

Kearsarge Regional School District
School Board Meeting
 August 11, 2022 - 6:30 pm
 Kearsarge Professional Development Center
 165 Main Street, New London
Open to Public

I. Call to Order	The Vice-Chair called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.
II. Pledge of Allegiance	Larry Elliott led the Pledge of Allegiance.
	<p>Ms. Mastin welcomed everyone back for the new school year.</p> <p>The Board recognized the passing of Gary Markoff, a former member of the School Board. The Board expressed their condolences to the family of Mr. Markoff and thanked him for his service.</p>
III. Public Hearing	<p><i>Appropriation for Unanticipated Funds – As required per NH RSA 198:20-b, III, the Kearsarge Regional School Board shall conduct a hearing regarding unanticipated revenue funds from the Barnard Foundation for \$5,000.00 to support the Holocaust Educational Program for Kearsarge Middle School students.</i></p> <p><i>Ms. Schultz made a motion to accept and expend unanticipated revenue funds from the Barnard Foundation for \$5,000.00 Mr. Lombard seconded. The Motion carried 6-0-1 (Ms. Mastin abstained).</i></p> <p><i>Kearsarge Regional School Board is also conducting a hearing regarding unanticipated revenue funds awarded from Primex for \$6,085.66 for holiday premium credit from Property and Liability Insurance, and \$9,849.69 from Primex for holiday premium credit from Works Compensation Insurance.</i></p> <p><i>Mr. Gregoire made a motion to accept and expend unanticipated revenue funds from Primex for \$6,085.66 for holiday premium credit from Property and Liability Insurance, and \$9,849.69 from Primex for holiday premium credit from Workers Compensation Insurance. Mr. Lombard seconded. The Motion carried 6-0-1 (Ms. Mastin abstained).</i></p>
IV. Roll Call	<p>Present: Ken Bartholomew (via Zoom), Emma Bates, Arthur Bobruff, Bebe Hammond Casey, Eric Gregoire, Kyle Lombard, Alison Mastin, Kristen Schultz; Superintendent Feneberg, Assistant Superintendent Bessette, Beth Perkins (KREA Representative), Maggie Ellison, Katrina Nowicki (Student Reps). Absent: Ben Cushing, Larry LeBoeuf.</p> <p>The Superintendent explained that Mr. Bartholomew was present via Zoom, but will not be eligible to vote.</p>
V. Approval of Minutes	<i>Dr. Bobruff made a motion to approve the minutes from the June 16, 2022, School Board Meeting as written. Ms. Bates seconded. The Motion carried 5-</i>

	<p><i>0-2 (Ms. Mastin and Ms. Schultz abstained).</i></p>
<p>VI. Reports of Administration</p>	<p><i>Superintendent’s Report - Supt. Feneberg</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Supt. Feneberg welcomed everyone back for the new school year and noted that school starts on August 30th. ● The Superintendent noted that the District has received correspondence from the New Hampshire Department of Revenue Administration stating the need for the School Board finances to be audited. He noted Mr. LeBoeuf stated that this occurs regularly and the District is ready. ● Over the summer, Facilities, Extended School Year, and Technology staff have all been hard at work and he thanked them all for their efforts. ● After the completion of the last school year, teachers had the opportunity to participate in another Curriculum Camp. ● In July, the Superintendent had the opportunity to represent the District in Washington D.C. and has had the opportunity to discuss issues impacting the District with staff in Representative Kuster’s office. ● Supt. Feneberg apprised the Board of an independent survey conducted by the Superintendent of the Monadnock Regional School District regarding the staffing shortages impacting Districts statewide. ● The Superintended presented the Board with the below summer hires and requested their approval: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Christian Avard - Social Studies, KRMS ○ William Lavoie - Choral Teacher, KRHS ○ Lianne Roux - Social Worker, Elem ○ Ethan Pruett - Music Teacher, KRMS ○ Bonnie Basher - Special Education, KRHS ○ Kaitlynn Porter - Social Studies, KRHS ○ Douglas Stahlheber - Math Specialist, Sutton <p><i>Mr. Gregoire made a motion to approve the summer hires as listed above. Ms. Casey seconded. The Motion carried 6-0-1 (Ms. Mastin abstained).</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Superintendent presented the Board with the resignation of Stephanie Stevens and requested the acceptance of her resignation. <p><i>Ms. Schultz made a motion to accept the resignation of Stephanie Stevens. Ms. Bates seconded. The Motion carried 6-0-1 (Ms. Mastin abstained).</i></p> <p><i>Assistant Superintendent’s Report - Michael Bessette</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Mr. Bessette apprised the Board of the approval of a Title IIA grant that will go to benefit teachers who onboard with the District. These funds will be used specifically to compensate teachers and supporting staff for their time participating in the two-day orientation process. Mr. Bessette also noted that the District has spent past Title IIA grants down to the dime, stating that the District has taken full advantage of these funds. ● The Leadership Team retreat is coming up next week. Mr. Bessette stated that the Leadership team has good agenda for the retreat that will challenge them.

	<p><i>KREA Representative’s Report - Beth Perkins</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ms. Perkins stated her appreciation of Supt. Feneberg’s “Welcome Back to School” letter. ● Ms. Perkins noted that last year, two KRHS graduates joined the District as paraprofessionals. She stated it was a great experience for those graduates to see what being a teacher is really like. <p>Mr. Bartholomew asked Mr. Bessette about the new CDC Guidance released earlier in the day regarding COVID-19 and if the District plans to continue to follow those guidelines. Mr. Bessette noted that he had requested a meeting of the CDU, but hadn’t confirmed a meeting time as the guidance was released late in the afternoon.</p> <p><i>Student Representative’s Report - Maggie Ellison</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Students are enjoying their summer vacation. ● AP students have been working through their summer work. ● The Class of 2023 has been planning the senior sunrise for the first day of school. ● Student Council Officers are meeting next week to outline their goals for the year. ● Preseason for fall sports begins on Monday.
<p>VII. Public Comment</p>	<p><i>No Public Comment.</i></p>
<p>VIII. New Business</p>	<p><i>Code of Conduct/Standard of Dress - Principal Charles Langille, KRHS, and Principal Steve Paterson, KRMS</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Mr. Langille reminded the Board of the shift that took place last school year from a Dress Code to a Standard of Dress. He noted that after the first year of the Standard of Dress, they have now received feedback from students, teachers, staff, parents, etc. He also stated that they have continued researching and gathering ideas from what other school Districts are doing around the country. He found that there is a model used by the school district in Roanoke, Virginia that uses stick figures to display examples to go along with their standard of dress. ● Mr. Paterson noted that students are good at finding loopholes. He noted that he has had many students approach him and note that they want a learning environment with a standard of dress that is appropriate for that environment. ● Ms. Schultz asked what kind of complaints the Principals received. Mr. Langille noted most comments were relating to the idea that the school looked like a beach or a nightclub. He went on to explain that the District wants a Standard of Dress that made students and staff proud of what it means to be a part of Kearsarge. He also stated that some things have needed to be added, not necessarily because there is a current issue, but to account for possible future issues that could arise. ● Ms. Schultz asked if there was any noticeable change in how students dressed under the previous dress code compared to the Standard of Dress.

Mr. Langille noted that it was about the same.

- The Superintendent asked that the new Standard of Dress document be shared with the members of the Board.
- Ms. Bates thanked the principals for their efforts to keep the Standard of Dress ungendered as a parent of a non-binary child.

Naming of the KRHS Track - Winfried Feneberg, Superintendent

- Supt. Feneberg presented the Board with a past request from the Facilities Committee to name the KRHS track in honor of Ed Rehor, the KRHS Track Coach for over 30 years. He noted that a ceremony to name the field and honor Mr. Rehor would take place in June 2023. He requested the approval of the Board.

Dr. Bobruff made a motion to approve the naming of the KRHS track in honor of Ed Roher. Ms. Casey seconded. The Motion carried 7-0-0.

Low Salt Reduction Request - Route 114, Sutton near Blaisdell Lake - Winfried Feneberg, Superintendent

- Supt. Feneberg presented the Board with a request from the Sutton Board of Selectmen to create a salt reduction area between Jolly Farms Road and Watkins Avenue. He requested a motion to allow him to write a letter to the Select Board of no objection.
- Mr. Lombard asked if the Town offered any alternatives to the salt. The Superintendent noted that it wouldn't be no salt on the road, just a limited amount.
- Dr. Bobruff asked if the bus company felt comfortable with the low salt area. The Superintendent noted that Doreen had a conversation with the bus company and that he didn't know of any specific concerns. Dr. Bobruff stated that he would feel more comfortable moving forward if the bus company was comfortable with the proposal.
- Ms. Schultz asked if the District knew if there would be a sign noting the low salt area. Ms. Mastin asked who is allowed to ask the town to put up a sign noting the designated area. Supt. Feneberg noted that it is a state road and said that he would be happy to reach out to the bus company and the town to clarify. He stated that he will bring the results of his conversations to the next meeting and a decision can be postponed until then.

Facilities Update - Summer & Upcoming Projects - Brett Paré, Director of Facilities

- Mr. Paré presented the Board with the projects completed over the summer. The District has re-engaged the architect for the STEAM project, with updated costs expected sometime in August. The District has also submitted the application for New Hampshire Department of Education building funding.
- An issue was resolved at the Kearsarge Regional Development Center over the summer regarding the septic pumps.
- At Simonds Elementary, HVAC has been installed in the library, and

components of the new fire escape are expected in the coming weeks.

- The District successfully applied for grants that would pay for additional cameras and a panic system in all the schools. He noted that this led to an audit of the District's exterior doors.
- The District has also continued working on the Bradford Pre-K project. He noted that sole-source Board approval is needed to allow for a 25% deposit for the modular vendor conducting the Bradford Pre-K project. Supt. Feneberg noted that this is sole-source as this is the only vendor that engaged with the District for the project. In order to secure the pricing, 25% down is required.
- Mr. Paré reminded the Board that prior to the summer, the decision was made to acquire two plow trucks to allow plowing to be handled in-house. Those vehicles have been acquired.
- The District has transitioned to a new HVAC vendor who has been going around the District identifying needs at the different facilities.
- There are a number of upcoming projects that will need to be addressed: sprinkler systems in both Simonds and New London Elementary, replacement of the HVAC system over the High School auditorium, and egress window replacements at Sutton Elementary.
- PFAS levels have been continuously monitored at the Middle School over the summer. Mitigation systems at residences have proven to be successful in that area.
- Ms. Schultz asked Mr. Paré who will be using the plow trucks and how that will affect the hours of those staff members. Mr. Paré noted that grounds staff will be responsible for the plowing and there may be the need for some overtime.
- Ms. Schultz asked about the results of the door audit. Mr. Paré noted that no results have been received at this time. Mr. Bessette discussed the different lock options that are available for both interior and exterior doors. The Superintendent also noted that the District has established a commitment with the area police chiefs to meet quarterly to discuss school safety. Ms. Schutlz asked if they would be willing to meet with the Board. Supt. Feneberg noted that he would be willing to pose the question to the chiefs.
- Mr. Bessette discussed the divide between police departments and fire departments across the country surrounding different school safety ideas, specifically the locking of certain doors.

Facilities Purchase Recommendations - Brett Paré, Director of Facilities

- Mr. Paré requested Board approval of the purchase recommendation for a 25% deposit, not to exceed \$175,000.00 paid using ESSER funding, of the total cost of the project.

Mr. Lombard made a motion to approve the purchase recommendation for a 25% deposit, not to exceed \$175,000.00, for the Bradford Pre-K project using ESSER funding. Ms. Casey seconded. The Motion carried 6-0-1 (Ms. Mastin abstained).

- Mr. Paré presented the Board with a sole-source purchase recommendation in the amount of \$18,687.00 for septic pumps at New London Elementary School from Stearns Septic Service, LLC. He noted that the District has used this company for septic maintenance in the past and, therefore, this is a sole-source purchase recommendation.

Dr. Bobruff made a motion to approve the sole-source purchase recommendation in the amount of \$18,687.00 for septic pumps at New London Elementary School from Stearns Septic Service, LLC. Mr. Gregoire seconded. The Motion carried 6-0-1 (Ms. Mastin abstained).

Technology Purchase Recommendation - Lightspeed, Aimsweb - Barbara Turner, Director of Technology

- Ms. Turner presented the Board with a sole-source purchase recommendation in the amount of \$11,994.75 to renew the District's Aimsweb software from NCS Pearson. She noted that this is renewed yearly.

Mr. Gregoire made a motion to approve the sole-source purchase recommendation in the amount of \$11,994.75 to renew the District's Aimsweb software from NCS Pearson. Ms. Casey seconded. The Motion carried 6-0-1 (Ms. Mastin abstained).

- Ms. Turner presented the Board with a sole-source purchase recommendation in the amount of \$12,654.00 for Lightspeed Chromebook Filtering and iPad Management from CDW-G. She noted that this is also renewed yearly.

Ms. Schultz made a motion to approve the sole-source purchase recommendation in the amount of \$12,654.00 for Lightspeed Chromebook Filtering and iPad Management from CDW-G. She noted that this is also renewed yearly. Ms. Bates seconded. The Motion carried 6-0-1 (Ms. Mastin abstained).

- Ms. Turner presented the Board with a sole-source purchase recommendation in the amount of \$22,200.00 for 12 charging carts for Middle School Chromebooks (1,850.00 each) from CDW-G.
- Ms. Mastin asked if Chromebooks are not being sent home with Middle School students any longer. Ms. Turner noted that is correct as the damage to the Chromebooks that occurred while at home was expensive. The Superintendent noted that there is currently nowhere for that many Chromebooks to be charged overnight at the Middle School.

Mr. Gregoire made a motion to approve the sole-source purchase recommendation in the amount of \$22,200.00 for 12 charging carts for Middle School Chromebooks (1,850.00 each) from CDW-G. Mr. Lombard seconded. The Motion carried 6-0-1 (Ms. Mastin abstained).

	<p><i>Purchase Recommendation - Michael Bessette, Assistant Superintendent on behalf of Larry LeBoeuf, Business Administrator</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Mr. Bessette presented the Board with a number of purchase recommendations and requested their approval: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ \$13,280.00 for eSpark, Inc, an online program that provides math and reading instructions for grade K-5, ○ Maximum annual increase of 8% for Primex - Workers Compensation, ○ \$16,016.00 for Branching Minds for the 2022-2023 year, ○ \$13,680.00 for Learning A to Z for the 2022-2023 year, ○ \$13,688.40 for Houghton Mifflin Harcourt for the 2022-2023 year, and ○ 40,000 gallons of Heating Oil #2 at \$3.6603/gallon from Dead River. <p><i>Mr. Gregoire made a motion to approve the above purchase recommendations as presented. Dr. Bobruff seconded. The Motion carried 6-0-1 (Ms. Mastin abstained).</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Mr. Bessette presented the Board with a budget transfer in the amount of \$7,600.00 for DEW for the STEAM project. <p><i>Ms. Schultz made a motion to approve the budget transfer of \$7,600.00. Mr. Gregoire seconded. The Motion carried 6-0-1 (Ms. Mastin abstained).</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Mr. Bessette presented the Board with a scholarship deposit in the amount of \$1,000.00 to the Tara Linehan Scholarship. <p><i>Ms. Casey made a motion to approve the deposit of \$1,000.00 to the Tara Linehan Scholarship. Ms. Bates seconded. The Motion carried 6-0-1 (Ms. Mastin abstained).</i></p>
<p>IX. Old Business</p>	<p><i>Policy EBB School Safety - Second Reading - Michael Bessette, Assistant Superintendent</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Mr. Bessette presented Policy EBB to the Board for a second reading. He requested the adoption of the policy if there was no objection. <p><i>Mr. Gregoire made a motion to adopt Policy EBB School Safety. Ms. Casey seconded. The Motion carried 6-0-1 (Ms. Mastin abstained).</i></p>
<p>X. School Board Sub-Committees</p>	<p><i>Communications Committee - Ms. Mastin</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ms. Mastin stated that the Committee met twice over the summer. ● The Committee has continued to discuss the STEAM project and how it should be presented to the public. The decision has been made that the Communications Committee will be the point of contact for presenting the project. ● Ms. Mastin noted that desire to provide more tours of the High School at large events. Mr. Bartholomew questioned if that would be realistic.

	<p><i>Facilities Committee - Mr. Lombard</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Mr. Lombard noted that Mr. Paré largely covered everything the Committee has been discussing. He noted that a new piece of legislation has gone into effect that increases the standards for water testing in schools. ● Dr. Bobruff asked who should be contacted with new ideas about the STEAM Wing and noted that it would be good to have a single person to be a point of contact. The Superintendent noted that they have continued to search for a campaign manager to volunteer to fill that role; however, no one has been found at this time.
<p>XII. Adjourn</p>	<p><i>Mr. Gregoire made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Bates seconded. The Motion carried 6-0-1 (Ms. Mastin abstained). The meeting was adjourned at 8:23 p.m.</i></p>

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Hilton
School Board Note Taker