<p>Elementary students in attendance led the Pledge of Allegiance.</p>
<p>IV. Roll Call</p>	<p>Present: Ken Bartholomew, Ben Cushing, Eric Gregoire, David Keith, Kyle Lombard, Alison Mastin.</p> <p>Winfried Feneberg, Superintendent; Michael Bessette, Assistant Superintendent (via Zoom); Larry LeBoeuf, Business Administrator; Beth Perkins, KREA Representative; Adara Boucher, Student Representative.</p> <p>Absent: Emma Bates, Arthur Bobruff, Kristen Schultz; Maggie Ellison, Student Representative.</p>
<p>V. Presentation</p>	<p><i>Elementary Enrichment – Heidi Virta, Enrichment Coordinator</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Virta introduced elementary students Gavin, Skylar, Maky, Brynn, Laura, Parker, Rachel, and Lexi who helped her present. • Ms. Virta discussed the District’s three tier approach to student enrichment: Tier 1 being a whole school approach, Tier 2 enrichment for high achieving students, and Tier 3 servicing gifted & talented students via individualized action plans. • The students presented different enrichment programs they had the opportunity to participate in. • Gavin discussed the Dash program that teaches 4th and 5th grade students how to code. Through this program, students learned how to program robots to gather the most acorns. • Skylar discussed the District wide pen pals program. • Maky discussed the transition from the elementary schools to the Middle School. • Brynn and Laura discussed the Kearsarge Math League. • Parker discussed the Crazy8s Math Club in which students learn math skills through playing games and learning as a team. • Rachel and Lexi discussed how elementary students have had the opportunity to visit the residents at the Woodcrest Village Home where they had a chance to read with residents and make a connection with them. • Mr. Lombard asked where the students fit these activities into their days. Ms. Virta explained that these programs are a part of the school day with

	<p>the exception of the Crazy8s Math Club.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. Bartholomew expressed that he appreciated the explanation of the three-tiered approach. He noted that the approach provides enrichment to students who need it and for all students to go beyond the regular curriculum. He thanked the group for their presentation.
<p>VI. Approval of Minutes</p>	<p><i>Mr. Cushing made a Motion to approve the minutes from the March 16, 2023 School Board Meeting as written. Mr. Lombard seconded. The Motion carried 4-0-2 (Mr. Bartholomew and Mr. Keith abstained).</i></p>
<p>VII. Reports of Administration</p>	<p><i>Superintendent’s Report - Winfried Feneberg, Superintendent</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Superintendent congratulated and welcomed David Keith, the newly elected School Board Member from New London. He thanked Mr. Keith for taking the time to discuss with him the role of a Superintendent within a School District as well as what it means to be a School Board member. Supt. Feneberg also congratulated Ms. Bates and Mr. Gregoire on their reelection to the Board. Supt. Feneberg congratulated Tara Evans, 7th Grade Science Teacher at the Middle School for being recognized by the New England League of Middle Schools for excellence in education. He also recognized Chris Spooner and the Kearsarge Robotics Team who qualified in two district competitions. The Team was invited to participate in the New England District Championships in West Springfield, MA. The Superintendent congratulated Lila Bartholomew who placed second in the New Hampshire Poetry Out Loud State Championship. On March 30th, the Superintendent testified before the House Education Committee regarding Senate Bill 155. The bill would require Districts to develop a separate budget specifically for the SAU. He expressed that the District feels that this would be additional work that is unnecessary. Mr. Bartholomew also provided written testimony against the bill. The Superintendent presented the Board with the resignation of Lindsay Herlihy, Science Teacher at the High School. He requested the Board approve her resignation with regret. <p><i>Mr. Cushing made a motion to accept the resignation of Lindsay Herlihy with regret. Mr. Gregoire seconded. The Motion carried 5-0-1 (Mr. Bartholomew abstained).</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Superintendent presented the Board with the retirement of Kathryn Dwyer, Spanish Teacher at the High School. He requested the Board approve her resignation with regret. <p><i>Mr. Cushing made a motion to accept the retirement of Kathryn Dwyer with regret. Ms. Mastin seconded. The Motion carried 5-0-1 (Mr. Bartholomew abstained).</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Superintendent presented the Board with the retirement of Patricia Bechok, Special Education teacher at the Middle School. He requested

the Board approve her resignation with regret.

Mr. Cushing made a motion to accept the retirement of Patricia Bechok with regret. Ms. Mastin seconded. The Motion carried 5-0-1 (Mr. Bartholomew abstained).

- The Superintendent presented the Board with the nomination of Fiona Monihan to be a teacher in the preschool program.

Mr. Cushing made a motion to approve the nomination of Fiona Monihan. Mr. Keith seconded. The Motion carried 5-0-1 (Mr. Bartholomew abstained).

- Supt. Feneberg discussed the status of hiring for the next school year. He stated that there are a couple of positions that the District won't be recruiting for that do not need to be filled. He also noted changes to the Curriculum director positions.

Assistant Superintendent's Report - Michael Bessette, Assistant Superintendent

- Mr. Bessette thanked Christine Downing, Steve Shepherd, and the principals for a great day of professional development last week. He noted that the time spent was much valued by the staff.
- Mr. Bessette welcomed Mr. Keith.

Business Administrator's Report - Larry LeBoeuf, Business Administrator

- Mr. LeBoeuf presented the Board with a budget transfer in the amount of \$6,200.00 for the installation of the intercom system at the new preschool in Bradford.

Mr. Cushing made a motion to approve the budget transfer in the amount of \$6,200.00. Mr. Lombard seconded. The Motion carried 5-0-1 (Mr. Bartholomew abstained).

KREA Representative - Beth Perkins, KREA Representative

- Kindergarten students in New London are working with Colby Sawyer College students and their professor to learn about maple sugaring. Last week the kindergarten visited their sugar shack and this week the Colby-Sawyer group will be coming to the classrooms to teach more on the topic.
- KRES at Bradford first grade students had their first ever Light, Sound, and Vibration Day. This was the culmination of a new Next Generation Science Standards unit. Students travelled through 6 stations during the day. We were fortunate enough to have Megan Hurley from the Telephone Museum in Warner come with her Sound Trunk. Wendy Corbyn helped students use vegetables, fruit, and water to make music. All three first grade teachers ran stations about sound - making instruments, guessing the sound, and making music with Chrome Music

Lab. They had a great day!

- New London fifth grade also celebrated Maple Day. Students have been learning customary units for liquid volume, using maple syrup containers as examples. On Maple Day, Mr. Marchand came in and taught the students how he makes syrup. They tasted sap and then made pancakes, topping them with his syrup.
- Mrs. Belanger reports that her 7th grade French students are going on a cultural field trip to Manchester on April 14. First, they will have a tour of some specific places in Manchester - like Lafayette Park to see the Ferdinand Gagnon statue and hear the history of the Francos in NH. Their guide is the executive director of the Franco-American Centre.
- Then, they will visit the Merci Train on Reed Street. The Chair of the NH Boxcar Committee is going to personally give the group a tour AND let them into the train itself. The Merci Train, it was part of the 49 boxcars filled with tens of thousands of gifts from the people of France to the American people - 1 train car for each state (and 1 to be shared with Alaska and Hawaii), in response to the American boxcars that were sent to France after WW2 on the 1947 Friendship Train. Most of these train cars have fallen to ruin, but NH's is enclosed in a building and preserved. Most of the contents are gone (some are housed at St Anselm's College), but there are newspapers and other items still on display inside.
- After that, the group will have lunch at Chez Vachon. I made arrangements to have the students have a "tasting menu" type of meal - that includes tourtiere, gorton/creton, crepes, poutine, baked beans, etc.
- Finally, they end the day at the Millyard Museum, learning about the French Canadians - becoming Franco-Americans, and their role in NH history.
- There was a very successful Blood Drive at the High School last week. This was their first one since Covid. The Red Cross collected 29 pints from in-house donors, mostly students!
- The Kearsarge Actors Guild had an exciting month in March. At the beginning of March students that participate in drama, band, and chorus took a field trip to the Bushnell Theatre in Hartford Connecticut. This trip was extra special as they were able to meet with Courtney Lauster (Class of 2017 graduate) a cast member of the Touring show "Hadestown". She and another cast member met the students for dinner. After dinner, they all went to the theatre and enjoyed the performance. Following the performance, Courtney met with the group again and was able to take pictures with the students. It was an amazing experience for all who attended.
- The weekend of March 18th the Exhibition theatre group took our show "Fallen" on the road to Salem High School for this year's New

Hampshire Education theatre Guild Regional Festival. We had a wonderful time meeting other students from five other schools who have the same performing arts passions and aspirations. Two students from Kearsarge, senior Lily Cicoria and senior Phoebe Simano, were both recognized for their acting performance and each received an "All-Star Company" award.

- Now that we have started April, the Kearsarge Actors Guild is preparing for their final two shows of the year. The senior show, directed by senior Amanda Lyons, will begin rehearsals on Thursday and hold a performance on Saturday, May 13th. Their final show of the year is a new addition to their schedule. They are holding Kearsarge's first dinner theatre show, to be presented in the High School cafeteria. This show is called "Death of a Hot Sauce Salesman" and will have a BBQ-themed dinner followed by dessert.
- Culinary students have been busy continuing on with learning about American Regional cooking. They are heading into Tex-Mex cuisine this week and are starting to offer lunch delivery service around the school for those who can't come to us. They have also been busy with community events - we just did a senior luncheon in New London and are working with the New London Elementary school on catering their fundraising event in May.
- Baking students are learning how to decorate cakes and getting ready for an easter cupcake sale on Friday!
- It was a great Music in Our Schools Month for KRSD:
- Dr. Kinne from USM came on March 10 and worked with the KRHS Concert Band.
- On March 21, KRHS hosted the KRSD Band Festival. The KRHS Jazz Band, 7+8 Grade Band, and KRHS Concert Band all performed. It went really well and already looking forward to next year.
- The KRHS Music Dept Mattress sale was a great success. We sold 31 mattresses!
- On March 30, Mark Shilansky, Professor at Berklee School of Music and UNH, came and worked with the KRHS Jazz Band. Mr. Shilansky wrote a piece for the Jazz Band, which he rehearsed, and the group worked on improvisation. The piece can be heard when Mr. Shilansky comes back with the UNH Jazz Faculty to perform with the KRHS Jazz Band on Monday, May 15 in the KRHS Auditorium, Visual and Performing Arts Night. The performance is free and open to the public.
- 4 students from the high school participated in the NHMEA All State Music Festival over the weekend (March 30-April1) in Concord, NH. Oliver Andrews and Robert Seney were in the orchestra, Thomas Shepard was in the Mixed Choir and Taylor Grace was in the Treble

	<p>Choir. They performed in their ensembles with students from all over the state. They did a great job representing the Kearsarge Regional School District!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● On April 13, Meghan Donahue, Clarinet Professor at PSU, will be visiting to work with the KRHS Clarinets. ● At the KRHS Spring Concert on May 24, KRHS Concert Band will be giving the world premiere of "Sands of Time" by Maddie Stephenson. <p><i>Student Representatives' Report - Ms. Boucher</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Spring sports have started up. Tennis and Lacrosse have already had some scrimmages. ● The Student Council is planning an Earth Day clean up as well as a pop-up thrift store. ● Juniors recently took the SATs. ● NHS induction night will be in the coming weeks.
<p>VIII. 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>Mr. Gregoire made a motion to close public comment. Ms. Mastin seconded. The Motion carried 5-0-1 (Mr. Bartholomew abstained).</i></p>
<p>IX. Non-Public Session</p>	<p><i>Mr. Cushing made a motion for the Board to enter a non-public session. Ms. Mastin seconded. The Motion carried 6-0-0.</i></p> <p><i>The Board returned to public session.</i></p>
<p>X. Old Business</p>	<p><i>2023-24 School Board Calendar and Finalize School Board Committee Assignments – Mr. Bartholomew</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Mr. Bartholomew discussed the Committee assignments with the Board. He noted that there is at least one School Board member on every Committee. ● Mr. Bartholomew noted that the only outstanding question regarding the School Calendar for the upcoming school year was the date for the School Board Retreat. June 17th was previously discussed as the date for the Retreat. The Board agreed on June 17th. ● The Superintendent noted that the Board usually invites the Municipal Budget Committee (MBC) to one of the June meetings and suggested the Committee be invited to the June 1st meeting. <p><i>Mr. Cushing made a motion to approve the 2023-24 School Calendar and to include the Municipal Budget Committee in the June 1, 2023 School Board Meeting. Ms. Mastin seconded. The Motion carried 5-0-1 (Mr. Bartholomew abstained).</i></p>
<p>XI. New Business</p>	<p><i>Staff Renominations - Winfried Feneberg, Superintendent</i></p>

- The Superintendent presented the Board with the staff being renominated for the upcoming school year. He discussed some of the shifts in staffing needs among the schools and noted that there are currently 13 open positions. Supt. Feneberg requested a motion to renominate the list of teachers on continuing contracts before the Board as presented.

Mr. Cushing made a motion to renominate the list of teachers on a continuing contract as presented to the Board. Ms. Mastin seconded. The Motion carried 5-0-1 (Mr. Bartholomew abstained).

- The Superintendent presented the Board with a list of teachers who are moving to continuing contracts and requested a motion to renominate the teachers listed as presented to the Board.

Mr. Cushing made a motion to renominate the teachers listed before the Board moving to continuing contracts. Ms. Mastin seconded. The Motion carried 5-0-1 (Mr. Bartholomew abstained).

- The Superintendent presented the Board with a list of teachers who are on non-continuing contracts and requested a Motion to renominate the teachers listed as presented to the Board.

Mr. Cushing made a motion to renominate the teachers listed before the Board who are on non-continuing contracts as presented. Ms. Mastin seconded. The motion carried 5-0-1 (Mr. Bartholomew abstained).

- The Superintendent presented the Board with a list of licensed professionals who are not certified through the Department of Education. He noted that the individuals would be rehired as opposed to renominated as they are still contracted employees who enjoy the same protection as teachers.

Mr. Cushing made a motion to rehire the licensed professionals listed before the Board as presented. Ms. Mastin seconded. The Motion carried 5-0-1 (Mr. Bartholomew abstained).

- The Superintendent presented the Board with a list of administrators and SAU staff. He noted that these individuals would also be rehired as opposed to renominated.

Mr. Cushing made a motion to rehire the administrators and SAU staff listed as presented to the Board. Ms. Mastin seconded. The Motion carried 5-0-1

(Mr. Bartholomew abstained).

General Assurances 2024 – Winfried Feneberg, Superintendent

- Supt. Feneberg stated that every year, the Board needs to make general assurances to the Federal Government in order to be eligible to receive federal grant funds. He noted that these general assurances are lengthy and very detailed and need to be followed. He stated that the Board needs to sign the general assurances and send them to the Department of Education.

The Board signed and the Chair initialed the 2024 General Assurances.

Technology Purchase Recommendations - Barbra Turner, Director of Technology

- Ms. Turner presented the Board with a sole source purchase recommendation for a 3-year license for Anti-Virus software for the District from Trebron in the amount of \$29,252.14.

Mr. Cushing made a motion to approve the sole-source purchase recommendation for a 3-year license for Anti-Virus software for the District from Trebron in the amount of \$29,252.14. Mr. Keith seconded. The Motion carried 5-0-1 (Mr. Bartholomew abstained).

- Ms. Turner presented the board with a sole-source purchase recommendation for the intercom system at the James House Preschool from TNT in the amount of \$16,023.50 as well as a budget transfer in the amount of \$16,100.00.

Mr. Cushing made a motion to approve the sole-source purchase recommendation for the intercom system at the James House Preschool from TNT in the amount of \$16,023.50. Mr. Keith seconded. The Motion carried 5-0-1 (Mr. Bartholomew abstained).

Mr. Cushing made a motion to approve the budget transfer in the amount of \$16,100.00. Mr. Lombard seconded. The motion carried 5-0-1 (Mr. Bartholomew abstained).

- Ms. Turner presented the Board with a sole-source purchase recommendation for network installation in the new preschool in Bradford from TNT in the amount of \$15,560.00 as well as a budget transfer in the same amount.

Mr. Cushing made a motion to approve the sole-source purchase recommendation for network installation in the new preschool in Bradford from TNT in the amount of \$15,560.00. Ms. Mastin seconded. The Motion carried 5-0-1 (Mr. Bartholomew abstained).

Mr. Cushing made a motion to approve the budget transfer in the amount of \$15,560.00. Mr. Keith seconded. The Motion carried 5-0-1 (Mr. Bartholomew abstained).

- Ms. Turner presented the Board with a sole-source purchase recommendation for cameras for the new preschool in Bradford from Tasco Security in the amount of \$10,342.00 as well as a budget transfer in the amount of \$7,700.00.

Mr. Cushing made a motion to approve the sole-source purchase recommendation for cameras for the new preschool in Bradford from Tasco Security in the amount of \$10,342.00. Mr. Keith seconded. The Motion carried 5-0-1 (Mr. Bartholomew abstained).

Mr. Cushing made a motion to approve the budget transfer in the amount of \$7,700.00. Mr. Lombard seconded. The Motion carried 5-0-1 (Mr. Bartholomew abstained).

- Ms. Turner presented the Board with a sole-source purchase recommendation for door access readers for the new preschool in Bradford from Astronaut Security in the amount of \$16,929.00 as well as a budget transfer in the amount of \$17,000.00.

Mr. Cushing made a motion to approve the sole-source purchase recommendation for door access readers for the new preschool in Bradford from Astronaut Security in the amount of \$16,929.00. Mr. Keith seconded. The motion carried 5-0-1 (Mr. Bartholomew abstained).

Mr. Cushing made a motion to approve the budget transfer in the amount of \$17,000.00. Mr. Keith seconded. The Motion carried 5-0-1 (Mr. Bartholomew abstained).

Facilities Purchase Recommendation - Brett Paré, Director of Facilities

- Mr. Paré presented the Board with a sole-source purchase recommendation for supplemental residential supply well sampling from GZA in the amount of \$12,600.00 as well as a budget transfer in the

same amount.

Mr. Cushing made a motion to approve the sole-source purchase recommendation for supplemental residential supply well sampling from GZA in the amount of \$12,600.00. Mr. Lombard seconded. The Motion carried 5-0-1 (Mr. Bartholomew abstained).

Mr. Cushing made a motion to approve the budget transfer in the amount of \$12,600.00. Mr. Lombard seconded. The Motion carried 5-0-1 (Mr. Bartholomew abstained).

- Mr. Paré presented the Board with a sole-source purchase recommendation for additional interior cameras for the Middle School from Tasco Security in the amount of \$19,040.00.

Mr. Cushing made a motion to approve the sole-source purchase recommendation for additional interior cameras for the Middle School from Tasco Security in the amount of \$19,040.00. Mr. Keith seconded. The Motion carried 5-0-1.

- Mr. Paré presented the Board with a sole-source purchase recommendation for striping throughout the District from D&M Striping in the amount of \$16,903.75.

Mr. Cushing made a motion to approve the sole-source purchase recommendation for striping throughout the District from D&M Striping in the amount of \$16,903.75. Mr. Lombard seconded. The Motion carried 5-0-1 (Mr. Bartholomew abstained).

Policy IHCA Summer Activities – Revision – Michael Bessette, Assistant Superintendent

- Mr. Bessette reminded the Board that last year, the Board requested that the Policy Committee look further into this policy to allow for other activities, in addition to reading, to this policy. He presented the Board with an updated policy.
- Mr. Bartholomew noted that this is to replace a policy that mandated the grading of summer reading.

Joint Loss Safety Program Update – Larry LeBoeuf, Business Administrator

- Mr. LeBoeuf reminded the board that this is a program required by the state that is reviewed by counsel every two years. The Committee takes a look at and reviews the safety of each of the schools.

	<p><i>Mr. Cushing made a motion to approve the update to the Join Loss Safety Program. Mr. Keith seconded. The Motion carried 5-0-1 (Mr. Bartholomew abstained).</i></p> <p><i>Board Signed of MS22 – Larry LeBoeuf, Business Administrator</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Board signed MS22.
<p>XII. 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. Mastin made a motion to close public comment. Mr. Cushing seconded. The Motion carried 5-0-1 (Mr. Bartholomew abstained).</i></p>
<p>XIII. School Board Sub Committees</p>	<p><i>Facilities Committee – Mr. Cushing and Brett Paté, Director of Facilities</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Paré apprised the Board that the State has passed legislation that changed the acceptable lead levels in drinking water. He noted that there is lead present in the water of all the schools. He noted that they are working on a remediation plan. The Superintendent noted that the lead isn't in the drinking water. The increased levels are a result of lead being present in some faucets and connectors in the schools. Mr. Bartholomew requested a further update once a remediation plan is in place. • Mr. Paré stated that the High School boiler project was underway. The boilers are scheduled to be delivered this month and installed over the summer. • Work is continuing on the preschool in Bradford. The slab for the modular unit is planned to be in place by the first week of June. • There have been some issues with the fire panel at the Middle School. The District has been attempting to obtain the part since August; however, the part has not be available. Mr. Paré noted that they are weighing their options. • Mr. Paré commended the hard work done by the grounds crew this winter. • The Superintendent presented the Board with the idea of possibly delaying the STEAM renovation at the High School and looking at a more comprehensive approach to provide necessary renovations to buildings throughout the District. He noted that should the Board decide a more comprehensive approach, there likely wouldn't be time for the renovations to get on the ballot in March of 2024. <p><i>Communications Committee – Ms. Mastin</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Mastin noted that the Committee discussed the District's relationship with the PR Firm. • The Committee discussed the mission and vision of the athletic department. Ms. Mastin noted that the Committee has asked Mr. Fitzgerald to describe the portrait of an athlete, just as the District has

	<p>been looking at a portrait of a learner.</p> <p><i>Human Resources Committee – Ms. Mastin</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Mastin stated that the Committee has been reviewing the building administration hiring scale. • The Committee discussed capping pay and discussed the percentage of cost-of-living raises. • The Committee discussed the SAFE Schools training and how it relates to coaches. • The Committee has been exploring recruitment strategies including the Handshake Program which allows the District to partner with colleges. The District has also been making efforts to recruit at college job fairs around the state. <p><i>Policy Committee – Michael Bessette, Assistant Superintendent</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Bessette stated the Committee has been reviewing the policy changes to the A-C policies provided by the SBA. He noted that a lot of the tweaks are to fix grammatical errors. • Mr. Keith volunteered to join the policy committee.
<p>XIV. Non-Public</p>	<p><i>Ms. Mastin made a motion for the Board to enter a non-public session. Mr. Cushing seconded. The Motion carried 6-0-0.</i></p> <p><i>The Board returned to public session.</i></p>
<p>XV. Adjourn</p>	<p><i>Mr. Gregoire made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Mastin seconded. The Motion carried 5-0-1 (Mr. Bartholomew abstained). The meeting was adjourned at 8:42 p.m.</i></p>

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Hilton
 School Board Note Taker