

**Regional School Unit 78  
School Board Meeting Minutes  
November 14, 2023 5:30 p.m.  
RLRS Multi-Purpose Room**

Time zone: America/New\_York

Google Meet joining info

Video call link: <https://meet.google.com/rsy-scyv-rfp>

Or dial: (US) +1 475-444-6335 PIN: 934 978 031#

More phone numbers: <https://tel.meet/rsy-scyv-rfp?pin=4436644826643>

Kathleen Catrini, Dallas Plt	X	Joanne Dunlap, Rangeley Plt	X
Joanna Farrar-V. Chair, Dallas Plt	X	Amber Haley, Rangeley Plt	X
Kayla Alexander, Rangeley	X	Mary Richards-Chair, Sandy River Plt	X
Karen Seaman, Rangeley	A	Robert Greene, Sandy River Plt	X
Chris Farmer, Rangeley	Joined at 6:25	Angelica Chavaree-Woodward, Student Rep	A
Deborah Ladd, Rangeley	X	Nichole Lemay, Student Rep	X
Danielle Lemay, Rangeley	X		

Quorum: 735/997 ; 866/997 with Chris Farmer

1. Call to Order
  - Time: 5:30
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. **Adjustments to the Agenda**
  - Add 10.1 action item to be moved prior to item 6 (presentations): Approval of NEMFA trip (Erin Smith)
4. **Approval of Minutes for October 10, 2023**
  - Motion to approve: Kayla Alexander
  - 2nd: Joanna Farrar
  - Passed unanimously
5. **Public Comments**
  - None

**10.1 action item:** Approval of NEMFA trip (Erin Smith): Ensemble music festival/competition with feedback from judges, possibility to compete in March if chosen. 3 students, day trip, not overnight.

- Discussion: Clarification of transportation needs
- Motion to approve: Robert Greene
- 2nd: Danielle Lemay
- Passed unanimously

6. **Presentations:**
  - 6.1 **Levi Robinson from RHR Smith & Company in regards to the audit**

- Gives highlights of general fund balances and reserve accounts.
- RLRS is in line with other districts he is reviewing.
- Reserves are continuing to build.

## 6.2 **Shawn Russell & Alison Loud - Technology updates**

- ACTEM Conference
  - Association of Technology Educators in Maine. Abby, Ali & Shawn attended this conference this fall. Attended many sessions which were very informative. Cyber security, Aruba networking, technology integration, STEAM nights, access to vendors.
  - Abby & Shawn presented on their digital citizenship program.
  - They will be developing an incident response plan based on sessions they attended.
- 3D Printer
  - Shawn received a grant for a newer 3D printer with more features than the older ones we have
  - Ali is working with classroom teachers to integrate 3D printing into classroom lessons and projects
    - Started with volume unit in 5th grade. Students designed their initials in TinkerCAD and then calculated the volume of them. Using them with critical thinkers group. Mrs. Hathaway has used this in Geometry in the past as well.
- STEAM Night (last week)
  - Families from grades 3-5 were invited. Limited to 16 - filled fast!
  - Lego Spike Kits from the state grant were used.
    - Built a car and then practiced basic coding to have their vehicles travel through different maps.
  - May apply for future grants for other types of kits
  - Planning more STEAM nights in the future. Pleased with the popularity and participation

## 6.3 **Heidi Deery - School Counseling Update**

- Getting Delaney up to speed with school counseling. Her background in social work has been very helpful. Learning nuts & bolts of school settings.
- Using the American School Counselors Association Model
- Want to support students socially and emotionally but would like be able to prioritize career education, post-secondary, and aspiration work from the counseling office. Challenge in providing full support across preK-12 grade spans by one person. Looking for ways to engage kids in their own futures.
  - Mary Richards: What is Heidi's assessment of the current coordination of services so that Delaney can focus on these priorities?
    - Heidi: The student services team (Holly Haggan, Lindsey Savage, Lynda Feins, Heidi & Delaney) works with social emotional curriculum (Second Step). Also the addition of school based therapist has helped.
- From Maine DOE - BARR: Building Assets, Reducing Risks
  - DOE is paying for implementation of this research based, 20-year-old program. Initial implementation decided to start at a small scale. Started with 6th grade only.

- MS team & student services took an in-person 2 day training in the summer. They are using the BARR curriculum to engage students.
- Building better relationships with students. Using data and structuring meetings in efficient ways. The meeting structure to discuss all students (not just struggling students). Focus is on student strengths. Meetings are action-oriented.
- Supported by “coaches” from BARR weekly and meetings monthly with other educators using the platform across the country. Coaches do on-site visits throughout the year.

## 7. **COMMENTS:**

### **Chair: Mary Richards**

- Wishing everyone a happy Thanksgiving holiday.
- Deferring her time to Bob Greene & Deb Ladd to discuss conference they attended
  - Focus on preparing students for a technological future.
  - How do we catch up from Covid disruption?
  - How are we preparing students for a future of artificial intelligence? How are we handling decreased social engagement. Keeping up with advancing technology.
    - Shawn Russell: Need a policy around AI use
  - AI can be helpful. Evaluation process may become verbal rather than written. Shift from content to skills that AI does not have.
  - Deb attended Drummond conferences for updates on legal changes.

### **Superintendent : Georgia Campbell**

- Veterans’ luncheon held Monday. Roughly 18 Veterans came to eat lunch with kids.
  - Thank you to Greg Whalen for getting the word out and drumming up support for this.
- Thank you to Ali & Shawn for hosting the STEAM night. Was amazing to see the families enjoying the time.
- Flying out in the morning for the National Forum to Advance Rural Education. Attending with Rumford Superintendent.

### **Principal: Seth Laliberte**

- We are trying to stay on top of the changes in technology and AI as referenced by Bob Greene. Staff are doing professional development around AI and also presenting workshops to our teachers, as well as teachers from other districts.
- Tuesday teacher time is diving into ELA curriculum, testing data and standards.
- Student of the month assembly is Thursday, with luncheon to follow
- Parent teacher conferences are underway
- MS went to the MYAN conference and returned today
- DC Leadership trip returned safely as well.

### **Student Representative: Nichole Lemay**

- Attended DC Leadership trip with 11 students, Kate Van Etten & Delaney Arbore
  - visited landmarks & museums in DC
  - Toured American University
  - Attended the LEAD Conference
    - Students attended various sessions throughout the conference
    - Nichole gave examples of different sessions and ideas that our students are bringing back to RLRS
- First quarter ended
- Discussing college courses for second semester

- Juniors are planning a sweetheart dance in February
- Classes have been fundraising
  - Kettle corn
  - Wreath sales

## 8. **Committee Reports**

### 8.1 **Policy** Committee: - K. Catrini

- Next meeting Monday Dec 4th - 3PM

### 8.2 **Finance** Committee: - ~~C. Farmer~~ Joanna Farrar

- Covered the audit report and action items

### 8.3 **Facilities** Committee – D. Lemay

- Walkway lights update: School will have to pay. Current quote without lift is \$4750, with lift roughly \$5300. Waiting on a second quote
- Fuel tank - no leaks in or out. New tank arriving in December. May need to rent a temporary tank for the winter. Total project likely to be around \$88,000.
- Passed elevator inspection
- Greenhouse - site is approved near the silo. 15x30'. Trying to get foundation stone down before winter.

### 8.4 **Negotiations** – B. Greene

- 3 meetings. Exchanging documents. Slow & thoughtful. Working through various articles. Seems to be going well. Effective communications.

## 9. **Appointments, Resignations, Nominations and Transfers**

- Resignation: Tony Clark - retired
- Appointment: Keith Jackson will transfer to Tony Clark's old position. Looking for a new night custodian
- Appointment: Delaney Arbore for MS boys basketball coach

## 10. **Action Items:**

### ~~10.1~~10.2 **Approval of the Foster Tech Co-op Agreement**

- Discussion: Georgia: edit needed on page 1B - end should have changed wording to indicate that 3 of 4 schools must agree to changes. Most changes were geared towards
- Motion to approve: Kayla Alexander
- 2nd: Danielle Lemay
- Passed unanimously

### ~~10.2~~10.3 **Revision of Student/Parent Handbook**

- Discussion: Seth: Revise senior privileges from 85% cutoff to an 80% cutoff effective immediately.
- Motion to approve: Kayla Alexander
- 2nd: Danielle Lemay
- Passed unanimously

10.3-10.4      **Revision of policies:**

**EEAA-R – Request for Overnight or out of state travel**

- Included/amended language after being tabled last meeting. Added a follow up form for after board approval as requested by admins
- Motion to approve: Kayla Alexander
- 2nd: Joanne Dunlop
  - Deb Ladd - minor spelling errors to be edited in
- Passed unanimously with minor edits

**AC – Non-Discrimination/Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action**

**ACAB – Harassment and Sexual Harassment of School Employees**

**ACAB-R – Employee Discrimination/Harassment and Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint Procedures**

**ACAA – Harassment and Sexual Harassment of Students**

**ACAA-R – Student Discrimination/Harassment and Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint Procedures**

- All required policies. Changes were requested by state & MSMA.
- Motion to approve all AC policies together: Kayla Alexander
- 2nd: Joanne Dunlap
  - Deb Ladd - Question - does board need to clarify business days versus calendar days as stated several times.
    - Mary - Can we pass with the understanding that this item is clarified
    - Board agrees
- Passed unanimously

**IJOC – School Volunteers**

**IJOCA – School Chaperones**

- Requested changes by the administration
- Motion to approve both IJ changes together: Kayla Alexander
- 2nd: Joanne Dunlap
- Passed unanimously

**Adjourn**

- TIME: 7:12
- Motion to approve: Kayla Alexander
- 2nd: Joanna Farrar
- Passed unanimously

Next meeting: December 12, 2023

MISSION - To inspire all learners to strive for success in a world yet to be fully imagined. VISION - RSU 78 envisions a broad range of choices for learning that inspires student and staff involvement in all aspects of academic life in a safe, fair, authentic, and personalized learning environment.