

**Regional School Unit 78
School Board Meeting Minutes
January 9, 2024 5:30 p.m.
RLRS Multi-Purpose Room**

Time zone: America/New_York

Google Meet joining info

Video call link: <https://meet.google.com/wds-vvky-oex>

Or dial: (US) +1 402-803-1300 PIN: 633 587 166#

More phone numbers: <https://tel.meet/wds-vvky-oex?pin=4763559218170>

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

Quorum: 651/997

1. Call to Order (Mary Richards)
TIME: 5:33
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Adjustments to the Agenda
ADD: 10.3 Allstate Trip Consideration
ADD: 10.4 NEMFA Trip Consideration
Move 10.1, 10.3 and 10.4 to be considered prior to "6. Presentations".
4. Approval of Minutes for December 12, 2023
 - Motion to approve: Chris Farmer
 - 2nd: Danielle Lemay
 - Passed unanimously with 1 abstention (Robert Greene)
5. Public Comments
 - NONE
6. Presentations:
 - 6.1 Heidi Deery – eDL
 - Heidi Deery presents on eDynamic Learning which is an online platform for curriculum which is for many different subjects, but guidance is currently using their career development programs. Research based with scope & sequence, being continually updated. Currently being used in middle school, 9/10th, and will be used with 11th in the Spring. Looking to expose students to different jobs in many career clusters. Other teachers are looking at various programs. For next year, they would like to offer students virtual internship simulations which are year-long programs that Delaney can facilitate. They are also working on bringing back the work experience program.

- Discussion ensued regarding how this will have connections, overlaps, and supplement from the Foster tech programs, as well as the critical skills students need to be successful in the work force.
- Seth mentions importance of providing experiential learning at younger levels

6.2 Kate Van Etten – Leadership Conference in Washington, D.C.

- Kate and 3 students present regarding the November trip. They discuss the trip day by day including all activities and events in and out of the conference. Discussed all of their favorite sessions from the conference. Kate thanks the board for supporting the trip. The students have teamed up with Mr. Laliberte to form a student leadership committee.

7. COMMENTS:

Chair (Mary Richards)

- Will be seeking a waiver for 2 snow day dates from the DOE that have already been used Oct 26th (Lewiston shooting emergency) & Dec 19th (Weather emergency with washed out roads and flooding)
- Kayla Alexander has moved to Sandy River and her seat will be vacated. Rangeley town office will facilitate the search for a new member.
- Reminder of committee chair duties re: agendas, minutes & secretary responsibilities.
- Asks board members: Please do not text during board meetings.

Superintendent (Georgia Campbell)

- NONE

Principal (Seth Laliberte)

- Ski Tuesday:
 - Resources at the mountain were a consideration on who to open enrollment to. Ski Tuesday is intended to be a learn to ski program with instruction from the mountain. We will need to look at the program and decide whether we want to revamp a separate piece of the program to include all students or other activities.
 - Ski team gets the least amount of varsity practices so as long as they are in good standing, they are missing the 4th period on Tuesdays.
 - Please thank Joanne Dickson for all of her hard work and volunteer efforts.
 - 68 ski Tuesday students, 4 ski team members
 - Karen Seaman states that Kevin Banfield has expressed interest in teaching ice skating as an option
 - In the future, Seth mentions potentially not a noon “dismissal” but rather a noon shift to active learning.
 - Chris Farmer states that it is a lot of work with a lot of complex pieces. Need to plan for next year but stay at status quo for this year.
 - Seth: Safety is paramount.
 - Danielle states that high school parents were not aware that they could dismiss their high schoolers to go ski.
 - They do miss a class if they go

- Nichole: If a high school student wants to go ski, is that excused or unexcused?
- Loon's Nest: Student Leadership team has formed. They are looking at school spirit. He would like to look to them for guidance on how things are going in high school. Crystal at Sarge's wanted to help with the Loon's Nest and spirit. Sarge's is donating spirit items like pom poms. Players have said that the energy in the gym was critical for the team spirit. This is evidence of how impactful a few meetings with students can be.

Student Representative (Nichole Lemay & Angelica Woodward)

- 2nd quarter ends next Friday. Winter Kids has started. Dance academy second session started this week. Seniors are planning class day and graduation. Seniors are very appreciative of the acceptance wall in the high school wing.
- Nichole: Student cheering section "The Loon's Nest" has been established to help cheer on the basketball teams. High school students asked Nichole to mention that they preferred being dismissed from school at 12 on ski tuesdays when other students are as well. Also a concern that ski team is missing 4th period.

8. Committee Reports

8.1 Policy Committee: - ~~K. Catrini~~ Mary Richards reports

- Met on Dec 20th. bringing one policy forward tonight

8.2 Finance Committee: - C. Farmer

- Reviewed grant opportunity and authorized matching funds for security and safety. Finalized the stipend review committee. 3 board members & 3 RTA members to look at teacher stipends, will also be looking at all stipends. Stipends will be reviewed over the next few months.

8.3 Facilities Committee – D. Lemay

- Walkway lights: IEC is working on them. Lift is rented. Lights being delivered shortly.
- Fuel tank possibly April replacement. Current tank is cleared for use until May 1.
- Seth gave updates on facility safety

8.4 Negotiations – B. Greene

- Support staff contract negotiations is active and they should have a report out at the next meeting

9. Appointments, Resignations, Nominations and Transfers

- Sonja Johnson has submitted her retirement notice. Georgia reads her letter.
 - Bob Greene comments on his long knowledge of Sonja's legacy and hopes that she can inspire our board and staff. We should celebrate her.
 - Mary states that our school has one of the best art programs in the state and Sonja will be missed.

10. Action Items:

- 10.1 Approval of Grade 8 class trip to Quebec
- Kelsey Orestis quickly reports on fall middle school trip to Camp Kiev. Reads a short statement from the middle school team regarding the memorable experiences students had.
 - Kelsey then speaks to 8th grade trip. This is an annual trip to Quebec. May 22-24, 2024 this year. Kelsey shows a slideshow and gives a short history of the trip and the content.
 - Motion to approve: Chris Farmer
 - 2nd: Robert Greene
 - Passed unanimously
- 10.2 Consideration to revised policy BCB-Conflict of Interest
- Discussion: Compared to MSMA policy, the definition of stipend employee did not currently exist. Adding that language. Also added a cross reference that was missing
 - Motion to approve: Danielle Lemay
 - 2nd: Karen
 - Discussion: Won't this limit our coaching opportunities? If a coach has a contract with the RSU then they can't coach?
 - Bob Greene: Do we have a conflict of interest disclosure form? If not, we need to add one. Conflict of interest is a tough topic in a small town that needs to be handled with common sense. A disclosure form would help.
 - Mary: Table until next meeting so that Kathy can be present to discuss background and Mary will ask her to bring a disclosure form.
 - Motion tabled
- 10.3 Approval of NEMFA Trip Consideration
- Erin Smith presents for March Trip. Two students auditioned, one was accepted (Eric White). Erin will drive. Students stay either with a host family or in a hotel. Everything was budgeted for and passed in previous budget.
 - Motion to approve: Chris Farmer
 - 2nd: Danielle Lemay
 - Motion passed unanimously
- 10.4 Approval of ALLSTATE Music Festival Trip Consideration
- Erin Smith presents. All of trip is already budgeted for. One student was accepted. Erin will attend a conference as well.
 - Motion to approve: Robert Greene
 - 2nd: Chris Farmer
 - Passed unanimously

Adjourn:

Motion to adjourn at 7:04 - Karen Seaman

2nd Danielle Lemay

Passed unanimously

Next meeting: February 13, 2024

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.